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# AIR VETERANS' NEWS LETTER

### AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, ODISHA BRANCH

(A monthly Newsletter of AFA, Odisha Branch, published at Bhubaneswar)

#### Volume: 01 ■ Issue -LXVI■Pages - 01/11■ AUG-2025

- •Odisha Corpus Fund updates Air Veterans News •Obituaries •Advertisements
- Corrections

#### **THINK IT OVER**

# TRUE RESPECT IS NOT DEMANDED—IT IS EARNED THROUGH INTEGRITY, HUMILITY AND SERVICE. AND WHEN BESTOWED, IT UPLIFTS BOTH THE GIVER AND THE RECEIVER

#### **MESSAGE TO ALL AIR VETERANS**

#### **Attention All Air Veterans**

You are kindly advised to verify that the name of your spouse mentioned in your Pension Payment Order (PPO) matches exactly with the name recorded in their Aadhaar Card, PAN Card and Bank Account.

#### **Q** Why this matters:

This office has observed several cases where **mismatches in spouse names** have led to **unnecessary delays and hardships** for widows in processing family pension and other financial entitlements after the veteran's demise.

These are **avoidable hardships** that can be prevented with a simple check now.

- ✓ If any discrepancy is found, veterans are requested to **contact this office** for guidance on the **procedure to update/correct service documents**.
- ☐ Let us take this small but vital step today to ensure our families do not face distress in our absence.

A stitch in time could spare your loved ones a great deal of pain.

#### AFA ODISHA BRANCH WELCOMES INCOMING MEMBER

AFA Odisha branch welcomes the newly added under mentioned Air Veterans for becoming life member of AFA Odisha Corpus in the month of Jul 25.

SL NO.	RANK	NAME	AFA LM NO.
1.	SGT	MANORANJAN DASH	45560
2.	SGT	SANDIP KUMAR MISHRA	99995

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#### VAN MAHOTSAV 2025 | AFA CUTTACK CHAPTER

Our proud Air Veterans from the AFA Cuttack Chapter came together with great enthusiasm to participate in India's iconic tree-planting festival – Van Mahotsav, held on 06 July 2025 (Sunday). As the monsoon showers bring new life to the soil, there's no better time to give back to Mother Earth.

Through every sapling planted, we renew our commitment to a greener and healthier tomorrow.



# <u>VIRTUAL ORIENTATION BY 9 ASC TO OUR AIR VETERANS ABOUT AGNIVEER VAYU ENTRY SCHEME</u>



### AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, ODISHA BRANCH

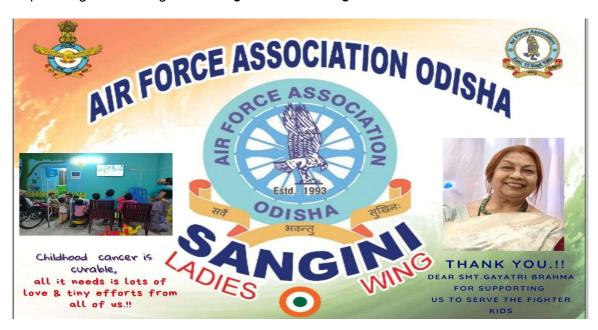
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#### **VISIT TO UMEEDEIN SEVA HOME - 25 JUL 25.**

The AFA Odisha Sangini – Ladies Wing demonstrated its compassion and commitment to community service by extending support to Umeedein Seva Home, a shelter for children battling cancer and their caregivers. A meaningful donation was made on behalf of Sangini, carrying the powerful message: "You are not alone."

Led by Mrs. Gayatri Brahma, President of AFA Odisha Sangini, this initiative reflected the values of empathy, dignity and solidarity that define our Association. The act not only brought comfort to the children and their families but also highlighted the belief that *childhood cancer is curable with love, hope, and collective care*. Through this effort, Sangini reaffirmed its commitment to standing by the most vulnerable in society and spreading the message that *Sangini is with the Fighter Children*.



#### KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS - AWARENESS DRIVE (26-31 JULY 2025).

To mark the spirit of Kargil Vijay Diwas, Air Force Association Odisha, in collaboration with No.9 Airmen Selection Centre, launched a week-long *Awareness Drive* across schools and colleges from 26 to 31 July 2025. The initiative aimed to inspire and guide the youth of Odisha towards career opportunities in the Indian Air Force, particularly under the Agniveer Vayu Entry Scheme.

With the application process for Agniveer Vayu closing on 31 July further extended till 04 Aug 25, this campaign served as a last-mile outreach to ensure that motivated aspirants did not miss the opportunity to serve the nation. Air Veterans led the interactions, sharing their experiences and motivating students with real-life stories of service and sacrifice.

The drive also symbolically represented the *passing of the baton* from veterans to the next generation, instilling pride, honour and a strong sense of national duty among the youth

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#### KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS AWARENESS DRIVE BY AFA ODISHA, CUTTACK CHAPTER.

As part of the Kargil Vijay Diwas – Awareness Drive organised by AFA Odisha, the Cuttack Chapter took the initiative to reach out to students of Gopinath Dev English Medium School, Kumarpur District.

The programme began with two minutes of silence in honour of the Kargil martyrs, followed by the National Anthem. HFO Hrushikesh Swain (Retd), Vice President, AFA Odisha – Cuttack Chapter, addressed the gathering, emphasising the significance of Kargil Vijay Diwas and the supreme sacrifices of our soldiers.

He motivated students to join the Indian Air Force as Agniveer Vayu, explaining the selection process, qualifications and career prospects. Teachers were also encouraged to guide and inspire youth to pursue this noble path of national service. Through this initiative, AFA Cuttack Chapter carried forward the spirit of Kargil, strengthening youth awareness and motivating the next generation to serve the nation with pride and honour.

#### WITH STUDENTS & TEACHERS OF GOPINATH DEV ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL



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#### KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS AWARENESS DRIVE BY AFA ODISHA, GANJAM CHAPTER

Under the state-wide Kargil Vijay Diwas – Awareness Drive launched by AFA Odisha, the AFA Ganjam Chapter took a commendable initiative at City College, Berhampur on 26 July 2025. The programme honoured the bravery of Kargil martyrs while motivating the youth to consider a career in the Indian Air Force.

Representing the chapter, HFL Bhagabat Prasad Majhi (Retd) and Sgt Debendra Sahu (Retd), Vice President – AFA Ganjam Chapter, interacted with NCC cadets and students. AV HFL Bhagabat Majhi shared his personal experiences from the Kargil War, inspiring the gathering with real stories of courage and sacrifice. AV Sgt Debendra Sahu conducted an informative session on the Agniveer Vayu entry scheme, covering eligibility, recruitment process and benefits. The interaction sparked strong interest among cadets, many of whom expressed their willingness to join the IAF.

Through this initiative, AFA Ganjam Chapter reinforced the commitment of Air Veterans to continue serving the nation by inspiring and guiding the next generation.

#### WITH NCC CADETS OF CITY COLLEGE, BERHAMPUR



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#### KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS AWARENESS DRIVE BY AFA ODISHA, JAJPUR CHAPTER

As part of the Kargil Vijay Diwas – Awareness Drive initiated by AFA Odisha, the AFA Jajpur Chapter actively participated by collaborating with the Department of Sociology, NC Autonomous College, Jajpur, on 26 July 2025. A seminar was organised on the theme "Operation Sindoor – Understanding Strategic Response to Proxy Terrorism."

HFL Dillip Kumar Muduli (Retd), senior member of AFA Jajpur Chapter, was invited as the Chief Speaker for the session. The programme commenced with the ceremonial lamp-lighting by Prof. Sri Ranjan Kumar Behera, Principal, and Associate Prof. Shri Prafulla Kumar Rana, Head of the Department of Sociology.

During his address, Hony Flt Lt Muduli provided deep insights into India's strategic defence preparedness, backed by his operational experiences. He also highlighted the career opportunities in the Armed Forces, including the Agniveer Vayu scheme, encouraging students to consider serving the nation in uniform. His thought-provoking lecture not only paid tribute to the sacrifices of Kargil heroes but also inspired the students and faculty to appreciate the role of the Armed Forces in safeguarding national security.

Through this initiative, the AFA Jajpur Chapter successfully combined remembrance with awareness, carrying forward the Association's mission to motivate and guide the younger generation

#### STUDENTS & TEACHERS OF NC AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE



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#### KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS AWARENESS DRIVE BY AFA ODISHA, KHURDA CHAPTER.

As part of the Kargil Vijay Diwas – Awareness Drive, the Khurda Chapter of AFA Odisha organised an impactful Agniveer Recruitment Awareness Seminar on 28th July 2025 at Gadabanikilo Higher Secondary School, near Ranpur, Nayagarh (30 km from Khurda), Odisha.

The event witnessed active participation from students, faculty members and local leaders, including the Hon'ble Principal, lecturers and the Sarpanch of a nearby Panchayat.

Distinguished Air Veterans who addressed the gathering included:

- AV Bidyadhar Lenka (70 yrs)
- AV Siba Prasad Majumdar (73 yrs)
- AV Radhaballav Ray (82 yrs)
- AV Karunakar Dalasingh Ray (also Sarpanch of Gadhamanitri Panchayat)

The speakers elaborated on the eligibility, objectives, benefits and opportunities under the Agniveer Vayu scheme, motivating the youth to embrace a career in the Armed Forces and contribute with pride to national defence.

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, and the feedback from students and staff highlighted the programme as both inspiring and informative.

Through this initiative, the AFA Khurda Chapter reinforced the Association's mission of honouring Kargil heroes by guiding and mentoring the next generation to take up the baton of service to the nation.

#### WITH STUDENTS & TEACHERS OF GADABANIKILO HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL



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#### **HONOURING OUR HEROES ON KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS**

We are deeply grateful to the social organisation 'We For Bhubaneswar' for extending a heartfelt invitation to the members of <u>Air Force Association Odisha</u> on the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas.

In a warm and respectful ceremony held on 26 July 2025 at Buddha Temple Auditorium, Bhubaneswar, around 40 Air Veterans were felicitated for their selfless service to the nation.

'We For Bhubaneswar', comprising former corporators of the city and active for the past four years, continues to set an example in civic engagement and veteran respect.

We thank the organisers for recognising the dedication and sacrifices of our Air Warriors and for symbolically passing the spirit of Kargil on to future generations.







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#### CAREER IN INDIAN AIR FORCE: DD ODIA SPECIAL PROGRAM.

On 29th July 2025, Air Veteran JWO Rudra Prasad Mohapatra, Governing Council Member of AFA Odisha, was invited by DD Odia to deliver a special talk on "Career in Indian Air Force."

During the live programme, he inspired students by sharing insights on life in the Indian Air Force, highlighting the honour, discipline and pride of serving the nation. He comprehensively covered all entry schemes into the Indian Air Force and placed special emphasis on the Agniveer Vayu scheme, encouraging aspirants to take advantage of the ongoing application process.

The session reached a wide audience across Odisha, making a significant impact on students, parents and career counsellors alike.

#### CAREER IN INDIAN AIR FORCE BY AV RUDRA PRASAD MOHAPATRA



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# ETIQUETTES /NORMS FOR POSTINGS IN AFA ODISHA GROUP AND CAPITAL REGION WHATSAPP GROUP

Members are requested to follow the enlisted guidelines before any posting to the abovementioned group.

- 1. Only matters related to the welfareof AVs & their families to be posted.
- 2. Important service matters of general interest only to be posted.
- 3. Greetings / messages on days of National interest viz Republic Day, Independence Day, Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday, IAF Day, AFA day can be posted.
- 4. Greetings on New Year, and days of religious importance of all religions may be posted.

#### NOTE:-

- A. All such greeting messages in para 3&4 ARE TO BE POSTED ON BEHALF OF AFA, PREFERABLY BY ONE OF THE GROUP ADMIN ONLY.
- B. No reciprocator messages from individual members needed.
- C. However, the Dist Chapters can reciprocate.
- D. Members may disseminate such messages to their families.
- 5. Messages relating to death, serious mishap, sickness, extreme distress that calls for help to any AV can definitely be posted by any one so as to initiate suitable action by the AFA(O).
- 6. NO PERSONAL MESSAGES such as Good Morning/ Birthday, Marriage anniversary wishes to be posted in this group. This can be conveyed on personal basis only.
- 7. We the Air Veterans need no reminder to be disciplined & respectful towards each other in our action and deeds, befitting to the ethics of Air Force as Air Warriors or as Air Veterans.

WITH MUTUAL SUPPORT, LET US WORK TOGETHER FOR BETTER TOMORROW.

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#### **NOTICE**

Fully Furnished Rooms (AC) with Kitchen Veterans and families visiting Bhubaneswaris available at AFA Odisha Branch Office premises at Leelakunj Plot No. 2612 MAA Santoshi Marg, Patrapada (Bhubaneswar). Needy personnel may contact incharge of the Guest Room AV JWO Subhash Chandra Raut-82498 71552 / HFO BB Pattnaik-8015796224/ **JWO** Swain-A۷ PN 98187 63166 respectively @ Rs. 400/- per day + Electricity charges per prevailing rates).



#### **DRAWING ROOM**



#### **BED ROOM**



#### **KITCHEN**



#### AN APPEAL TO ALL THE AIR VETERANS

**O**ur expenses, involving various organized programs, are increasing every year. Our sources of income are limited to the 50% share of New Membership Fees, interest received from our Fixed Deposits and occasional donations from our generous members.

If over 8500 strong State Members of our Branch come together with their small efforts, we may be able to collect a decent amount which could be used to serve you better. As the saying goes, "it's the small drops of water that make an ocean"!

Here are the ways to contribute:-

- 1. Air Veterans can order AFA, Odisha T-Shirts, Caps, Mugs and other items with logo to share, gift to others.
- 2. Air Veterans can give their advertisement in this eNewsletter with very nominal charges which will be added to generate more revenue for this organization.

#### TO ADD CONTENT IN THIS ENEWSLETTER

- (i) It is to inform you that the contents received from dist. Official email ID will be added in this eNewsletterand not to send us by any other means.
- (ii) It is also intimated you to provide content by 20th of every month.

#### For Any Correction

For any correction kindly write to:

Editor AFA Odisha airforceassociation.orissa@gmail.com

Amendments will be reflected in the next monthly eNewsletter.

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