



AIR VETERANS' NEWS LETTER

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION, ODISHA BRANCH

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

AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION ODISHA BRANCH CORE COMMITTEE

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Volume: 01 ■ Issue -LX V ■ Pages – 01/12 ■ JUL-2025

- AFA News • Appointments • Important Events • District News • Social Calendar
- Odisha Corpus Fund updates • Air Veterans News • Obituaries • Advertisements
- Corrections

THINK IT OVER

**"LIFE AND TIME ARE THE BEST TEACHERS. LIFE TEACHES US
THE USE OF TIME AND TIME TEACHES US THE VALUE OF LIFE."**



Air Force Association
Odisha Branch
Wishes



<https://afoodisha.in/>

MESSAGE TO ALL AIR VETERANS

All veterans should check whether the name of their spouse in PPOs is matching with the name in Aadhar Card, PAN Card and Bank Account. In case of mismatch, Veterans may contact this office to know the procedure for carrying out corrections in service documents. This office has noticed mismatch in the names of spouses of some of our Air Veterans who had passed away. This had lead to avoidable hardships to their widows. This is an avoidable hardship. Veterans, who do not want to leave their family in financial distress on their demise, may please check/re-check that there is no mismatch in the names of their spouse in the PPO and other financial documents.

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 Jun 25.

SL NO.	RANK	NAME	AFA LM NO.
1.	HFO	NAGENDRA KUMAR BHUYAN	98846
2.	MWO	NIRANJAN DAS	43149

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STRENGTHENING THE INNOVATION & DEFENCE ECOSYSTEM IN ODISHA

1. We are proud to share a significant milestone for Air Force Association Odisha with the signing of two Tripartite Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) on 9th June 2025 at Bhubaneswar:

(a) Air Force Association Odisha – BRIDGE BHARAT COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF INNOVATION RESEARCH AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP – Bhubaneswar City Knowledge Innovation Cluster Foundation

(b) Air Force Association Odisha – BRIDGE BHARAT COUNCIL FOR PROMOTION OF INNOVATION RESEARCH AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP – KIIT - Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology

2. These partnerships aim to:

- (a) Create a shared science & technology ecosystem
- (b) Promote defence-related research and innovation
- (c) Establish Centres of Excellence in Counter-UAS, Directed Energy Weapons & Autonomous Systems
- (d) Engage veterans as domain experts, mentors, and advisors
- (e) Support national R&D and startup initiatives under Atmanirbhar Bharat

3. How Our Veterans Will Benefit:

This MoU will open up new avenues for our veteran community by:

- (a) Providing opportunities to serve as Professors of Practice, domain experts and mentors for defence and civil projects, including student and startup initiatives.
- (b) Enabling veterans to participate in industry-academia collaborative workshops, training programs and short-term exchange programs—sharing their expertise and gaining exposure to cutting-edge innovation.
- (c) Involving veterans in strategic advisory roles, collaborative research and sponsored projects tailored to defence sector needs.
- (d) Facilitating access to innovation networks, R&D and testing facilities, as well as entrepreneurship training and leadership opportunities in new technology domains.

4. We look forward to meaningful outcomes from these collaborations that harness the power of knowledge, innovation and veteran expertise to strengthen India's defence and industrial capabilities.

5. Soon we will create a team at AFA Odisha office to take Air Veterans onboard in the upcoming projects, as per their expertise. All of your support will be required to make this initiative successful.



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SALUTING A HISTORIC MILESTONE IN INDIAN AEROSPACE



1. Heartfelt congratulations to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla on scripting history as the second Indian to travel to space and the first-ever Indian to visit NASA's International Space Station (ISS) as part of the prestigious Axiom-4 Mission.
2. On behalf of the Air Force Association Odisha, we express our deepest pride in witnessing an Indian Air Force officer soar beyond the skies, reigniting our nation's dreams of space exploration after 41 years since Wing Commander Rakesh Sharma's legendary flight.
3. Born in Lucknow and commissioned into the IAF's fighter stream in 2006, Group Captain Shukla has exemplified excellence as a combat leader and test pilot with over 2,000 hours of flight experience across frontline aircraft like the Su-30 MKI, MiG-29, Jaguar and more. His selection for ISRO's Gaganyaan Mission and now his role as pilot of the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft stands as a powerful symbol of India's growing space capabilities and the limitless potential of our Armed Forces.
4. In his own words before liftoff:

"It is my sincere endeavour through this mission to inspire an entire generation back home... even if this story changes one life, it would be a huge success for me."
5. Your journey, is more than just a spaceflight — it is a mission of inspiration for every aspiring Indian youth, a moment of pride for every IAF veteran and a celebration of excellence for every citizen.
6. Wishing you great success and a safe return.

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GOVT OF RAJASTHAN
ZILA SAINIK KALYAN KARLAYA, OPP JK LONE HOSPITAL, PO-NAYAPURA
KOTA, TELE-0744-2323712, EMAIL ID : zska.kota1@rajasthan.gov.in

Girls Hostel/2025 / 583-612

May 2025

AIR FORCE

(All Regtl Centre) RECORDS

ADMISSION IN GIRL'S HOSTEL AT RK PURAM KOTA

1. A Girls Hostel at Kota, Rajasthan was constructed exclusively for the dependent daughters of ESM, Veeranganas and widows of ESM by Sainik Kalyan Vibhag, Govt of Rajasthan in 2012. This hostel offers not only a springboard opportunity but also a very conducive study atmosphere to the girls to crack NEET and JEE, the two most prestigious and toughest exams. The hostel with a capacity of accommodating 35 girls, is located at RK Puram, Kota.
2. While the private hostels are charging between Rs 15,000/- to 20,000/- per month per inmate, this Hostel charges just Rs 750/- per month so that the shallow pockets of our Ex-servicemen/their wards and Veeranganas are not further strained. Today, the Hostel can proudly boast of many success stories to its credit wherein many of the daughters of JCOs/OR who stayed in the Hostel are doing exceedingly well in the fields of both medicine as well as engineering.
3. In order to ensure that the facility is utilized to its optimal potential, there is a need to give wide publicity across the length and breadth of the org and hence may I request you to direct the concerned auth to give wide circulation so as to ensure that the info reaches upto the last man.

Encls :



Col
Zila Sainik Kalyan Adhikari
Kota

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Tele : 25684645
Telefax : 011-25684946
Email : jditechs1@echhs.gov.in

Central Organisation ECHS
Adjutant General's Branch
Integrated Headquarters of
MoD (Army), Thimayya Marg
Near Gopinath Circle
Delhi Cantt- 110 010

B/49711-NSC/AG/ECHS/Gen Corr

10 Jun 2025

IHQ of MoD (Air Force)
IHQ of MoD (Navy)
HQ South Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ East Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ West Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ Central Comd (A/ECHS)
Northern Comd (A/ECHS)
South West Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ ANC
HQ SFF & HQ Coast Guard
All Regional Centres

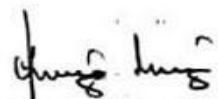
ONLINE PROCEDURE TO CHANGE REGISTERED MOBILE NUMBER

1. At the time of filling online application for 64KB ECHS Smart Cards, all Ex-Servicemen (ESM) / Primary beneficiary register with a mobile number. A simplified procedure has been implemented where ESM / Primary beneficiary can change his/her registered mobile number including dependents once he/she has collected his/her 64KB ECHS Smart Cards.

2. **Action by the ESM.** The ESM / Primary beneficiary will adopt following procedure:-

- (a) He / she will login to ECHS website, echhs.sourceinfosys.com using his login credentials.
- (b) He / she has to click on the "more option" tab then after click on "change mobile number (primary) / change mobile number (dependents)" tab and feed new mobile number and submit.
- (c) Approach the parent polyclinic and insert the 64KB ECHS Smart Card in KIOSK Machine for updation of data. This will ensure that the new mobile number gets printed on prescription also.

3. This letter supersedes all letters issued earlier by Central Organisation ECHS regarding change of mobile number. This information is to be disseminated to all Polyclinics and displayed at prominent places for information of ECHS beneficiaries.




(Anurag Bhardwaj)
Col
Dir (Stats & Automation)
for MD ECHS

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 Tele : 20892597
Telefax : 011-20892597

Central Organisation ECHS
Adjutant General's Branch
Integrated Headquarters of
MoD (Army), Thimayya Marg,
Near Gopinath Circle,
Delhi Cantt- 110 010

B/49711-NSC/AG/ECHS/Gen Corr

10 Jun 2025

IHQ of MoD (Air Force)
IHQ of MoD (Navy)
HQ South Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ East Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ West Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ Central Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ Northern Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ South West Comd (A/ECHS)
HQ ANC
HQ SFF & HQ Coast Guard

Source Dot Com Private Ltd
Plot No 16, Electronic City, Sector 18
Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Gurugram, Haryana-122001

M/s UTI-ITSL
UTI Bhawan, Plot No.3, Sector -11
CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400614.

All Regional Centers

ANNUAL VALIDATION OF ECHS MEMBERSHIP OF DEPENDENTS BY SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY DOCUMENTS BY PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES

1. It is intimated that after seeking feedback from the environment, it was observed that there is a requirement to issue a detailed letter on annual validation of ECHS dependents by submission of eligibility documents.
2. It is intimated that all dependent beneficiaries (less spouse) are liable for annual validation. Any ECHS dependent who fail to complete annual validation, within stipulated period, will not be permitted to avail medical facilities, till annual validation has been completed. ECHS card of beneficiary will be disabled for

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duration till Annual validation is not completed by beneficiary. Actions to be taken by each stakeholder to carryout annual validation is mentioned in succeeding paras.

Action by Primary Beneficiary/ESM

4. A system generated warning message will be suitably displayed to submit eligibility documents of dependents who are 64KB ECHS card holders on completion of 11 months after the date of collection of the cards for the first time or last date of annual validation in the following manner: -

(a) **When Beneficiary visits PC and authenticates on Kiosk.** A warning message will be displayed to the beneficiary to complete annual validation with supporting documents online by a specific date.

(b) **When Primary Beneficiary logs in at ECHS web portal.** Details of cards due for annual validation will be displayed for which necessary documents have to be uploaded online.

(c) **ECHS Beneficiaries Mob App.** Details of cards due for annual validation will be displayed for which necessary documents will have to be uploaded online on ECHS Mobile App on opening the Mobile App and logging in.

(d) If request for eligibility extension has been rejected by OIC PC due to any observation. ESM should re-submit application rectifying observations raised by OIC PC.

5. It will be the responsibility of Primary Beneficiary/ dependents to timely upload documents for establishing the Eligibility to ensure validity of 64 KB ECHS Card. Primary Beneficiary to submit the following documents online: -

(a) **Eligibility Certificate for Dependents.**

(i) The Primary beneficiary will provide **Eligibility Certificate** for all his/ her dependents excluding spouse.

(ii) The Primary beneficiary will select the dependent and then select an option i.e. PAN Card available/ not available from the dropdown menu.

(iii) In case **PAN Card is available** for the chosen dependent, then Form 26AS for preceding two consecutive financial years will be uploaded.

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(iv) In case **PAN Card is not available** for the chosen dependent, then the Primary Beneficiary will upload an Income Certificate obtained from the State Revenue Department. It is, however, desirable that all beneficiaries should have PAN Card.

(v) The Primary beneficiary will satisfy himself/ herself that the income of the dependents is not more than **INR 9000/- (Excluding DA) PM** for each dependent other than **parents**. In case of parents, the combined income of father and mother should not exceed Rs 9000/- (Excluding DA) per month.

(vi) The Primary beneficiary will thereafter submit **online declaration for all dependents which will be auto populated**. A declaration as per format given at **Appx A** will be submitted by clicking the check box 'I Agree'.

6. **Action by OIC Parent Polyclinic.** Scrutinize application received from Primary beneficiary/ ESM /Dependent at Guest user module (Pending Eligibility Request Tab) and approve on basis of correctness of documents. In case, of any observations in documents, OIC PC will reject application and beneficiary will resubmit application after addressing the reasons for rejection. OIC PC is also authorised to seek any additional financial documents for verification, moreover should also check manually, in case of parents only, that the combined income of father and mother should not exceed Rs 9000/- (excluding DA) PM.

7. **Extension of Validity: ECHS Card.** Once the actions as above are completed by the OIC PC, the validity of all 64 KB ECHS cards which have been approved by OIC Parent Polyclinic will be further extended by **fifteen months**. This will be applicable to all those cards whose annual validation has been approved by OIC PC wef 15 Jun 25. For all the cards where annual validation was approved before 15 Jun 25, due date for annual validation will be as per date of last successful annual validation. Validity of annual validation period for ECHS cards has since been extended from 12 months to 15 months wef 15 Jun 25.

8. **Revival of ECHS Membership Based on Income Criteria.** Dependents of primary beneficiary who were earlier denied ECHS membership due to their income being more than INR 9000/- (excluding DA) may apply for membership again, if the income has again become less than INR 9000/- (excluding DA) for consecutive two years. The proof of the same will be obtained from **Form 26AS/Income Certificate from State Govt. Revenue Dept.**

9. **One-time Annual Validation** It is intimated that special waiver has been granted by competent authority for following categories of ECHS dependents: -

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4

(a) **White Card Holders.** One-time annual validation is mandatory for white card holders, however for subsequent period, a life time waiver for annual validation for white card holders under relevant clause of Person with Disability (PwD) Act has been approved by competent authority, for those ECHS beneficiaries who have been provided 64KB ECHS white card.

(b) **ECHS Dependents above 80 years of age.** One-time annual validation is mandatory for ECHS dependents who are more than 80 years of age, however for subsequent period, a life time waiver for annual validation has been approved by competent authority for those ECHS beneficiaries who have been provided 64KB ECHS white card.

10. This letter supersedes all letters issued earlier by Central Organisation ECHS regarding annual validation of ECHS dependents. This letter to be disseminated down to ECHS polyclinics for the information of all ECHS beneficiaries.


(BS Poswal)
Brig
Dy MD ECHS
for MD ECHS

Copy to:-

MoD (DESW)

For information please.

AG Br

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INDIAN AIR FORCE

JOIN THE ELITE...

BECOME AN AGNIVEERVAYU

(INTAKE 02/2026)



Inviting online applications from eligible unmarried male and female candidates born between 02 July 2005 and 02 January 2009 (both dates inclusive).

ONLINE EXAMINATION:

FROM 25 SEPTEMBER 2025 ONWARDS



ONLINE REGISTRATION:

FROM 11 JULY 2025

TO 31 JULY 2025



DETAILED



NOTIFICATION

REGISTER ONLINE AT:

<https://agnipathvayu.cdac.in/>

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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 above-mentioned group.

1. Only matters related to the welfare of 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 for Veterans and families visiting Bhubaneswar is 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/ AV JWO PN Swain-98187 63166 respectively @ Rs. 400/- per day + Electricity charges (as per prevailing rates).**



DRAWING ROOM



BED ROOM



KITCHEN



AN APPEAL TO ALL THE AIR VETERANS

Our 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 eNewsletter and 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.

For more information please contact

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Editor-in-Chief, AFA, Odisha, eNewsletter

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