To
All the Members of the
Think Tank
The Bharat Scouts & Guides

SUB.: Minutes of the Meeting of Think Tank held on 29th February, 2016 at the Bharat Scouts and Guides, National Headquarters, New Delhi.

Dear Sir/Madam,

A Meeting of the Think Tank of the Bharat Scouts & Guides was held at the National Headquarters, Lakshmi Mazumdar Bhawan, 16, M. G. Marg, I. P. Estate, New Delhi-110002 on Monday, 29th February, 2016 at 11.00 A. M. A copy of the Minutes of the same is enclosed for your kind perusal.

The Committee also felt the absence of many of its members, may be due to their pre-occupation.

The Chairman of the Committee is welcoming suggestions from all the members on the minutes.

A copy of Group Photo is attached.

Kindly acknowledge the receipt.

Thanking you,

Yours in Scouting,

(K. Sukumara)
Director

Encl.: As above.

Copy submitted to the Hon’ble Chief National Commissioner, Bharat Scouts & Guides for his kind information.


Creating a Better India

Lakshmi Mazumdar Bhawan, 16, Mahatma Gandhi Marg, I.P. Estate, POST BOX NO. 7043, New Delhi-110 002 (India)
Minutes of the Meeting of Think Tank held at the Bharat Scouts & Guides, National Headquarters, New Delhi on 29th February, 2016 at 11.00 A. M.

The Meeting of Think Tank held at the Bharat Scouts & Guides, National Headquarters, New Delhi on 29th February, 2016 at 11.00 A. M. under the chairmanship of Shri N. A. Khan, Vice-President, Bharat Scouts & Guides and State Chief Commissioner, Jammu & Kashmir State Bharat Scouts & Guides.

Following members were present:-

1. Shri N. A. Khan, Vice-President, Bharat Scouts & Guides & State Chief Commissioner, J & K State BS&G -Chairman
2. Shri Kondajji B. Shanmukhappa, Vice-President, Bharat Scouts & Guides & Former State Chief Commissioner, Karnataka State BS&G -Member
3. Dr.(Smt.) Sudha Prakash, Dy. National Commissioner(G), Bharat Scouts & Guides and Former SC(G), U. P. State BS&G -Member
4. Smt. Sudesh Sharma, National Headquarters Commissioner(Bulbuls), Bharat Scouts & Guides and Former STC(G), Northern Railway State BS&G-Member
5. Shri Pandurang Nadkarni, State Chief Commissioner, Goa State BS&G -Member
6. Smt. Sandhya Chakraborty, SC(G), West Bengal State BS&G - Member
7. Shri R. S. Anbarsan, Former SOC(S), Southern Railway State BS&G -Member
8. Miss Saroja P., Former Director, BS&G -Member
9. Shri Shyamal Kumar Karak, Former ASC(S), Eastern Railway State BS&G -Member
10. Shri Vasant Gunwantrao Patil, National Council Member, Maharashtra State BS&G -Member
11. Smt. Surekha Shrivastava, l/c Joint Director(SS), BS&G -Member
12. Miss Suman Lata Arora, Joint Director(G), BS&G -Special Invitee
13. Shri M. S. Qureshi, Joint Director, NTC -Special Invitee
14. Miss M. N. Machamma, Deputy Director(G), L. T., NTC -Special Invitee
15. Shri R. K. Kaushik, Dy. Director of Scouts(Project), BS&G -Special Invitee
16. Shri Amar B. Chettri, Dy. Director(BP), BS&G -Special Invitee
17. Shri Arup Sarkar, Assistant Director, Northern Region -Special Invitee
18. Shri Siddharth Mohanty, Assistant Director, NAI -Special Invitee
Shri K. Sukumara, Director, BS&G - Convenor

The meeting started with a prayer followed by self introduction.

Shri K. Sukumara, Director, Bharat Scouts & Guides welcomed Shri N. A. Khan, Vice-President, Bharat Scouts & Guides and State Chief Commissioner, J & K State BS&G by presenting a flower bouquet. He also welcomed all the members of the Committee. All the Professionals of the National Headquarters presented rose buds to the Hon'ble Members of the Committee.

The Director informed the house about the apology received from the following members.

1. Dr. H. C. Das, Dy. National Commissioner(S), Bharat Scouts & Guides and State Chief Commissioner, Assam State BS&G.
2. Shri G. Swamy, Former State Chief Commissioner, Chhattisgarh State BS&G.
3. Shri Bhawar Goswami, State Chief Commissioner, West Bengal State BS&G.
4. Shri Rakesh Tripathi, Former State Chief Commissioner, N. E. Railway State BS&G.
5. Shri M. Sushil Kumar Singh, IPS (Retd.), State Commissioner(S), Manipur State BS&G.
6. Shri G. Ranga Rao, Former Director, BS&G
7. Shri K. B. C. Nair, Former Director, BS&G.
8. Dr. S. Kumar, Former Director, BS&G.

Shri N. A. Khan, Chairman of the meeting welcomed the members formally and expressed his pleasure to see great zeal and enthusiasm among the members. He also explained that 76 members have given their valuable suggestions during the meetings of the various Sub-Committees and all the members of Think Tank should review these recommendations now available to them through detailed discussions. He also stated that though he could not attend the previous meeting of Think Tank as he was out of the Country, he has noted all the proceedings and thanked the Co-Chairman for the good work done during the last meeting.

On behalf of all the members of Think Tank, Miss Saroja P., Former Director, Bharat Scouts & Guides congratulated the Hon'ble Chief National Commissioner and his team for renovation and beautification of the National Headquarters building and also the cordial relationship between the Professionals and the Volunteers. She also appreciated the good hospitality extended by the Professionals and staff of the National Headquarters.
The Director read out the Agenda point wise.

Agenda Item No. 1:- Confirmation of the Minutes of the last Meeting of Think Tank held at the Bharat Scouts & Guides, National Headquarters, New Delhi on 14th July, 2014.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Think Tank held on 14th July, 2014 were confirmed as proposed by Miss Saroja P., Former Director, Bharat Scouts & Guides and seconded by Smt. Sandhya Chakraborty, State Commissioner (G), West Bengal State BS&G.

Agenda Item No.2:- Business Arising (Action Taken Report).

Shri K. Sukumara, Convener of the Meeting informed the house about the Strategic Plan Workshop conducted at Regional level. Nearly 14 State Associations have organised the above cited Workshop. He explained about the six Strategic Priorities through Power Point Presentation. In response to the Director's remark, Miss Saroja P., Former Director of BS&G enquired about the status of growth and Census of the Organisation. The Director informed the house that the Census of the State Associations has decreased.

Dr. (Smt.) Sudha Prakash, Dy. National Commissioner(G) stated that this is for the first time that the National Headquarters have sent the final minutes as well as draft minutes of various Committee Meetings through email to all the members of Think Tank to come prepared and to take part in the discussion during the meeting of Think Tank. She appreciated the Director and his team for sending the minutes so quickly to the members of Think Tank.

Dr. (Smt.) Sudha Prakash, Dy. National Commissioner(G) suggested the house to publish photographs with names of the National Awardees in the BS&G Magazine as well as Annual Report of the Bharat Scouts & Guides. It was accepted by the house unanimously. She also suggested that regular column of success stories of the State Associations should be started in the Bharat Scouts & Guides monthly Magazine so that it motivates the other States. She also suggested that the members of International Guest Reception Committee should be given an opportunity to participate in the International events by turns.

Both the suggestions were accepted by the house.
The Chairman wanted to know the list of such members who have not attended the last and current meeting of Think Tank and have also not sent an apology to the National Headquarters. He stressed that since they do not seem to have time to attend the Think Tank meetings, it would be appropriate not to invite them for the next meeting of Think Tank and instead, new members could be invited in lieu.

Dr. (Smt.) Sudha Prakash, Dy. National Commissioner (G) suggested that Scouting should be included in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and may be adopted as part of moral/physical education curriculum. Shri Pandurang Nadkarni, State Chief Commissioner of Goa State BS&G also reiterated the same. Representative of District/State/National Association should be member of apex committee of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan & Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan.

The Chairman suggested that many of our Proficiency badges are part of skill/educational activities & target group are also most of the students; hence the "Scout and Guide" should be under the ambit of the Ministry of Education. He also strongly advocated for raising funds & said that main sources of income can be Supply Service Department of the Bharat Scouts & Guides and National Adventure Institute, Pachmarhi. We must take this issue seriously to generate income, and develop both.

The Chairman informed the house about the letter of Mr. M. Sushil Kumar Singh IPS (Retd.) who suggested to incorporate Disaster Management Awareness Programme in Scouting and Guiding, he has prepared a DVD which is with National Headquarters. The Director informed the house that he has got the same and Chairman desired to pursue the matter in the right direction.

Smt. Sandhya Chakraborty, State Commissioner (G), West Bengal State BS&G suggested to send a strict Circular from National Headquarters to all the State Associations to purchase the Scout/Guide materials only from the National Headquarters for the sake of uniformity. The house accepted the suggestions and requested the Director for follow up action. Miss Saroja P., Former Director, BS&G suggested that the Badges should be attractive and quality of all the Badges in the Bharat Scouts & Guides must be improved as per the standard of other Countries. More Badges for WAGGGS activities may be introduced.
Dr. (Smt.) Sudha Prakash, Dy. National Commissioner (G), BS&G suggested certain points/issues for the benefit of the movement.

- A documentary/Telefilm should be prepared in reference to advocacy awareness programme & other activities and shown in all National Headquarter meetings and also sent to States.
- An exclusive team from National Headquarters be formed to handle CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) issues for raising funds for different innovative/advocacy programmes & simultaneously popularising our activities related to social responsibility among non-uniform members, which is a great need in present day scenario. Smt. Sudesh Sharma, National Headquarters Commissioner (Bulbuls) suggested the need for associating reputed NGOs, besides Corporate Sector to raise funds.
- The Director Stated that a Committee headed by Smt. Sudesh Sharma, National Headquarter Commissioner (Bulbuls) and Miss Chhavi Goyal as a member to the team may be formed. The House agreed to it.
- As international events are communicated to all, same way International visitors to India or International Conference/meeting held in India may be communicated to all members of International Reception Committee as well as Indian Member of any Committee of WOSM/WAGGGS, so that if possible they can also contribute something & are aware with all activities & progress of BS&G and represent country’s perspective better. The House appreciated the proposal.
- Directory of Young Leaders should be maintained- picking up from each activity. List of aluminae should also be maintained at National Headquarters- updating present address with the help of States.
- The Director informed the house that a Circular has been sent to all the States to constitute the Youth Committee and select the eligible youths and inform the National Headquarters for further action. He also informed that only two States have responded to the Circular i.e. Karnataka and West Bengal. The committee advised all the states to form the Committees early, as involvement of the Youth is the need of the hour.
- World Thinking Day must be celebrated in a grand manner.

Shri R. S. Anbarsan, Former SOC(S), Southern Railway State BS&G asserted that Scout/Guide Uniform should have a Change in the colour for all three sections. The Director informed the house that the colour of Uniform would be finalised during the ensuing Jamboree under the guidance of a Special Committee duly constituted for this purpose.
His request for a change in the All Faiths Prayer was not found acceptable.

SWOT Analysis/Performance Appraisal to be done on quarterly basis by the National Headquarters to all Adult Leaders, Trainers and Professionals at all levels.

Training- He suggested that personal competency and professional competency content should be included from Basic Course onwards. Training should also enhance presentation skill of Trainers, making the training sessions participatory by making use of simulation exercises and games.

Patrol system should be made active. A model unit could be run under the direct guidance of National Headquarters for this purpose. The Director requested Mr. Anbarsan to assist the National Headquarters to prepare a Circular to send to all the State Associations to rejuvenate the Patrol system.

The National Headquarters should organise a separate Badge Instructors and Badge Examiners Trainers Training Course. Mr. Anbarsan suggested that the guideline provided in the "Drill and March Past" published by the National Headquarters may be incorporated in APRO Part-I for the maintenance of the uniformity throughout the Country. It was agreed by the house.

The Chairman suggested that the visibility of Scout Guide activities through multi media, print media, visual media, etc. should be dealt on priority. Image Building is the part of a duty of Public Relation Officer at National Headquarters. He should arrange the Press Conference, Press Release and through some value based advertisement. He also suggested inviting Ms. Barkha Dutt, bold News Reporter of NDTV Channel during a Special Guide gatherings to motivate the Guiding activities among the Society.

On Mr. Anbarsan's suggestion for having the Documentation Centre at National Headquarters, the Director informed the house that National Headquarters has no space for the same. Hence it was suggested to have it at NYC, Gadpuri, Haryana.

The Director informed the house that Dr. S. Kumar, Former Director, Bharat Scouts & Guides has sent the observations made on ATR prepared by the National Headquarters on the proceedings of the last meeting of Think Tank through an email dated 19th February, 2016 for the consideration of the Hon’ble Chairman and the members. The same was forwarded to all the members of Think Tank on 20th February, 2016 through email. All the points raised were discussed.
Agenda Item No.3: Recommendations of 11 Committees.

After a detailed discussion, the recommendations of 11 Committee Meetings were accepted by the house with appreciation. The thin attendance of members in some meetings was noted with concern.

Agenda Item No. 4: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

Miss Chhavi Goyal, WAGGGS National Project Coordinator, Bharat Scouts & Guides highlighted some of the WAGGGS Initiatives like Free Being Me, Stop the Violence, Surf Smart, Wash Up with Safer Toilets Project, Hand Wash National Project, Sustainable Development Goals Project and others existing and prospective WAGGGS Advocacy Initiatives through power point presentation. She requested the States to implement such projects at their level, for any assistance they may approach the National Headquarters through their Regional Headquarters. The booklets of all above Projects are available for the guidance of Unit leaders which can be obtained from the National Headquarters on request. Even the badges for Free Being Me are available.

Shri Arup Sarkar, Assistant Director, Northern Region informed the house about the WOSM Projects like MOP Global network, Scouts Go Solar, Scouts of the World Award, World Scout Environment Programme, etc. through power point presentation. He stated all such documents are made available in the Bharat Scouts & Guides Website which can be downloaded and States can take initiative to train their Unit leaders with the assistance of Assistant Directors of their Regions. On completion of such Projects, a Badge and Certificate will be awarded to the Participants. Chairman suggested that Pachmarhi and Gadpuri should keep provision for Solar Panels in the new constructions.

The Chairman then invited each & every member to give his suggestions, if any.

Shri S. K. Karak, Former ASC(S) of Eastern Railway State BS&G wanted to know about action taken on “Management Information Cell” recommended for being constituted within three months by Shri G. B. S. Sajwan, Former Director, Bharat Scouts & Guides as mentioned in the Action Taken Report. The Director informed the house that the action will be taken at the earliest.
Miss Saroja P., Former Director, BS&G asked about the latest position of outstanding dues of Flag Day Stickers from the State Associations. The Director informed the house about the outstanding dues of IRF, Flag Day Stickers, Dues of Supply Service Department which are pending since long with some of the States. The respective States were requested to clear their outstanding dues as early as possible. For this a reminder to all the defaulting States has already been sent.

Shri K. B. Shanmukhappa, Vice-President, Bharat Scouts & Guides informed the house that Karnataka State Social Welfare and Tourism Deptt. Govt. of Karnataka is likely to sanction substantial funds to the Scouts & Guides with the influence of Shri P. G. R. Sindhia, State Chief Commissioner of Karnataka State Bharat Scouts & Guides for Karnataka Darshan. The Scouts & Guides will travel in uniform. 3500 Scouts & Guides are likely to benefit from 33 Districts of Karnataka State.

He also informed the house that the Social Welfare Deptt. of Govt. of Karnataka is likely to sanction funds to Moraraji Desai Residential School to support the Scouting and Guiding in the Schools. He also said that they are getting financial support for the infrastructure development of camping and training centres of District and State level from Gram Panchayat, Taluk Panchayat, Zilla Parishad, MLCs, MLAs and MPs. The Chairman requested him to send the details of financial support to the National Headquarters at the earliest so that the National Headquarter informs the other State Associations.

Shri Siddharth Mohanty, Assistant Director, NAI informed the house that National Adventure Institute has kept Rs.75 Lakhs in fixed deposit from the annual income of NAI and also made a target to achieve Rs. One Crore in the next financial year i.e. 2016-2017.

Shri Raj Kumar Kaushik, Dy. Director of Scouts(Project) gave suggestion for raising funds and said that the Bharat Scouts & Guides Magazine has become very colourful, informative and updated with quality printing. He appealed to the members to take initiative for the increase of Bharat Scouts & Guides Magazine subscribers so that it reaches to all the members of the Bharat Scouts & Guides. He also suggested to build up the adventure bases at NYC, Gadpuri, Haryana which can add more income as it has got many Schools/Colleges in the vicinity.
After a detailed discussion regarding the accommodation facilities at National Headquarters, the Chairman suggested that the rates of Suit and Dormitory need to be decreased for now. The Director informed the house that the Membership Fee for the Scout Hostel be fixed and the Membership Card be supplied to the members with the terms and conditions. Even the Rashtrapati Awardees may be offered Hostel membership.

The Director highlighted that our Hon'ble Chief National Commissioner has appealed to all the Hon'ble members to make BS&G Foundation members from their State, hope all are aware of it. He further requested the members to motivate and enroll more and more subscribers to the Bharat Scouts & Guides Foundation. The amount can be paid in instalment if so desires.

The Chairman appreciated the members for their active participation and requested the members to keep up the spirit of Scouting and Guiding.

The meeting came to an end with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(K. SUKUMARA)  
DIRECTOR & CONVENOR

(N. A-KHAN)  
CHAIRMAN