

Tele : WAC/7842
AFNET 23116170

AFGIS
Subroto Park
New Delhi – 110 010

Air HQ/27957/GIS/ i/Accts

08 May 2012

HQ WAC IAF	}	(For SOsA)
HQ CAC IAF		
HQ EAC IAF		
HQ SWAC IAF		
HQ SAC IAF		
HQ TC IAF		
HQ MC IAF		(For SAASO)

FREE EX-SERVICEMEN BUS SERVICE BY AFGIS

Introduction

1. In big cities and townships, where Air Force Station exist, it is seen that Ex-Servicemen especially retired Air Warriors settle down in its close proximity. This does provide certain levels of comfort to the retired personnel especially for Medical, Canteen and Recreational facilities. The introduction of ECHS too has increased the dependency of the Ex-Servicemen on the various facilities available on the station. In some cases this has brought in certain additional burden to the utilization of the scarce resources of the Air Force Stations. Some of the problems faced by the station and ex-servicemen are as listed below.

- (a) One of the common issue referred relates to use of Hospital Routine Run from station to MH by Ex-servicemen and their dependants when the Hospital Routine Run is already over crowded.
- (b) It is inconvenient for ex-servicemen and their dependants to travel by public conveyance especially when they are sick. Advancing age of these individuals only aggravate the problem further.
- (c) Even those with personal motor conveyance find it difficult to drive it themselves due to sickness and poor vision in old age.
- (d) The shift from joint family to nuclear family has also contributed to helplessness in old age.

2. In such a scenario, AFGIS can provide solace both to the ex-servicemen, their dependants and the stations which find it difficult to extend RR facility to Ex-servicemen and their families.

Proposal

3. AFGIS proposes to provide free bus service through the local Air Force Units / AF Hospitals to cater to the following situation.

(a) Stations where Ex-servicemen strength within its proximity is high and there is huge dependence on Hospital RR vehicle can opt to introduce this free bus facility.

(b) Stations can also consider AFNHB / AWHO Complexes within their vicinity where concentration of ex-servicemen exists for conveying them regularly to the nearest Military Hospital from such locations.

Examples.

(i) ECHS patients traveling from Noida / Gurugon / Palam Colony etc to BHDC / AHRA.

(ii) ECHS patients from Jalahalli / Yelahanka etc traveling to CHAF at Bangaluru.

(iii) ECHS patients from Barackpore / Salt Lake City to CH Fort Williams Kolkata.

(iv) Other places where similar facilities can be extended are Kanpur, Chandigarh, Chennai, Coimbatore etc.

(c) Stations under whose control ECHS polyclinics exist can consider introducing this free bus facility to convey ECHS members and their dependants from such polyclinics to Service Hospitals and back.

(d) Stations can also consider this free bus service to convey ECHS members from major ex-servicemen residential areas to ECHS polyclinics and back.

(e) AF Hospitals can opt for this facility to convey ECHS members from their Hospitals to Civil Referral Hospitals (one circular trip covering all such hospitals without detention).

(f) Free bus service to convey ECHS members from AF controlled ECHS polyclinics to Civil Referral Hospitals (one circular trip covering all such hospitals without detention) can be considered by Stations exercising control over such polyclinics.

Implementation Procedure

4. Following procedure is suggested for AF Hospitals and Stations desirous of implementing the free bus service at their station or at the ECHS polyclinics controlled by them.

(a) It is suggested that Stations must carry out survey of ex-servicemen patients either making use of the RR facility or visiting hospital from their location. A week long survey either by detailing station representative or with the assistance of AFA at the nearest Service Hospital / ECHS polyclinic / SMC will provide the best inputs for creating such a facility by the station for ex-servicemen and their dependants.

(b) Based on the survey inputs, Stations are expected to hire Civil Mini / Medium / Normal Buses depending upon the size of the population for a single to and fro trip or a single trip on all working days as applicable for each situation discussed in para 3 supra. Detention on trips to different Civil Hospitals is not suggested since each of them have varying working hours. Vehicles on hire are available at such locations for return trip.

(c) The proposal is to provide such hired bus service free of cost to the ECHS patients. Thus there would be no requirement of any accounting function at unit / stations.

(d) The responsibility of the station will be limited to entering into contract and ensuring that the trips are properly undertaken.

(e) In order to enter into contract by station authorities with Bus suppliers, the following officers are recommended to be part of BOO.

- (i) C Adm O – Presiding Officer
- (ii) Accts Officer – Member
- (iii) Lgs Officer – Member
- (iv) STO (MT) – Member
- (v) Oi/c ECHS Polyclinic – Member (if available)
- (vi) Secy Local AFA – Member (if available)

(f) The accepted rates before entering into contract need to be intimated to AFGIS to check out fund availability and budget provision. AFGIS will convey to the station its acceptance to enter into contract. **Contracts are to be entered only on such confirmation by AFGIS.**

(g) Control and monitoring of the Bus running is proposed to be placed under the authority of C Adm O through Security Officer in places where ECHS polyclinics are not under the control of Air Force and in respect of AF hospitals.

(h) Where ECHS Polyclinics are under the control of Air Force Stations; such control and monitoring need to be exercised by Oi/c Polyclinic on behalf of the station entering into contract.

(j) On monthly basis, SI Funds of the station can make the payment to the contractor which can then be claimed from AFGIS.

(k) SI Funds or any NPF of the station is **not (R) not** to create any asset in the form of Vehicles or manpower for this project.

(l) Usage of SI Buses etc for this purpose is not recommended so as to ensure that there is no conflict of interest.

(m) As and when such free bus service is introduced, on the front glass of the vehicle, the following must be clearly displayed.

FREE HOSPITAL BUS SERVICE FOR ECHS MEMBERS – AN IAF-AFGIS- (Unit) VENTURE
--

(n) If at any stage the scheme is found non-viable, AFGIS would discontinue the scheme partially or fully. Since neither assets nor liabilities are being created at AF Station, no problem in this regard is foreseen at Air Force Stations

(o) Stations which propose to introduce the free bus service are to contact AFGIS for the draft contractual agreement. However, the same will have to be suitably modified to meet the station's requirement. This aspect must be examined by the BOO ordered on the station to conclude the contract.

(p) Stations are to enter into contract for a period of one year or less only. While the contract could commence from any time of the year, the closing / finishing date of the contract should be on or before succeeding 31 Mar. Full year contracts should be entered for the period from 01Apr - 31Mar and that such proposals should reach AFGIS by December of previous year so as to obtain BoT approvals for budget allocations.

Conclusion

5. The proposal is to extend the facility to all ex-servicemen irrespective of the Service they belong. The effort of the stations to introduce and maintain such a facility will go a long way in getting the good will of ex-servicemen and their families for IAF and in particular for AFGIS and the AF Station. AF stations may seek assistance from local Air Force Association or any other Ex-Servicemen organization in executing the project.

6. AF stations which are keen to introduce the free bus facility for ECHS members and their dependants need to approach AFGIS with the proposal and the cost.

7. AF units exercising control over ECHS Polyclinics may communicate the contents of this proposal to respective Oi/c Polyclinic.



(Joseph Paul)
Air Cmde
PD AFGIS

Copy to:-

CAS Sectt
BCOs at Air HQ
AFRO
AFCME
AFCAO
CSDO Subroto Park, New Delhi
AF Stn, Race Course, New Delhi
AFCC, Gurugon