

MINUTES OF MEETING

OF

GENERAL BODY OF UTTARAYANI

Date: 28 Oct 2018; Time: 11:30 AM; Venue: CSOI, KG Marg, New Delhi

1. **Agenda.** The General Body Meeting (GBM) of Uttarayani was held on 28 Oct 2018 from 11:30 am onwards at CSOI, KG Marg, New Delhi. The GBM, to be followed by lunch, was called with the following agenda:
 - a. Welcome address by the President
 - b. Redressal of issues raised in social media in recent times and views of members
 - c. Secretary's report for the period from 01 Jun to 27 Oct 2018
 - d. Discussion on proposed amendments to the MoA
 - e. Additional points from members.
2. **Attendance and Quorum:** The GBM started at 11:35 AM. Since the quorum was not complete with only 27 members having arrived, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM for 30 minutes and a tea-break was taken. The meeting resumed at 12:05 pm with 45 members in attendance. The attendance record of the meeting is attached with these minutes and is made part hereof.
3. **Chairperson.** The meeting was conducted under the chairmanship of Shri Krishan Arya, President, Uttarayani. At the commencement of the Meeting, the Chair invited all past Presidents of Uttarayani, present for the GBM, and all members of the Executive Committee to take their seats on the dais.
4. **Welcome Address.** Chairman formally welcomed and thanked all members present in the meeting. He conveyed special thanks to the past Presidents for having graced the occasion. The President then invited the esteemed members who had conveyed to be given time to put forth their views before the General Body and requested the Secretary to conduct the proceedings of the Meeting.
5. **परिचय व कविता पाठ.** मिलन की आगे की कार्यवाही प्रारम्भ करने से पहले सचिव कर्नल डा. बिपिन पांडेय ने सभी उपस्थित सदस्यों के नाम पुकार कर उनसे अपने स्थान पर खड़े होकर उनका परिचय अन्य उपस्थित सदस्यों से करवाया। इस प्रकार अति संक्षिप्त परिचय कराने का निर्णय समयाभाव के कारण लिया गया। तत्पश्चात सचिव ने डा. शंकर सिंह असवाल से उनके द्वारा उत्तरायणी पर रचित कविता पाठ का आग्रह किया। डा. असवाल ने बहुत रोचक कविता सभी सदस्यों को सुनाई और पूरे गृह ने तालियों से डा. असवाल को धन्यवाद दिया।

Part I: Redressal of Issues Raised in Social Media in Recent Times and Views of Members

6. Thereafter, Secretary invited members to express their views before the General Body with a request to be brief and to the point. The views expressed by the Members are recorded in the succeeding paragraphs.

7. **Shri V N Sharma.** Expressing his views, Shri VN Sharma, Ex-President, Uttarayani said:
- उत्तरायणी एक सामूहिक प्रयास है।
 - He advised that we should all forget whatever has transpired in the recent times and move ahead.
 - Speaking about the CoE, he opined that the Trust was being privatized and he was opposed to privatization. The formation of the Trust whether it should be privatized or not must be taken by a committee of members drawn from Uttarayani membership.
 - Adding further he opined that even for modification of Rules of the Association, we should form a committee to recommend the ammendments to MoA.
 - And finally he advised all members to keep their personal issues away and work for the betterment of Uttarayani.
8. **Shri H C Jayal.** The following points were given by Shri Jayal, former President, Uttarayani:
- Commenting about his association with Uttarayani, Shri Jayal said he has known Uttarayani at a time when members used to be friendly and came forward to help each other but regretted that the situation is not the same today. Elaborating further, he opined that Uttarayani should try to create a feeling of brotherhood amongst its members.
 - He observed that the GBMs are not being held in time. He further said that even today's GBM is being held only after he gave it in writing.
 - Commenting on the introductions, he remarked that even the introductions were not conducted properly today.
 - Speaking about the CoE, Shri Jayal informed the House that subject of CoE was never brought before the General Body. The Structure of the CoE, funds for running it, whether it would be run by the Govt of UK or managed by Uttarayani are subject matters to be deliberated before the General Body.
 - Observing further on CoE he said that it being propagated to conduct classes for preparation of competitive examinations such as IAS, IPS, PCS, IMA and NDA etc. at the CoE. How and from where will the CoE find faculty for conducting such classes? The children will get into these services by their own effort. Rudraprayag is a place where no faculty will be willing to be located.
 - The objection to derail the formation of Trust was raised as it had no approval of the General Body. The structure of the Trust should have been discussed in and approved by the GBM. If we did not raise the voice, there could have been huge misuse of the CoE resources for personal benefit as was detected in the past.
 - Finally, he said, we used to meet in very friendly manner in the past and the same feeling needs to be cultivated.
9. **Shri O P Joshi.** Shri Joshi, Former Secretary and Ex-Officio member of the EC remarked that he requested for time to express his views before the General Body with a heavy heart. The following points were put forth by Shri Joshi before the House:
- Two people were very deeply involved in the formation of the CoE and they worked to bring the money for it. He said we don't need money as such but we need Class I officers as our members who can bring in lots of money through networking and cited the example of Shri VN Sharma who with his efforts was able to get over Rs 3 crore (Rupees Three Crore) and organise many truckloads of relief material for disaster relief

- in Kedar Valley calamity and was highly appreciative of the efforts of Shri Sharma. He said we have many such highly acclaimed people on Uttarayani.
- b. Before leaving for Rudraprayag, Shri Joshi mentioned that he had advised the Secretary to call Mr Bahukhandi to accompany him. But inspite of his advice, the Secretary did not bother to contact Mr Bahukhandi who had even packed his bags for travel.
 - c. Going back to the history of CoE, he said that at one time the EC Uttarayani was asked to sign some documents for the CoE on Rs 100 stamp paper to certify that all activities at construction site were proper. We declined to do so as it was not possible for us to verify the same sitting in Delhi.
 - d. Emphasising further he said that we are not against CoE, but only objecting to some member taking undue advantage by becoming the Settlor which we rejected in the past. By becoming a settlor, the direct advantage would have gone to the son of the person so trying to position himself as settlor of the Trust.
 - e. Referring to a WhatsApp post by Shri C M Bahuguna, Mr Joshi said that Shri Bahuguna refused to attend today's GBM and remarked that it would have been good if the President had spoken to Mr Bahuguna to request him to attend the GBM and express his views before the House.
 - f. Further referring to the comments of Chief Minister of Uttarakhand about Uttarayani that "यह तो बुढ़ों की जमात है" or words to the effect. Shri Joshi said we are Class I Officers and expressed his criticism over the remarks of the CM. He further mentioned that the President had written letter to the CM which did not respond inspite of the reminder sent to his office. Expressing his anguish over the remarks of the CM, Mr Joshi said that several of these old people are running this country and that Uttarakhand has a huge representation in Class I services in each Ministry (approximately 5-10 people per Ministry). He further opined that we should tap these officers to become members of Uttarayani.
 - g. He requested Shri Arya Ji, President Uttarayani, to be more pro-active and said if a member is leaving us, we should request him not to leave.
 - h. Commenting on WhatsApp posts in recent time he remarked that some of the posts were in bad taste and should be avoided. He offered his apologies to the members of the EC whose feelings may have been hurt due to such posts.
 - i. He said that Uttarayani has done a lot of work. "हमें प्यार और मुहब्बत बना कर रखनी चाहिए"। Social media should be avoided as far as possible to send offensive messages. We should understand the feelings of mistrust/ miscommunication created by such posts.
 - j. Coming back to the CoE, he informed the House that he understands that the DM, Rudraprayag is awaiting GBM's approval for registration of the Trust.
 - k. At the end, Mr Joshi closed by saying that he is proud of Uttarayani and that he finds Uttarayani as the best Association out of the 20-22 associations that he is a member of.
10. **Shri J P Bahukhandi.** Shri Bahukhandi, the Former Secretary and founder member of Uttarayani, gave pieces of History of Uttarayani to the House. The views expressed by Shri Bahukhandi are enumerated below:
- a. Original structure of Uttarayani should not be disturbed.
 - b. The initial trust draft presented by Col Dimri in which he had appointed himself as the Settler was rejected by the EC. When we visited the DM's Office in Rudraprayag, the

DM mentioned that he still did not have the permission of the UK Govt to be a member of the Trust whereas Col Dimri had informed us that the permission of the Govt of UK had been obtained.

- c. The point of him not being informed by the Secretary before the visit to Rudraprayag has been brought out earlier and he would not like to speak on the matter.
 - d. Further he opined that we did not have a rule under which we could undertake external work and that there was no permission obtained for the Trust formation from the General Body.
 - e. That some members have been claiming themselves as Senior President/Senior Vice President, which title is nowhere mentioned in Bye-Laws of Uttarayani. Mr. Bahukhandi further remarked that when he objected to using such titles in the WhatsApp, he was asked by some senior members to go to them and ask for apology, which he refused since he felt that no mistake had been committed by him.
 - f. Commenting further on CoE, Mr. Bahukhandi said that the type of education imparted in the CoE, whether vocational or research project along with the curriculum was never discussed in any form either in EC or GBM or any committee formed so far.
 - g. For the election process, Shri K N Suyal was called from Guwahati to attend the GBM on 27 May 18 as he was the pre-selected candidate for the President. But Shri Arya ji, as per rules of Uttarayani, did not nominate Shri Suyal Ji for President.
 - h. The Treasurer is in the US of A since 31 May but continues to remain the Treasurer.
 - i. Corporate persons should not be given membership of Uttarayani. We should not corporatise Uttarayani by providing Associate Membership to Corporate persons.
 - j. Earlier, we used to visit different offices to enroll members for Uttarayani, but now no one is making any effort to add new members.
 - k. Finally, Shri Bahukhandi advised members to not indulge in posting negative thoughts in WhatsApp groups.
11. **Dr S K Joshi.** Dr Joshi rose to counter the views of Shri Bahukhandi about adding Corporate Members to Uttarayani. He was requested to allow Shri Bahukhandi to complete his points. Thereafter, Dr Joshi was requested to put forth his views in the House. The views expressed by Shri S K Joshi are enumerated below:
- a. Talking about adding corporate members to Uttarayani, he remarked that use of words like privatisation and corporatisation while we talk of adding corporate members and some celebrities as associate and honourable members respectively was not good as these words have very different connotation.
 - b. He was of the opinion that we must allow corporate persons as associate members and celebrities as honorary members of Uttarayani. Citing examples he said if celebrities like M S Dhoni and Sachin Tendulkar could be added as members of Indian Army and Indian Airforce respectively why Uttarayani could not do so. He emphasised that anyone willing to work for the betterment of Uttarakhand, should be included as a member of Uttarayani. At this stage some more members supported this view.
 - c. Dr Joshi observed that the election process followed by Uttarayani was not democratic. We should follow a democratic election process and use both physical voting for members who are present locally and e-voting for outstation members.
 - d. While speaking about the information dissemination, Dr Joshi said that the process of information dissemination was not as it should be. All members should be aware of the happenings in Uttarayani. Online survey applications should be used for taking opinion and feedback from the Members.
12. **Shri K L Sah.** Shri KL Sah, supporting the inclusion of corporate members in Uttarayani, asked whether the basic philosophy of Uttarayani was Group A or Welfare of Uttarakhand

and its people. If the underlying philosophy is developmental work for people of Uttarakhand, the corporate members willing to serve the cause of Uttarayani, must be added to Uttarayani's membership list. He further added that money is essentially required to achieve any tangible outcomes. Without funds it was not possible to achieve tangible results on ground. Shri Sah ended by saying that we should look ahead without reflecting on the unpleasant events of the past.

13. **Shri Rakesh Negi.** Shri Negi informed the House that he became member of Uttarayani in 2017 and have seen no work happening since then. Views expressed by Shri Negi are enumerated below:
 - a. He wanted to know about the achievements of Uttarayani.
 - b. Talking about the need for funds, he said that during calamity, people from all walks of life, corporate world and governments come forward to offer assistance. Unlimited funds pour in voluntarily. Giving example of recent floods in Kerala, Shri Negi informed the House that the volume of aid and funds received by Kerala is so high that they do not know how and where to use such high volume of aid and funds.
 - c. Adding further he said that it is not about organising funds and relief aid during calamity but about having funds during normal times for undertaking welfare projects. Uttarayani, therefore, should formulate a strategy, obtain the opinion of the people and move ahead.
 - d. Shri Negi said that during Kedar valley disaster, we received money from IOCL. If we had some high ranking official of IOCL as a member of Uttarayani, such grants in aid would be greatly facilitated. He opined that Uttarayani should, therefore, move ahead of Group A and allow corporate membership.
14. **Shri L S Negi.** Shri L S Negi, former Secretary of Uttarayani, in order to clarify some points with respect to the Rules of Conduct rose to offer his views as recorded below:
 - a. Shri Negi, elaborating the point raised Shri KL Sah about the underlying philosophy of Uttarayani, said that Uttarayani is both a Group A as well as one involved in the welfare of Uttarakhand. Elaborating further on this he said, the basic objective of Uttarayani, when it was formed, was that Group A officers of Uttarakhand origin who were in responsible positions at the Centre could review the proposals received, improve upon them and exercise their influence to get them approved. And that is how the Group A and welfare of Uttarakhand goes hand in hand.
 - b. He further clarified that under the rules of conduct, private members and Group A members cannot be part of Uttarayani at the same time. Uttarayani has defined itself as an Organisation of Group A services officers of Uttarakhand origin. In order to add private members, we shall have to change this definition.
15. **Shri Ballabh Nawani.** The views expressed by Shri Nawani are as follows:
 - a. Commenting on the low turnout for the GBM, Shri Nawani said that we should analyse the reasons of members not turning out in large numbers for the GBM.
 - b. On his views about adding private members to Uttarayani, Shri Nawani said that we should not allow private members in Uttarayani. He was of the opinion that private members are always talk of the money and it will be money power that will rule and not us. Playing with money power will convert Uttarayani like an NGO whose only objective is to make money. Many NGOs have finished due to their greed for money and groupism.

- c. Shri Nawani further said that the older members should not be made to feel neglected. They should always be heard and must have a bigger say than the newer members and the members with more money.
 - d. Questioning the authority of EC, he remarked as to why the EC members should be given more importance, why are they sitting on the dais and not amongst us and thereby creating a separate class.
 - e. He finally ended by saying that we should be using social media for voting and gather feedback from the members.
16. **Dr U P Thapliyal.** Dr Thapliyal, one of the veteran members of Uttarayani, rose to clarify the point of **Transparency** in the process of elections held for EC on 27 May 2018. Dr Thapliyal apprised the House with the following inputs:
- a. Dr Thapliyal said that, he being the returning officer for the said elections, the question of transparency at this stage is not appropriate. He informed the House that all those raising questions about the transparency of the process at now were present in the GBM held for the purpose on 27 May 2018. Addressing those raising the question of transparency, he asked why you did not objected to the elections at that time when the results were announced.
 - b. He further clarified that his only objective was to conduct the elections as per rules of Uttarayani, which he did and explained the details of the election process that took place during the GBM on 27 May 2018.
 - c. Dr Thapliyal ended by saying that after having elected the EC, we should extend our full support and due respect to them. If we do not like their work, very soon the General Body will have the opportunity to replace them with the new team.
17. **Shri A K Badola.** Shri Badola expressing his dislike for the recent controversies created in the social media said that whatever differences and grievances members have must be resolved today.
18. **Cdr B M Dimri.** Cdr Dimri said that he was Secretary of Uttarayani in 2009 and at that time supported inclusion of private members in Uttarayani, however, he was unaware of the Rules of Conduct position as clarified by Shri L S Negi today. He said we need to change and look ahead.

Part II: Secretary's Report for the Period from 01 June 2018 to 27 Oct 2018

19. With the permission of the Chair, Secretary then read out his report containing the details of the activities carried out by the Executive Committee from 30 May to 27 Oct 2018 after coming into being on 27 May 2018. The report has been filed separately and is uploaded on the website www.uttarayani.in. Salient points of the report are summarised in succeeding paragraphs.
20. **युवाओं का भविष्य.** Secretary apprised the House that:
- a. Communication was established with Dr Bhupinder Kaur Aulakh, IAS, Secretary Department of Education, and Govt of Uttarakhand, to seek her help in organising awareness seminars in Colleges.
 - b. Dr S C Sood, Director Career Counselling, HNBGU, Srinagar has requested the Secretary for conducting awareness seminars in the University Campuses of HNBGU.
 - c. Letter was sent to Principals of 21 colleges to conduct awareness seminars in their colleges and distribute books.
 - d. Approximately 700 copies of the book युवाओं का भविष्य were distributed in colleges.

- e. Three awareness sessions were conducted by Dr Aswal and Shri Lokesh Gairola.
 - f. Two invites have been received from colleges in interior Uttarakhand for conducting awareness seminars.
21. **Website.** Uttarayani website www.uttarayani.in has been revamped with a number of new features added including mobile compatibility. All the information pertaining to Uttarayani is now available in the website. The site is dynamic wherein the information can be uploaded by us without depending on the developer.
22. **Eye Camp.** Three day Eye Camp from 21 to 23 Sep was held in Uttarkashi under the arrangements of Dr SS Aswal. During the camp 81 cataract operations were carried out and 185 patients from approximately 75 villages were examined. Patients were provided free lodge and board facilities.
23. Continuing further, the Secretary said that the honourable members had expressed two primary areas of concern namely: one – amendments to MoA and two – CoE. Responding to some of the concerns raised by Members, Secretary put forth the sequence of events as they unfolded with respect to both the areas of concern.
24. **Amendments to MoA.** Secretary said that a lot of angst was expressed by members about the amendments proposed by the EC for consideration of the members and stated the following facts before the House.
- a. Secretary said that some amendments to MoA were brought before the GBM held on 27 May 2018. However, some of the members present observed that few of those amendments had already been approved by the GB and remaining should be deferred to be taken up by the new EC being formed. Members also expressed during the meeting that such amendments had not been communicated to the Registrar's office and hence should be taken up afresh.
 - b. Secretary informed the House that our effort to locate the necessary documentation with respect to the amendments was unsuccessful except for those brought before the House on 27 May 18. At this stage Shri VN Sharma informed the House that record of the amendments was available in the Uttarayani Souvenir. Mr Sharma also said that the amendments in the required format were prepared but not forwarded to the Registrar's office and they were probably held with the CA. Secretary remarked that the documents required to be sent to the Dy. Registrar include the extract of the relevant minutes of the GBM, attendance record as proof of quorum, copy of amendments approved, resolution and the reasons for amendment, which were untraceable.
 - c. Secretary then informed the House that all such previously approved amendments and those that were presented before the House on 27 May 18 including some newer ones were consolidated in one document and discussed in the EC Meeting. These were then posted in the WhatsApp group of Uttarayani members in July 2018 and later in the Uttarayani website in Aug 2018 for views of the members. There were very few comments received some in favour and some against the proposals while some other comments were misleading as they pronounced that the amendments had already been affected by the EC. **However, at this stage, Secretary emphasised that EC can only propose and has NO AUTHORITY to carry out any amendments to the MoA. It is only the General Body that has the authority to amend the MoA.** Explaining

- the provisions of the MoA with regards to amendments to the Rules and Regulations of Uttarayani, Secretary informed the House that in order to consider amendments to the MoA, a minimum of one fifth of the total membership of Uttarayani makes the quorum and there is no relaxation in the quorum for considering the amendments. The amendments must be approved by a minimum of 3/5th of the members present. He said that the Uttarayani membership as on date stood at 401 members. As such we need a minimum of 81 members (1/5th of 401) to complete the quorum and the proposed amendments must be approved by minimum 49 members (3/5th of 81) to be effective.
- d. Explaining further he said that we are in a catch 22 situation today. We talk of amendments which have supposedly been approved earlier but are not traceable. We don't have the necessary quorum to discuss amendments yet some of us make so much noise in the environment about the proposal itself.
 - e. The Secretary, therefore, urged the members that irrespective of the views received in favour or against, the view of the majority of 401 members of Uttarayani should prevail, and that alone is the true democratic process.
 - f. Commenting on the Rules of Conduct point advanced by Shri LS Negi, the Secretary remarked as to the status of retired officers. Post retirement they are neither Group A nor Class I but are in the similar category of citizen as any other. We should, therefore, examine the issue of opening membership of Uttarayani to private citizen from this angle as well.
25. **CoE.** Secretary said that the CoE has been another area of major concern to the members and apprised the House with his views and experience. The details are laid down in the Secretary's report with a brief summary as under:
- a. That after the formation of the new EC on 27 May 18, Col DP Dimri was invited to brief the EC about the current status of CoE in its first meeting held on 30 May 18.
 - b. Secretary informed the House that after the recent experience and avoidable trust deficit amongst the members, Col Dimri has relieved himself from the CoE project.
 - c. Secretary urged the members who claimed to be and were in the forefront to make the CoE happen should come forward to take the lead and not let such a prestigious project slip away from the hands of Uttarayani.
 - d. Secretary said that the CoE project started exactly 5 years ago on 26 Sep 2013 and he has been part the EC for the past four months only.
 - e. During the EC Meeting held on 06 Oct 2018, Shri H C Jayal informed the EC that the subject of CoE had never been brought before the General Body in the last five years, a point which at that time was contested by Shri OP Joshi by saying that he himself had brought the matter of CoE before the GB. Mr Jayal reiterated his point in the GBM.
 - f. Expressing his utter surprise on this unexpected information, Secretary said that it was a matter of great concern as to why such an important and prestigious project had not been discussed in the GBM in the last five years inspite of the fact that many Presidents and Secretaries claimed to be deeply involved in the project. If they were not bothered about bringing the matter to the GBM for the past five years, what they should be doing now is introspect much about the reasons for their could not care less attitude about the project for all these years rather than pretend as being well-wishers of the project. .
 - g. He further said that the objectives of the project would have been detailed out in the proposal submitted to the CSR committee of IOCL for approval and release of funds.

How did this proposal go to the public sector company without the approval of the GB?
Was the project undertaken without the approval of the GB?

- h. He further said that the CoE can only be run for the purpose it was approved and funds were released. Referring to the remarks made by Shri Jayal and Shri Bahukhandi about the purpose of CoE, Secretary said that we should not be questioning the objectives of the CoE at this stage which were clearly stated in the proposal submitted to IOCL and the primary objective was to open a CoE for training and guiding the youth of Uttarakhand for competitive examinations. Therefore, questioning either the objective/purpose or the capacity of Uttarayani to undertake the project at this stage is an oxymoron.
 - i. He informed the House that Col Dimri had sent a detailed letter to the President describing his experiences and views about the CoE. The letter would be uploaded on the Uttarayani website for the reading pleasure of the members. It will be purely between Col Dimri and other members who have different views on the matter to resolve it amongst themselves.
 - j. He finally urged the members who had reservations about the composition of the Trust for CoE and the manner of its operations to come forward and take the lead to keep this prestigious project alive and running.
26. **Recent Communication in Social Media.** Commenting on the recent communication exchange over social media, Secretary remarked that due to avoidable communication exchange by a few veteran members of Uttarayani over social media during the past 6 weeks, some members left the EC while some others announced their resignation from the membership of Uttarayani itself. Col D P Dimri has withdrawn himself from the CoE project. Col Pandey, submitted his resignation as Secretary as well as from the membership of Uttarayani in writing to the President on 6 Oct 2018 but on the request of several members agreed to stay till the completion of the GBM today. Secretary said that since the GBM had been held, he stands by the resignation he had submitted and reiterated the same to the august General Body of Uttarayani Members. Following this, Shri B M Sundriyal, Joint Secretary, Uttarayani also submitted his resignation to the President in writing.

With the permission of the Chair, lunch break was announced at 2:15 PM.

27. The GBM resumed at 2:50 PM. Many members expressed regret over the social media communication made by some of the members and requested the members to withdraw their resignations. There were additional points from the members as given below.
28. **Dr H S Kaprawan.** Dr Kaprawan rose to express his views as recorded below:
 - a) Dr Kaprawan said that the CoE building is located at a stone's throw distance from his house in Rudraprayag. A very good building has come up. He informed the House that Engr. Shri G K Chaukiyal, Member AAI and a resident of Rudraprayag, through AAI's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) organised funding of Rs 24 lakhs (Tepees Twenty Four Laths) for CoE. He was highly appreciative of the efforts of Shri Chaukiyal for his timely help. These funds were effectively utilised for furnishing the CoE and providing computer facilities. The furniture and equipment so procured is eating dust inside the building. He remarked that we should not let the project be taken away from us.

- b) He further said that when he spoke about CoE in the GB, he had suggested that the manner of its operationalization and other modalities should be finalised through brainstorming sessions conducted by a committee nominated for the purpose. He rued to the fact that such a committee was never constituted. He offered to get the experts who may be required for the brainstorming sessions.
- c) Commenting on the conduct of the GBM today, he remarked that the meeting was conducted very nicely and expressed his happiness over a number of young members attending the GBM.
- d) Finally speaking about the resignation by members of the EC, he said that the members should not resign and proposed the House to pass a resolution to not accept the resignation of the members which was unanimously accepted by the House. Following this, the resignation letters submitted by the Secretary and Joint Secretary were returned by the President and Shri GS Rawat was also requested to withdraw his resignation from the position of Vice President. President informed the House that he will personally request Shri K N Suyal to withdraw his resignation and inform him about the decision of the House in the GBM.

29. **Shri G S Rawat.** The views expressed by Shri GS Rawat are as enumerated below:

- a. Shri GS Rawat started by saying that all that was required to be said about CoE has already been said very nicely and exhaustively by Col Bipin Pandey.
- b. He said that operationalising and running the CoE was an extremely tough assignment. If someone offered him Rs 10 Lakh a month to run the CoE, he would not accept the offer due to the complex and difficult nature of the assignment. Expressing his deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to Col Dimri, Shri Rawat said that it was such a remarkable thing for Col Dimri who at the age of 72 years was willing to take on the responsibility of running the CoE on his shoulders. Col Dimri had no self-interest and he just wanted to somehow see the project through.
- c. Commenting on the legal status of the CoE, Shri Rawat said that there was no clarity on the legal status of the CoE building as it was constructed over Govt land and the funds were received in the accounts of District Administration. Although Uttarayani had organised the funds for construction of the building and purchase of furniture and equipment, Uttarayani had no legal right over it. The District Administration was free to run the CoE through any NGO/voluntary organisation with or without Uttarayani.
- d. Further responding to the remarks of some of the members that becoming a settlor was amounting to amassing the assets of the CoE for personal gains. This was very hurtful and said that it was very correctly brought to his understanding that the job of the settler finished immediately after formation of the Trust.

30. **Shri K Arya, President Uttarayani.**

- a. The President thanked all members for participation and dignified conduct of the proceedings of the GBM.
- b. President, commenting on the recent avoidable communication in the social media, said that after all the clarifications as discussed during the meeting today, there was no substance in the controversy created about the elections.

- c. The President requested all members to not raise issues over the social media before discussing them with concerned members. He also requested all members to maintain decorum and be courteous in their interactions with each other.
 - d. Shri Arya requested for the names of volunteers to be the convener for organising brainstorming sessions for CoE. Shri HC Jayal's name was proposed as Convener and the same was accepted by Shri Jayal. Shri Jayal said that the recommendations after the brainstorming sessions would be submitted by December.
 - e. Secretary at this point also requested to nominate a committee to look into the amendments. The name of Dr B M Dimri was proposed and accepted by the House.
 - f. Secretary at this stage announced that the next GBM will be held in Dec 2018 and the only points of agenda during this GBM would be CoE recommendations and amendments to MoA.
31. **Shri G D Gaur.** Shri Gaur, former Vice President Uttarayani said:
- a. That the issue of inadvertently addressing Shri GS Rawat as Senior Vice President in the rough draft of the trust deed was an unintentional mistake. The mistake was pointed out and objected to be Shri Rawat himself and asked for its immediate correction during the EC Meeting. The mistake was corrected in the subsequent draft which was made available to the concerned member who had raised the issue. This was an extremely hurtful observation wherein the objections raised and by Shri Rawat himself in the meeting of the EC were not heeded to and the issue was raised in the social media thus spreading misleading information amongst the members of the association. Shri Gaur further, clarifying on the point raised by Shri Bahukhandi that he was asked to go and apologise to Shri Rawat, said that he did not ask Shri Bahukhandi to go and ask for the apologies. But simply requested Shri Bahukhandi to call and clarify the issue with Shri Rawat about the unnecessary controversy created over social media as it had caused Shri Rawat to resign from the EC.
 - b. That the respected members should not express their disagreements, differences of opinion and issues in the social media. The matter should first be discussed with the concerned members of the EC and resolved. If not resolved by the EC, the issues may be brought before the General Body. Such posts in the social media create avoidable perceptions in the minds of the members.
32. **Vote of Thanks.** There being no other point, Shri G D Gaur proposed a Vote of Thanks and the meeting was declared closed by the Chair with passing of the Vote of Thanks.

The President wished all members of Uttarayani a Happy Diwali.



(Col (Dr) Bipin Pandey)
Secretary
29 Oct 2018