

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE INDIAN
PARLIAMENTARY GROUP HELD ON THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST, 2015 IN
MAIN COMMITTEE ROOM , PARLIAMENT HOUSE ANNEXE**

The 53rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Indian Parliamentary Group (IPG) was held on Thursday, 6 August, 2015 from 1830 hours to 2025 hours in the Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi. Smt. Sumitra Mahajan, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the IPG, was in the Chair. 88 Members and Associate Members of the Indian Parliamentary Group participated in the Meeting.

At the outset, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha welcomed the Members to the Annual General Meeting. Thereafter, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha moved a resolution condoling the death of the Members of the Indian Parliamentary Group who passed away since the last Annual General Meeting held on 13 August, 2014. The Members, thereafter, observed silence for a minute as a mark of respect to the departed souls.

The Annual Report of the Indian Parliamentary Group for the year 2014-2015 was, thereafter, considered and adopted without any amendments. Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha apprised the Members of the Indian Parliamentary Group about the Inauguration of Speaker's Research Initiative (SRI) by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 23 July, 2015 and its aims and objectives.

On the issue of election of Treasurer and members of the Executive Committee, Dr Karan Singh, MP moved a motion that the President be authorized to nominate the Treasurer as well as Members to the Executive Committee of the Indian Parliamentary Group. The motion was seconded by Shri J.K. Jain and other Members of Indian Parliamentary Group. The motion was adopted by voice-vote.

It was also approved that the Pay & Accounts Officer, Lok Sabha may continue to be the Auditor of accounts of the Indian Parliamentary Group for the year 2015-16.

The Members of the Indian Parliamentary Group raised a number of issues relating to accommodation, medical facilities, rail bookings, transport, etc., which are brought out in the ***Annexure***.

After the discussions, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha and President of the Indian Parliamentary Group thanked the Members and informed that issues raised by the Members would be looked into. It was also decided that the Minutes of the Meeting would be circulated to all the Members of the Indian Parliamentary Group.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

ANNEXURE

SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED FROM MEMBERS AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF IPG HELD ON 06.08.2015

Sl. No.	Issues
1.	Members of Indian Parliamentary Group recalled the contributions made by our late President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and desired that a Condolence Resolution may be passed in his memory.
2.	Railway Ticket booking facility from the Parliament House Railway Booking Office on Telephone may be extended to Ex-MPs and confirmation to be given by Railways on Ex-MP's permanent mobile number.
3.	Providing 2 tier parking facility i.e. one tier basement and one tier above the ground and proper car shed arrangement in Parliament House Complex. Besides, canteen facility to drivers and security personnel may be provided.
4.	Associate Members of IPG raised the issue relating to Empanelment of good hospitals in other cities under CGHS to enable Ex-MPs to take treatment in those hospitals as presently the facility is extended to Delhi only. Ex-MPs are spending huge amount of money while getting treatment from good hospitals which are not empanelled under CGHS.
5.	Accommodation facility to Ex-MPs may be provided in Delhi at cheaper rates during their visits to attend IPG meetings, etc. Ex-MPs should also be allowed to avail the stay facility in VP House and the Constitution Club. Construction of multi-storied building behind the Western Court may be considered where the huge space is lying unutilized which may be used by MPs and Ex-MPs as office space and for other purposes.
6.	Posting of information on Indian Parliamentary Group activities on the website of Lok Sabha with facilities for Members to post their suggestions online.
7.	Improvement in NIC services to Members including online facilities for viewing zero hour, special mention by way of password of members and Digitization of Profile of each Member of Parliament. Provision of Computer Room with Printer, Fax and Scanner facilities in Parliament House for MPs may be considered.
8.	Permission may be given to Ex-MPs to travel in AC-I Class with spouse and II AC Ticket for Companion. Associate Members also desired provision of Air travel facilities for Ex-MPs.

9.	Maintenance and proper upkeep of Parliament House Complex is needed. Improvement of sanitary condition and Provision of one room for Yoga in Parliament House for Members of Parliament may be kept. Improvement of Wi-Fi facilities. Augmenting the strength of steno Pool.
10.	Improvement in the quality of food served in the Parliament House Complex.
11.	A Committee may be constituted to formulate new Rules and Procedure for smooth functioning of Parliament commensurating with changing times. Putting an end to the use of conventions such as 'issuing of summons' to MPs which is a British legacy and the replacement of the word 'summons' by the word 'information'.
12.	Need to have a monitoring mechanism under Central government to oversee relief operations and to check scams in the distribution of relief material to the victims of natural disasters so that misuse of funds could be checked.
13.	IPG may organize periodical discourses for Members on theoretical and procedural issues, etc. and in particular on our Constitution, debates in Constituent Assembly, understanding democratic system, governance, etc.
14.	New rules may be framed and implemented to ensure smooth conduct of House proceedings and, if necessary, direct telecast of Parliament proceedings be done away with.
15.	Formation of a Group of Ex-MPs under the auspices of IPG may be considered who may like to contribute to society based on their vast experience as Member of Parliament.
16.	Setting up a Picture Gallery in Parliament House of those who have been given the Best Parliamentarian's Award.
17.	Extending the transport facility to Ex-MPs from Parliament House to their place of stay as at present they can avail the facilities only within Parliament House Complex.
18.	Notice of the meeting of IPG may be circulated well in advance so that Members can send their suggestions in advance for consideration. Besides the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting may be circulated and an Action taken Report on their suggestions may be given. Inclusion of more ex-MPs as Associate Members in the Executive Committee of IPG was solicited.
19.	Setting up of temporary shelter during Parliament Session for security guards of MPs in Vijay Chowk.

ACTION TAKEN REPORT

**Annual General Meeting of the Indian Parliamentary Group
held on 06 August, 2015
– Issues raised by Members and follow-up Action thereon**

Sl. No.	Issues	Comments (Lok Sabha Sectt)
1.	Railway Ticket booking facility from the Parliament House Railway Booking Office on Telephone may be extended to Ex-MPs and confirmation to be given by Railways on Ex-MP's permanent mobile number.	The matter regarding providing reservation to MPs/ex-MPs over telephone is to be taken up with the Ministry of Railways in the sitting of the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament scheduled to be held on 26.09.2016.
2.	Ex-MPs should also be allowed to avail the stay facility in Western Court.	At present Ex-MPs can avail stay facility in Western Court Hostel on the recommendation of sitting MP. To augment the guest accommodation, a new building at Western Court Annexe is under Construction, which will have 88 suites. The project is likely to be completed by December, 2017.
3.	Permission may be given to Ex-MPs to travel in AC-I Class with spouse and to companion to travel in II AC Ticket for Companion. Associate Members also desired provision of Air travel facilities for Ex-MPs.	<p>The matter was taken up by the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament with the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in its sitting held on 30.08.2016. Though the Ministry pleaded it as non-advisable to have parity between MPs and ex-MPs in terms of facilities, the Joint Committee however, desired that the Ministry should consider to extend this facility to ex-MPs to some extent. The response of the Ministry is still awaited.</p> <p>The matter was taken up by the Joint Committee on Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament with the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs in its sitting held on 30.08.2016. The Joint Committee recommended that ex-MPs should be provided at least 08 air journeys in a year. The response of the Ministry is still awaited.</p>

4.	Formation of a Group of Ex-MPs under the auspices of IPG may be considered who may like to contribute to society based on their vast experience as Member of Parliament.	SRI is contemplating associating domain experts on a host of issues for utilizing their experiences for the benefit of the Hon'ble Members of Parliament. Members of IPG desirous of contributing in this endeavour are welcome to send their proposals to SRI Cell, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Room No. 138, PHA. The proposal can also be mailed at srcell-lss@nic.in .
5.	Notice of the meeting of IPG may be circulated well in advance so that Members can send their suggestions in advance for consideration. Besides the Minutes of the AGM may be circulated and an Action taken Report on their suggestions may also be given. Inclusion of more ex-MPs as Associate Members in the Executive Committee of IPG was suggested.	<p>The notice for Annual General Meeting was sent to members by e-mail and SMS whose details were available.</p> <p>Minutes of the previous AGM was circulated to the Members. Action taken on the suggestions made by Members would also be circulated in due course.</p> <p>As per extant practice, only one Ex-MP is nominated by the Hon'ble Speaker to be a member of the Executive Committee. The suggestion to include more Ex-MPs in the Executive Committee could be examined.</p>