



INDIAN SOCIETY OF BLOOD TRANSFUSION & IMMUNOHAEMATOLOGY

National Organization on Blood Transfusion Medicine, Blood Banking & Donor Motivation

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Secretary General
Dr. Sangeeta Pathak

Date: 23-09-2025

Dear ISBTI Members,

This is for your kind information that the Annual General Body Meeting of ISBTI has been scheduled for **Saturday, 19th September 2026 at 04:00 p.m.** in the **Grand Ballroom, Chakolas Pavilion** (TRANSCON 2026 Venue).

1. Approval of the proceedings of Minutes of Annual General Body Meeting held on 19th September, 2025 at 05:30 PM in Grand Hyatt, Gurugram (Proceedings of the previous meeting are attached as Annexure 1).
2. Actions taken on the decisions of the previous meeting.
3. Activities of ISBTI at the State and National level during the preceding year.
4. Future Planning of ISBTI.
5. Upcoming Conferences.
6. Audited Report of ISBTI for the financial year 2025-26.
7. Any other point with the permission of chair.

Dr. Sangeeta Pathak
Secretary General

Annexure-1

Minutes of Annual General Body Meeting held on 19th September, 2025 at 05:30 PM in Grand Hyatt, Gurugram (Transcon-2025 Venue)

The Annual General Body Meeting of ISBTI was held at Grand Hyatt, Gurugram (Transcon-2025 Venue) on 19th September, 2025. The meeting was chaired by Dr Yudhbir Singh IAS, President ISBTI. Members from across the country attended the meeting.

At the outset, the President commended the organizing committee of Transcon-2025 for their exceptional efforts in hosting such a remarkable conference. He extended heartfelt gratitude to the team for their meticulous planning, impeccable arrangements, warm hospitality, and flawless execution and extended his best wishes for the event's resounding success.

He then warmly welcomed all the members in attendance, emphasizing once again the critical role of Voluntary Blood Donation in achieving the society's mission and acknowledging the significant contribution of motivators and camp organizers in promoting this noble cause.

Concluding his remarks, the President handed over the proceedings to Dr Sangeeta Pathak, Secretary General, to take up the agenda.

1. Approval of the proceedings of Minutes of Annual General Body Meeting held at Mahatma Mandir Convention Hall, Gandhinagar on 22nd November, 2024 at 5 P.M. (Proceedings of the previous meeting are attached as Annexure 1).

Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting held on 22nd November 2024 were approved with voice vote.

2. Actions taken on the decisions of the previous meeting.

The Secretary General read out the minutes of the previous AGM point by point. She specifically highlighted the agenda item on the future planning of ISBTI, which also forms part of the agenda for the current AGM. An elaborate discussion on this subject was held, and the details are documented in the minutes of the current AGM.

The Secretary General expressed her disappointment that, despite commitments made during each AGM, members often get occupied with their day-to-day routines and return the following year without any tangible

progress having been achieved. At the same time, she remarked that although she knows each member personally, she may not be fully aware of their potential or expertise in areas beyond transfusion medicine — such as IT, AI, social media, and related domains. She requested everybody to volunteer to contribute their best for the society.

Prof. Dr Girijanandini expressed interest in supporting social media initiatives, and Dr Afreen, based at Mumbai, showed her inclination to share knowledge in the field of AI and social media. The Secretary General noted these offers and suggested forming a small WhatsApp group to chalk out the further course of action.

In continuation, the President requested the members that, after reviewing the minutes of the last AGM, if anyone feels that his or her potential is not being fully utilized by ISBTI, they are welcome to volunteer in specific areas where they can contribute to enhance the functioning of the Society. He informed the house that he had also written to all members who had made commitments in the previous AGM and had personally spoken to them.

The President also requested all the members present to give their best for the growth of the society. All those issues and points made by Dr Vasavada, Dr Ruchi, Dr Rashmi and Dr Nidhi would be taken up now onwards and would be earnestly implemented.

The points are given below.

Dr Vasavada suggested organizing quarterly online meetings with State Chapters to discuss ongoing activities and gather suggestions for improvement. This initiative would provide a platform to align efforts and share best practices across chapters.

Dr Nidhi Bhatnagar recommended sending monthly reminders to ensure consistent updates and engagement from all members, emphasizing the importance of regular communication in maintaining momentum for ISBTI's initiatives.

Dr Rashmi, Head of the Department at Manipal Hospital, New Delhi, emphasized the importance of training donor counsellors to enhance the effectiveness of blood donation services. She highlighted the critical role donor counsellors play in blood banks and stressed the need for a well-structured training program.

Dr Ruchi Punnamia proposed the creation of a social media wing to enhance ISBTI's brand presence while empowering its members to leverage information

technology and artificial intelligence. She emphasized the potential for using digital tools to expand ISBTI's influence and engagement.

3. Activities of ISBTI at the State and National level during the preceding year.

The activities undertaken by various State Chapters would be placed on the website.

4. Future Planning of ISBTI.

Dr Sangeeta Pathak emphasized the importance of future planning for ISBTI, noting that it is a long-standing organization whose legacy must be preserved. She urged the members to stand by ISBTI and acknowledged that each one of them bears a sense of responsibility towards the Society. Speaking for herself, she stated that she feels personally accountable to ISBTI and always strives to fulfill her obligations to the best of her ability.

She once again emphasized the importance of Social Media in creating awareness on Voluntary Blood Donation and requested members present at the AGM, especially the younger ones, to come forward and volunteer in this regard. She acknowledged the expertise of the younger members of her Organizing Committee — notably Dr Rasika Setia, Dr Mohit Chaudhary, Dr Rakesh Katharia and Dr Tamojit Bhattacharya — who guided her on the nuances of social media, including the effective use of the Zoom platform.

At this juncture, the President interjected and addressed Dr Ruchi Punnamia, who had volunteered during the last AGM to lead the efforts for adoption of emerging technologies. Dr Ruchi Punnamia reiterated her commitment and informed that she has already shared a write-up through the official ISBTI email regarding the initiatives undertaken and her future plans (Detailed reply is attached as **Annexure – II**). She further highlighted that earlier in the day, during the morning scientific session, she had delivered a talk titled “Scroll, Post, Save Lives: #Transfusion Medicine – Role of Social Media in TM” to introduce the audience to these tools and concepts. Dr Rashmi also shared the work undertaken and proposed future course of action through mail a day prior to the AGM (Detailed reply attached as **Annexure - III**). The President appreciated their efforts and requested further inputs, encouraging other members to come forward with their willingness to volunteer.

In the run-up to TRANSCON 2025, the Organizing Team conducted the “Wise Wednesday Webinars” on the Zoom platform from April 2025 to 10th

September 2025. In view of the overwhelming response — with registrations reaching as high as 1400 in one session — the Secretary General decided that these webinars would henceforth be conducted under the umbrella of ISBTI. She acknowledged the remarkable participation and noted several requests from members to continue the series beyond TRANSCON 2025. She further stated that she would take a month or two to restart the webinars under ISBTI.

An interesting observation was made by one of the young members, Dr Kamini from Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi, regarding the potential of podcasts. She noted that while webinars tend to be more technical, podcasts are interactive and often structured as interviews where the guest shares personal experiences, thereby providing a different dimension to the discussion. Dr Kamini specifically referred to the lecture delivered earlier in the day by Dr Poonam Srivastava, who not only spoke about her professional journey but also shared experiences outside her field that had a profound impact on her growth and outcomes. Dr Kamini emphasized that ISBTI, being a 50-year-old organization, has members with 3–4 decades of experience across diverse fields, and such experiences could be invaluable for the younger generation if shared through podcasts. The President appreciated her thoughtful observation, acknowledging it as a reflection of Dr Kamini's maturity and expertise, and remarked that she is a true repository of wisdom.

Reviving State Chapters which are not functional for one or more reasons is also very important for the growth of ISBTI.

The President informed that in Chhatisgarh, Dr Meenal Jaiswal, who is a professor in AIIMS Raipur has been entrusted with the responsibility of forming adhoc committee. He then addressed members from Pondicherry and reminded them about the meeting scheduled next day on discussion regarding forming of adhoc committees.

Dr Apurva Ghosh reported the revival of the West Bengal State Chapter with an ad hoc committee formed, nominating Dr Gopal Chandra Mishra Ex Joint Secretary Department of Blood Safety, West Bengal as Chairman and Mr. Nurul Islam as Secretary. He noted that Mr. Nurul Islam is attending the conference and was present at the AGM.

5. Upcoming Conferences.

The next conference i.e. Transcon – 2026 will be held in Kochi, Kerala from 18th September to 20th September. Dr Sajith Vilambil, the President Kerala State Chapter apprised the members that he has already shortlisted the venue and a person from his event team is also accompanying him. He promised great hospitality along with a great learning experience at Kochi. Dr Abhishek Gowda from Pondicherry who had last year promised to hold the conference couldn't attend this conference but his team members were there and they reiterated their commitment to hold Transcon-2027 in Pondicherry. Dr Minal Jaiswal informed that their team requires some more time before holding a national conference. Dr Purnima Rao from Maharashtra State Chapter expressed the willingness to host Transcon – 2028 in Maharashtra. The President and Secy General asked her to send a formal letter for the same.

6. Organization of a National Conference in 2026 on the Voluntary Blood Donation movement in collaboration with Social Wing of the Brahma Kumaris.

President informed the members that a National Conference on the Voluntary Blood Donation movement is planned to be organized in Mount Abu in 2026 in collaboration with Social Service Wing of the Brahma Kumaris. He also highlighted that a delegation of ISBTI led by him including deputy presidents Dr. T.R. Raina and M. Satish Kumar, Joint Treasurer Dr. Manvir Singh and staff of ISBTI attended the event held on 17.08.2025 at ORC, Gurgaon to launch a 4 day mega blood donation drive organized by social service wing of BrahamKumaris from 22nd August 2025 to 25th August 2025. ISBTI delegation had detailed discussions with senior functionaries of social service wing of BrahamKumaris to explore the possibilities of holding a national conference on voluntary blood donation in 2026. Deputy President, Dr. T.R. Raina also shared the details with members and told that one day conferences at state level will be held in Rohtak, Jammu and Jaipur.

Deputy President M. Satish Kumar informed the members that during the mega blood donation drive, approx. 87000 units of blood were collected.

7. Audited Report of ISBTI for the financial year 2024-25.

The president informed the members that the ITR for this year have not been filed so far. The ITR would be filed within the next 30 days and audited report will be uploaded on the official website.

8. Any other point with the permission of chair.

Dr. Richa Gupta from GTB Hospital, New Delhi shared details of an initiative her team has taken for voluntary blood donation motivation. Since last year, they have been conducting awareness classes in schools and colleges and have received an excellent response, as reflected in strong participation in subsequent blood donation camps. She suggested that it would be even more beneficial if such awareness programs could be carried out under the banner of ISBTI. She also mentioned the example of an NGO that conducts CPR training in schools. Dr. Richa added that her team has been conducting pre- and post-donation questionnaire, collecting data, and intends to publish the findings soon. She proposed that such awareness sessions should ideally begin at the Class 11 level.

The Secretary General also commended Dr Richa's efforts and underscored the power of motivation and awareness. She recalled the legendary Dr N. K. Bhatia, who was such an inspiring orator that even if only five people were initially present, his address would lead to a hundred donations. She stressed the need for strong motivators and communicators to encourage students and the public to come forward for blood donation.

The President encouraged Dr Richa to continue with her movement and assured her of ISBTI's full support, including literature and resources. He also permitted her to use the ISBTI logo for this purpose, with a request that ISBTI be kept informed of the activities so that the Society may put the activities on its website for others to emulate. Dr Richa reiterated that the initiative is purely philanthropic in nature, with no other motive involved. Deputy President Mr. M. Satish Kumar appreciated the approach and stated that this model could be replicated on a Pan-India basis. The President further mentioned that ISBTI would be sharing the project **"Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation through Educational Institutions"** approved by TISS.

Dr Mina Sidhu, Chairperson of the J&K State Chapter, raised an issue that had been brought to her notice by one of her postgraduate students while en route to the conference. She informed the house that the minimum qualification for admission to the D.M. Clinical Haematology program currently includes M.D. Pathology, M.D. Pediatrics, and M.D. Biochemistry, but excludes M.D. Immunohaematology and Blood Transfusion. She requested that ISBTI write to the National Medical Commission (NMC) regarding this discrepancy. The President assured her that ISBTI would write to the concerned authority, but emphasized that the affected candidates would also need to pursue the matter actively through their respective State Medical Councils. He further noted that in earlier years, such matters were recorded under a dedicated agenda item titled “Resolutions of Issues Raised During the ISBTI AGM,” and assured Dr Sidhu that if she shares a complete draft proposal, it would be formally forwarded to the appropriate authorities.

Dr P. K. Paliwal emphasized the need to revive the ISBTI YouTube channel and build it into a popular, household-level platform for spreading awareness on voluntary blood donation and related initiatives.

Dr V. P. Gupta proposed that targeted efforts be made to tap into rural populations in order to move closer to the goal of 100% voluntary blood donation. He identified low participation of women in rural blood donation camps as a major bottleneck that needs focused attention.

President once again congratulated Dr Sangeeta Pathak & her team and wished for the grand success of Transcon -2025.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.

Dr Sangeeta Pathak
Secretary General