



INDIAN FOREST SERVICE BENEVOLENT AND WELFARE TRUST

Standing for Green Warriors

GOVERNING BODY

President

Shri A. K. Goyal

Vice President

Dr. D. D. Sharma

Secretary

Shri Rajesh Kumar Chaudhry

Treasurer

Shri Vinod Kumar Tiwari

Joint Secretary

Shri Sanjeev Chadha

REGISTERED OFFICE

Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests,
Department of Forests and Wildlife,
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New Delhi- 110007

File No. IFSBWT/101/2026 GB Minutes _August 2026

Date: 18th August, 2026

INDIAN FOREST SERVICE BENEVOLENT AND WELFARE TRUST (IFSBWT)

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Governing Body
(Date & Time: August 14, 2026, at 6:00 PM; Mode: Online (Virtual))

Attendance: The list of participants is attached as **Annexure I**.

Agenda Item-Wise Discussions and Decisions

1. Confirmation and Review of Action Taken on the Minutes of the Eighth Meeting

The Governing Body (GB) reviewed the status of decisions from the eighth meeting held in July 2026. The GB noted that the following items remain pending and directed immediate follow-up:

- (i) Statutory Compliance: Complete the auditing of Trust Accounts and file the Income Tax Return (ITR) for FY 2025-26.
(Action: Chartered Accountant)
- (ii) Stakeholder Consultation: Convene a virtual meeting with Principal Chief Conservators of Forests (PCCFs), Nodal Officers, and State Coordinators.
(Action: President; Secretary)
- (iii) Unidentified Donations: Compile a comprehensive list of donations lacking remitter contact details. Disseminate this list across the Trust website, internal networks, State Coordinators, Nodal Officers, and various IFSA groups to expedite the issuance of official acknowledgments.
(Action: Secretariat (Sh. Vikas) / State Coordinators)

2. Consideration and Ratification of Trust Assistance

The Governing Body ratified the financial assistance approvals previously granted via the GB WhatsApp group on July 31, 2026 (Items i & ii) and August 10, 2026 (Item iii), for the families of the following deceased personnel:

- Late Shri Vikaskumar N. Desai, Range Forest Officer, Vyara Forest Division, Tapi, Gujarat.
- Late Shri Lakhan Singh Maravi, Forest Fire Watcher, Kanha National Park, Madhya Pradesh.
- Late Shri Shyamu Mahagu Sharnagat, Forest Guard, Umazari Range, Nagzira Block, Navegaon-Nagzira Tiger Reserve, Gondia, Maharashtra.

3. Issuance of Official Condolence and Concern Messages

The GB decided that henceforth, every electronic transfer of financial assistance to the family of a deceased or grievously injured field official must be accompanied by an official letter from the Trust conveying its condolences or solidarity, as applicable.
(Secretariat (Sh. Vikas); Secretary)

4. Policy Review on Financial Assistance Limits

The GB evaluated the financial position of the Trust, analyzing the surge in field mishaps over the last six months, corresponding fund outflows, and projected donation inflows. Following detailed deliberations, the GB resolved to uphold its core objective of extending immediate financial assistance to affected personnel, independent of whether the respective State Government has a compensatory policy in place.

5. Consideration of Suggestions for Sustaining IFSBWT Activities

The GB reviewed and adopted the recommendations originating from the brainstorming session held on August 4, 2026. The specific action points and decisions are detailed in Annexure II.

6. Any Other Matter

(i) Case Coordination: Appointed Shri C. D. Singh as the Trust's central coordinator. He will liaise with the concerned PCCF (HoFF) and DCF to collect and verify requisite details in the prescribed format for all pending and new financial assistance cases. **(Sh. C D Singh, Member, GB)**

(ii) **Institutionalizing Recurring Donations:** To strengthen the Trust's corpus fund, the GB approved the launch of a recurring donation mechanism. This will allow donors to set up continuous, long-term contributions via automated bank standing instructions, e-mandates, or Credit/Debit card authorizations. The modalities of this mechanism will be developed by the Trust in consultation with the Trust's account holding SBI Branch. **(Secretariat (Sh. Vikas; Treasurer)**

(iii) **Policy Advocacy for Ex-Gratia and Compassionate Appointments:** The Governing Body resolved to send formal communications to the Chief Ministers of states currently lacking dedicated welfare policies for forest personnel. The correspondence will urge these state governments to formulate and implement frameworks for granting ex-gratia compensation and compassionate appointments to the families of forest officials who die in harness, on the lines of policies already successfully implemented by states such as Maharashtra, MP and Karnataka. **(President)**

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and all the participants.


R. K. Chaudhry
Secretary, IFSBWT

Annexure I

List of participants of the ninth meeting of the Governing Body of IFSBWT held on August 14, 2026 at 6.00 PM through online mode.

- 1, Sh. A K Goyal (KR:1981) - President
2. Dr. D.D. Sharma (JHK:1984) - Vice President
3. Sh. Rajesh Kumar Chaudhry (PB:1987) – Secretary
4. Sh. Sanjeev Chadha (OR: 1989) – Joint Secretary
6. Sh. Surendra Kumar (KR:1986) - Member
7. Sh. A. K. Johari (AM:1986) – Member
8. Sh. C. D. Singh (AGMUT:1987) – Member
9. Ms. Jyotsna Sitling (UTT: 1987)
10. Sh. Kunal Satyarthi (HP:1997)- Member

Decisions on the Suggestions from the Brainstorming Session held on August 4, 2026

	Suggestions made in BS session	Decisions of GB
1	May think of reducing the outflow and increasing inflow of donations and building the corpus first.	It was decided to rationalise future releases from the Trust till building up of a reasonable corpus. <i>(All members of GB)</i>
2	Visibility for the donations already made, will help in building the image of the Trust: taking photos of the beneficiaries with a replica of cheques.	Because financial aid is now sent online instead of by cheque, the Trust will issue an information letter to the concerned beneficiary with copies to the PCCF(HoFF) and concerned DCF. Local forest staff will deliver the letter personally and share a photo of the handover. <i>(Secretary)</i>
3	Creation of state-level units with PCCF and other members	Sh. Ajai Lal (Coordinator, Dehradun) is setting up this model in Uttarakhand. Replication in other states was decided to be paused until it is complete. <i>(Sh. Ajai Lal, IFSBWT Coordinator, Dehradun)</i>
4	Cadre-wise list of donors	It was decided to publish it on the website of the Trust <i>(Sh. Vikas)</i>
5	Involving CEC in creating awareness about the Trust	The President and Shri A.K. Johri (Member, GB) recently briefed the Hon'ble Chairman, CEC. They requested the Chairman to apprise representatives of State Forest Departments (SFDs) and the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding the objectives and activities of the IFSBWT. <i>(President, Sh. A K Johri, Member GB)</i>
6	Tapping through forest clearances	GB decided to schedule an online meeting in August 2026 with the ADG (FC) and MoEFCC Regional Offices Heads to brief them on Trust's activities to further sensitize respective State Forest Departments (SFDs). <i>(Vice President)</i>
7	Need a corpus of at least one crore	Following several recent field mishaps, the Governing Body recognized the need for a corpus well exceeding ₹1 crore to support bereaved families. <i>(All members of GB)</i>
8	Should request MoEFCC too for funds	As the nodal Ministry, MoEFCC will be requested to contribute to the Trust. An

		official letter to this effect will be issued to the Secretary, MoEFCC and the DGF & SS. (President)
9	To begin with, organize meetings with PCCF HOFFs of Odisha and Maharashtra.	Meetings with PCCF HOFFs of Odisha and Maharashtra will be held in next fortnight. Sh, Surendra Kumar, Member GB will coordinate the meetings. (Sh. Surendra Kumar, Member GB)
10	Appointing batch-wise and cadre-wise nodal officers.	The GB noted that cadre-wise nodal officers are already being appointed by IFSBWT in consultation with the respective PCCFs. It was decided that appointing batch-wise nodal officers is not feasible.
11	Nodal officers for North East	To be nominated from Assam, Guwahati being the gateway for NE Region. (Sh. A K Johri, Member, GB)
12	Must make decentralized efforts	Wherever feasible, the Trust office-bearers will plan visits to their respective cadres to sensitize officers and field-level functionaries (All members of GB)
13	Office-bearers to visit various states for creating awareness	
14	Serving officers should be tapped	In addition to individual state visits by office-bearers, the GB decided to hold an online joint meeting with the Ministry's training institutes, academies so that the officers attending MCT courses or other courses can be briefed. (All members of GB)
15	Not able to reach wider section of forestry fraternity	
16	Need social media platform	The GB agreed to adopt this suggestion. Sh. Kunal Satyarthi, Member GB, has already identified several officers from the Service to lead the initiative. (Sh. Kunal Satyarthi, Member GB)
17	Need to identify a few active officers, influencers, who can make Trust activities viral	
18	Prepare a good brochure for wider circulation	The GB decided to consult few MoEFCC institutes currently developing their brochures to identify and compile a list of suitable agencies for potential engagement by IFSBWT. (Joint Secretary)
19	No harm in approaching private sector for donations	The GB accepted the suggestion and decided to approach the Tata Trusts as a pilot case to seek donations. (President)
20	Awareness among probationers of IGNFA/CASFOS/FTIs/MCT courses	As stated above for Sl. No.6,14 and 15
21	Strategy for larger coverage through MOEFCC/ROs/Director IFS division	
22	Issue of receipts even for amounts below INR 1000/-	The Governing Body decided that the Trust will issue official receipts for all donations

		received, irrespective of the amount. (Secretariat (Sh. Vikas); Treasurer).
23	Bring State Coordinators & Nodal Officers also to the WhatsApp group of GB for wider consultations.	Suggestion not found feasible due to likelihood of decision-making delays in a large, extended group beyond Governing Body office bearers.

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