



IFS
Benevolent and Welfare Trust

**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,
Kamla Nehru Ridge,
New Delhi- 110007

File No. IFSBWT/May/2026 -GB Minutes

Date: May 10, 2026

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Governing Body of the Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust held virtually on May 7, 2026 at 1900 hours

The list of members present in the meeting is at **Annex**.

In the opening remarks, the President welcomed the members to the meeting and congratulated and appreciated the efforts of Mr. Surendra Kumar, Vice Chairman of the Committee for Scrutiny and Evaluation of Proposals (CSEP), and the members for convening a meeting of the CSEP at very short notice and for placing their recommendations before the Governing Body (GB). He also appreciated the prompt action taken by Mr. Rajesh Chaudhry, Secretary of the GB, in organising this meeting.

The President then requested the Vice Chairman of the CSEP to present the case of the late Shri Harikesh Singh Gurjar, Forest Guard (FG), Madhya Pradesh (MP), who lost his life in the line of duty at the hands of the sand mafia. The agenda items considered, and the decisions taken, are recorded below.

1. Financial assistance to the family of the late Shri Harikesh Singh Gurjar, Forest Guard, Morena (Madhya Pradesh)

The Vice Chairman of the CSEP placed the following facts before the GB:

- (i) The proposal relates to the family of the late Shri Harikesh Singh Gurjar, FG, Morena (MP), who was deliberately run over by a tractor belonging to the mining mafia while he was attempting to stop the vehicle on April 8, 2026. The incident occurred at Ranpur Tiraha, Ambah Road, District Morena. The unregistered tractor, which was carrying sand, was being intercepted by a forest team comprising the Range Officer and several FGs, including the late Shri Gurjar; the driver, however, drove the tractor straight into the team. As a result, Shri Gurjar was fatally injured and was declared dead at the District Hospital, Morena.
- (ii) The DFO and the PCCF have certified that Shri Gurjar laid down his life in the line of duty. He acted selflessly, courageously, and with the utmost commitment to public service, and there was no negligence or misconduct on his part.
- (iii) An ex-gratia payment of ₹1.25 lakh has so far been made by the Government of MP.

- (iv) The deceased is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lovely Gurjar (29 years, unemployed), and a daughter aged 5 years. Both his parents are alive, and his elder brother is employed as Assistant (Grade III).

After deliberations, the CSEP observed that, as the elder brother is in employment and may be presumed to look after the parents, and as the State Government has so far made only a modest ex-gratia payment of ₹1.25 lakh, the case was fit for an immediate grant of at least ₹2.5 lakh from the Indian Forest Service Benevolent and Welfare Trust.

After deliberations, the Governing Body decided as follows:

- (i) ₹ 1.50 lakh (one lakh and fifty thousand) shall be released to the spouse of the deceased, Mrs. Lovely Gurjar, immediately.
- (ii) ₹1.5 lakh (one lakh and fifty thousand) shall be deposited in the name of the daughter under the most suitable scheme available, so that she receives a meaningful sum for her higher educational purposes. The Secretary will make the necessary enquiries to identify the most suitable scheme and will obtain the relevant details from the officials of the MP Forest Department. Mr. Vikas, Executive of the Trust, has been requested to take the necessary action in this regard.
- (iii) The PCCF (HoFF), MP and the DFO concerned will be informed about the decision taken by the Trust for release of financial assistance.

(Action: Secretary and Mr. Vikas)

2. Standard Operating Procedures and guidelines for processing similar proposals in future

There was consensus among the members that the CSEP may draft detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and guidelines for processing such proposals in future, which may, *inter alia*, cover:

- (i) the minimum information required from the States/UTs to enable expeditious processing of a proposal, the timeline within which financial assistance is to be released, and whether the assistance is to be released in one or more instalments;
- (ii) once a proposal is found fit for consideration, the fixation of a minimum amount of financial assistance to be recommended:
- (a) in cases of death in the line of duty, irrespective of the merits of each individual case; and
- (b) in cases of grievous or serious injury that may incapacitate the personnel concerned from undertaking field assignments in future; and

(iii) where the field personnel has dependents other than the spouse, school-going children, or aged parents, the principles for distribution of the amount among such dependents.

(Action: CSEP)

Other agenda items discussed

3. Mechanisms for ensuring that complete proposals are received by the Trust within the shortest possible time after the incident, through contacting the officers in the states based on newspaper reports or other means

(Action: Coordination Committee and members of the GB)

4. Review of progress on the decisions of the Fourth Meeting of the GB held on April 23, 2026

(a) Finalisation of the brochure of IFSBWT

Mr. Surendra Kumar informed that he is working on the brochure and will circulate a revised draft shortly.

(Action: Mr. Surendra Kumar)

(b) Webinar with State/UT Associations on May 23, 2026

The Chairman and the Secretary of the Coordination Committee informed that arrangements for the webinar are being expedited, and that communication will be sent to the various associations in the States and UTs.

(Action: Chairman/Secretary, Coordination Committee)

(c) Nomination of State/UT Coordinators for mobilising donations

All members of the GB were once again requested to propose names of State/UT Coordinators for the remaining States and UTs, after consulting the officers concerned and apprising them of the activities of the Trust.

(Action: All members of the Governing Body)

(d) Uploading of the donor list on the website

The President informed the GB that the list of donors, along with several other documents, has been uploaded on the website of the Trust. He requested members to peruse the contents of the website and offer suggestions for further improvement.

(Action: All members of the Governing Body)

(e) Communication regarding the first General Body meeting on May 24, 2026

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The Secretary is requested to expedite action for notifying all serving and retired IFS officers, who are deemed members of the Trust, of the first General Body meeting.

(Action:Secretary)

(f) Individual letters to prospective donors

The President informed the GB that the individual letters to prospective donors capable of contributing substantial sums to the Trust have been signed by him, and he requested the Treasurer to follow up with the donors concerned.

(Action:Treasurer)

(g) Press conference in the last week of May 2026

Mr. Surendra Kumar informed the GB that he is seized of the matter, and that the necessary arrangements will be made by him in due course.

(Action: Mr. Surendra Kumar)

(h) Uploading of State Government compensation orders on the website

All members of the GB were again requested to obtain copies of compensation orders issued by the States/UTs so that the same may be uploaded on the website of the Trust.

(Action: All members of the

GB)

4. Declaration to the Income Tax Department regarding the dormancy of the Trust

The format of the declaration to be submitted to the Income Tax Department, explaining the dormancy of the Trust for over seventeen years on account of various reasons, was discussed, and certain improvements in the contents were suggested. Mr. Vikas and the CA, Mr. Anirudh, have been requested to approach the Secretary, obtain the document signed, and submit it to the Income Tax Department.

(Action: Secretary, Mr. Vikas and CA Mr. Anirudh)

5. Online application under Section 12AB of the Income Tax Act for exemption on donations received

The Treasurer informed the GB that he has reviewed the contents of the online application and that the same appear to be in order. Mr. Vikas and Mr. Anirudh have been requested to approach the Secretary and submit the application online, under the signature of the Secretary, by Tuesday, May 12, 2026.

(Action: Secretary, Mr. Vikas and CA Mr. Anirudh)

6. Equating Police and Forestry Personnel for compensation in cases of death in the line of duty

Mr. A. K. Johari, referred to the discussions in the CSEP regarding the orders issued by the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka equating police and forestry personnel for the payment of dignified compensation of ₹1.00 (one) crore to those who lay down their lives in the line of duty. He requested that the Trust consider writing to the Hon'ble Minister, MoEFCC, urging that similar orders be issued by the other States. Mr. Johari has been requested to obtain the orders issued by the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

(Action: Mr. Johari and Secretary)

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to all the participants.

Lj 10.5.2026
R.K. Chaudhry
Secretary, IFSBWT

List of Participants — Fifth Meeting of the Governing Body (virtual), May 7, 2026

S. No.	Name	Cadre & Batch	Designation
1.	Dr. D. D. Sharma	JHK:1984	Vice-President
2.	Mr. Vinod Tiwari	HP:1986	Treasurer
3.	Mr. Sanjeev Chadha	OR:1989	Joint Secretary
4.	Mr. A. K. Johari	AM:1986	Member
5.	Mr. Surendra Kumar	KR:1986	Member
6.	Mr. C. D. Singh	AGMUT:1987	Member
7.	Ms. Jyotsna Sitling	UTT:1987	Member
8.	Mr. Nishant Verma	UTT:1999	Member
9.	Mr. A. K. Goyal	KR:1981	President

*Dedicated to the welfare of all forestry field personnel and their families
(Indian Forest Service Officers, State Forest Service Officers, Forest Range Officers, and Frontline Field Staff)*
www.foresttrust.in | ifsbwtrust@gmail.com

4/10.5.2026