

Proceedings of the ISST-EC meeting dated 08-08-2026

Dt: 10-08-2026

The Executive Committee (EC) of the Indian Society of Seed Technology (ISST) convened its meeting on 08 August 2026 at 11:00 AM in the Committee Room of NBPGR, under the chairmanship of Dr. D.K. Yadava, President of ISST. The meeting was conducted in both in-person and online formats to ensure maximum participation. Thirteen of the fourteen EC members attended, along with the Past President, Dr. H.S. Gupta.

In his opening remarks, the President welcomed the members and expressed appreciation for their continued support. The agenda, circulated earlier through email and the WhatsApp group, included four items:

1. Review of ISST's new office space renovation work
2. Progress review of Seed Research journal and Seed Tech News publications
3. Deliberations on the date and time for the National Seed Symposium
4. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

The Secretary apprised the House of the formation of the 'ISST Shifting Committee' by the President for finalising the renovation work and for regular monitoring of the work. The committee comprises following EC members who are present locally.

Chairperson:	Dr. P.K. Singh (Vice President, ISST)
Members:	Dr. Satish Kumar Yadav (Treasurer, ISST)
	Dr. L.K. Pandey (Delhi Councillor, ISST)
Member Secretary:	Dr. Ravish Chaudhary (Joint Secretary, ISST)

The Secretary also informed the EC that ₹10 Lakhs was received from BISA/CIMMYT towards seed-related societal activities from the new office space, and the funds are being utilised for the renovation work of the new office space. The Chairperson of the Shifting Committee, Dr P.K. Singh, apprised the EC about the renovation work. He informed the EC that, due to severe disturbance and dusty conditions at the ISST old office caused by BISA/CIMMYT renovation work, the ISST office was temporarily shifted to the Nitrogen Society premises, and part of the material was locked in the ISGPB President's room. He informed that the renovation work had been delayed due to procedural requirements from the GAC of ICAR, which is repairing the false ceiling. However, with the President's constant support and active involvement, the work has begun and is now progressing well. The fire safety system and false ceiling work were nearly complete. Since the common area of the new location on the second floor is shared among three organisations, viz., ISST, SPBB, and MSSRF, a series of meetings was organised among the three with the help of the ISST secretary. A uniform common area plan was finalised, and a combined work order for the renovation of the common area was issued to Ms Irfan Constructions. Similarly, for the ISST office space

renovation, a separate work order was issued to Ms Irfan Constructions after following due procedure of getting three quotations from three contractors and finalized based on the amount and earlier work performance. He stated that the work is expected to be completed before the end of September. Dr H.S. Gupta emphasised that the new office should be appropriate for proper functioning and conducting the societal meetings, to which the President assured that the new premises would be better equipped, with a committee room, office, lobby, and pantry.

On the matter of publications, the Secretary reported that the *Seed Research* journal was at the printing stage and *Seed Tech News* would be released by month-end, though both had been delayed. Dr. H.S. Gupta stressed the importance of timely publication, noting that the journal represents the society's image. Chief Editor Dr. Sherry R. Jacob highlighted challenges in obtaining quality articles and the lack of support from the editorial board. The EC resolved to appoint an additional Editor and restructure the Editorial Board to ensure greater involvement. On a consensus basis, Dr. Nandita Banerjee, Sr. Scientist from NISST, Mau has been identified as an Editor of Seed Research. The President urged members to solicit manuscripts and review articles and announced that the journal would be made fully open access and registered with the Directory of Open Access Journals. While Scopus indexing was discussed, it was deferred due to risks of rejection. Members were encouraged to increase citations to enhance visibility. The secretary, ISST, informed the EC that, as per NAAS guidelines, the proforma for evaluating the journal for NAAS scoring was submitted on 31 July 2026 for 2026-27 scoring.

The Secretary further reported progress in membership, with 21 new life members and 3 annual members added since the new EC assumed charge. A QR code for payment had been integrated into the membership form, and members were encouraged to hold awareness meetings with Seed Science students/ researchers to promote membership. He informed the EC about the recent awareness meeting held with students of the Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, during which the benefits for life members were explained. Dr L.K. Pandey suggested creating a social media banner highlighting membership benefits, along with a QR code for payment, for circulation across different social media platforms, which the EC agreed.

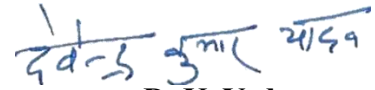
Deliberations on the National Seed Symposium followed. The secretary informed about a proposal from Dr Vishwanath Koti from UAS Bengaluru to host the symposium in collaboration with ISST and NISST. Dr Vishwanath Koti, while explaining the details to EC, informed that UAS Bengaluru can conduct the National Seed Symposium in collaboration with ISST and NISST, as it has received around 40 lakhs in funds from DAC under the National Food Security and Nutrition Mission to conduct the event. After discussion, it was decided to hold the symposium in the first fortnight of December 2026, with exact dates to be finalised later. The President informed that the seminar title would be circulated to the EC group for consensus. A proposal from Dr P.K. Singh to organise a two-day symposium in Assam during

October 2026 was also discussed. The President advised deferring the event to next year, given the limited preparation time, and assured that it would be considered in future meetings.

At the end, the President assured that all the points discussed in the EC meeting will be taken up in a timely manner. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the Secretary, ISST, to all the EC members for sparing their valuable time and active participation in the meeting.



D. Vijay
Secretary, ISST



D. K. Yadava
President, ISST