

Date: 25-02-2026

Proceedings of the ISST Election Committee meeting held on 25-02-2026

A meeting of the ISST Election Committee was held on February 25, 2026, at 12:30 PM onwards in Room No. 101, 1st Floor, DSST, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Sandeep K. Lal, Returning Officer, with an agenda to count votes and declaration of election results to the office bearers of Executive Council of ISST for the term 2026-29.

The following were present:

1. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Lal, Principal Scientist : Returning Officer
2. Dr. Sushil Pandey, Principal Scientist : Member
3. Mr. Manjunath Prasad, C.T., Scientist : Member
4. Dr. Vijay Dunna, Principal Scientist : Special Invitee
5. Dr. Zakir Hussain, Principal Scientist : Contestant representative
6. Dr. Vishwanath R. Y., Senior Scientist : Contestant representative
7. Mr. Rahul, ISST Secretariat : ISST representative

At the outset, the Returning Officer welcomed all the members and updated the house on the election process and schedule.

1. Constitution of the Election Committee

The ISST Secretariat constituted the Election Committee, comprising of the following members, to conduct elections to the office bearers of the Executive Council (EC) of ISST for the term 2026–2029, to be conducted through online voting in digital mode:

- i. Dr. Sandeep Kumar Lal : Returning Officer
Principal Scientist
Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
- ii. Dr. Sushil Pandey : Member
Principal Scientist
ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi
- iii. Mr. Manjunath Prasad, C. T. : Member
Scientist
Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi

2. Election Notification and Posts

The elections were announced on 24 January 2026, inviting nominations to various posts of the Executive Council of ISST for the term 2026–2029. The announcement included (i) the schedule of election events, (ii) eligibility criteria for casting vote and contesting elections, and (iii) terms and conditions of ISST elections. This announcement was communicated to all members through email as per the list of ISST life members provided by the ISST Secretariat and was also uploaded on the ISST website. The posts to be filled were:

- a. President (1 post)
- b. Vice-President (2 posts)

- c. Secretary (1 post; from Delhi)
- d. Treasurer (1 post; from Delhi)
- e. Councillors (6 posts): one each from Delhi, North, East, South, and two from West & Central Zone

3. Schedule Election and Compliance

The tentative schedule notified was as follows, and the events were organized as per the schedule:

- Inviting nominations from members : 23/01/2026 (Friday) onwards
- Last date for receipt of nominations : 06/02/2026 (Friday)
- Scrutiny of nominations and communication to candidates : 09/02/2026 (Monday)
- Last date for withdrawal of nominations : 12/02/2026 (Thursday)
- Election Committee meeting : 13/02/2026 (Friday)
- Final list of contesting candidates : 16/02/2026 (Monday)
- Online voting : 17/02/2026 (Tuesday) to 24/02/2026 (Tuesday), up to 11:59 PM
- Counting and declaration of results : 25/02/2026 (Wednesday)

4. Scrutiny of Nominations and Finalization of Contesting Candidates

The nominations received were scrutinized on 09 February 2026. The list of nominations received for the various posts was tabulated, based on scrutiny and subsequent verification of the following details by the ISST Secretariat:

- nomination particulars,
- nominee details and eligibility criteria, and
- details of proposer and seconder.

Based on inputs provided by the ISST Secretariat, the final list of nominations received for various posts was prepared and communicated through email to nominees on 09 February 2026 for acceptance and/or withdrawal of nomination on or before 12 February 2026. Separate communication was made to nominees, who had filed nominations for more than one post, to submit nomination for only one post.

Based on responses received, the final list of nominations along with withdrawal status for various posts for the EC term 2026–2029 was declared and communicated to the nominees on 16 February 2026 (**Annexure I**).

5. Status of Unopposed Elections and Contested Posts

Based on the withdrawal status (as per **Annexure I**), candidates for all posts were elected unopposed, except for the posts of Vice-President (2 posts) for which five nominations received (contested), and Councillor (North Zone, one post), where no nomination was received (post remained vacant).

6. Conduct of Online Voting (Vice-President – 2 Posts)

Voting for the post of Vice-President (2 posts) was conducted through online mode to ensure fairness and transparency. The following procedure was followed:

- The Election Committee shared the e-voting link consisting of a login gateway through unique password specific to each member (ensuring secrecy of the voting process) and an online ballot form, through email to all eligible ISST members as provided by the ISST Secretariat.
- The voting window was open during 17 February 2026 to 24 February 2026 (up to 11:59 PM).

A total of 625 emails were sent. The requests from members who had not received the voting link due to incorrect/inactive email ID or bounced email were attended to, as and when received from time to time. The voting link was re-sent with the same unique password, after verification of eligibility to vote by the ISST Secretariat. The voting concluded on 24 February 2026 at 11:59 PM, after which the poll was treated as closed for counting purposes.

7. Counting of Votes (25 February 2026)

The counting of votes for the post of Vice-President was conducted on 25 February 2026 by the Election Committee, in the presence of observers invited by the Election Committee, and members representing the nominees for the post of Vice-President, as per the attendance list attached (**Annexure II**). The Election Committee reviewed the online voting records/reports generated by the e-voting system after closure of the poll and tabulated the votes polled by each contestant for the post of Vice-President. The final voting details for Vice-President (2 posts) is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of Contestant	No. of votes
i.	Dr. Jagdish B. Patel	39
ii.	Dr. Rajkumar B. Jolli	79
iii.	Dr. Kalyanrao Patil*	143
iv.	Dr. P. Murugesan	34
v.	Dr. Praveen Kumar Singh*	100

*Elected

8. Declaration of Final Results (ISST EC Term 2026–2029)

Based on (i) the final nominations/withdrawals (as per **Annexure I**), and (ii) the voting results for Vice-President (**Para 7**, above), the Election Committee hereby declares the “**Final List of Office Bearers Elected to the Executive Council (EC) of ISST for the Term 2026–2029**” as follows.

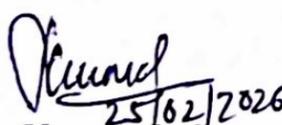
S. No.	Name of the Post	Name and Address of the Office bearer(s) of the ISST Executive council for the term 2026-29
1.	President (1 Post)	Dr. D. K. Yadava DDG (Crop Sciences) ICAR, Krishi Bhawan New Delhi
2.	Vice-President (2 posts)	i. Dr. Kalyanrao Patil Sr. Scientist ICAR- NISST, Mau (UP)
		ii. Dr. Praveen Kumar Singh Head (PEGC) ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi

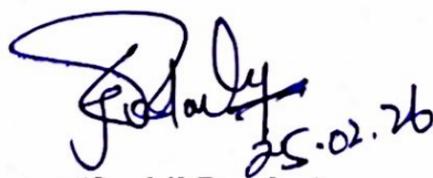
S. No.	Name of the Post	Name and Address of the Office bearer(s) of the ISST Executive council for the term 2026-29
3.	Secretary (1 post)	Dr. Dunna Vijay Principal Scientist Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
4.	Joint Secretary (1 post)	Dr. Ravish Choudhary Technical Officer Division of Seed Science and Technology, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi
5.	Treasurer (1 post)	Dr. Satish Kumar Yadav Principal Scientist ICAR-NBPGR, New Delhi
6.	Councillors (6 posts)	
	i. Delhi Zone (1 post)	Dr. L. K. Pandey Managing Director M/s Ananya Seeds, New Delhi
	ii. North Zone (1 post)	<i>Vacant (no nomination received)</i>
	iii. East Zone (1 post)	Dr. Asit Kumar Basu Former Head Department of Seed Science and Technology, BCKV, Kalyani (WB)
	iv. South Zone (1 post)	Dr. Vishwanath Koti Special Officer (Seeds) UAS, GKVK Campus, Bangalore
	v. West and Central Zone (2 post)	i. Dr. Ganesh U. Kulkarni Professor (GPB) JAU, Junagarh (Gujarat)
		ii. Dr. Amrapali Atul Akhare Dy. Dir. of Research (Seed) PDKV, Akola (MH)

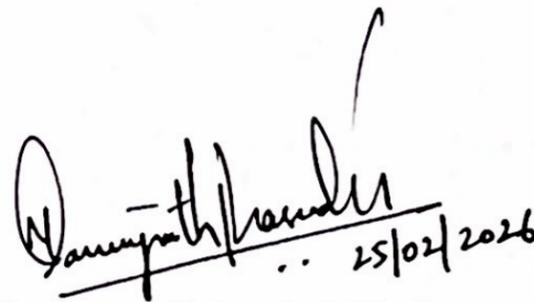
9. No nomination was received for the post of Councillor (North Zone) and therefore remained vacant. The matter shall be dealt with as per the applicable provisions of the ISST constitution/bye-laws/rules.

10. The Returning Officer will communicate the declared results to the ISST Secretariat for issuing necessary notifications to members by email and for publication on the ISST website/records.

The meeting concluded with thanks to the Chair.


(Sandeep Kumar Lal)
Returning Officer
ISST Election Committee


(Sushil Pandey)
Member
ISST Election Committee


(Manjunath Prasad, C.T.)
Member
ISST Election Committee