

World Blood Donors Day – 2023

Message from Secretary General

“A single drop of blood can make a huge difference.”



The World Health Assembly designated World Blood Donors Day as an annual event in 2005. The Day offers a unique occasion to recognise and express gratitude to voluntary blood donors around the world for their gift of blood and has grown to become a major action focal point for achieving universal access to safe blood transfusions.

The slogan for 2023 World Blood Donor Day campaign is *“Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often.”* It focuses on patients requiring life-long transfusion support and underlines the role every single person can play, by giving the valuable gift of blood. It also emphasises the significance of donating blood or plasma on a regular basis to provide a safe and sustainable supply of blood and blood products that is always available, all over the world, so that all patients in need can receive timely treatment.

According to WHO estimates, high-income countries accounted for roughly 40% of the world's 118.54 million blood donations, despite being only 16% of the global population. The 2023 World Blood Donors Day offers an opportunity to contribute towards a more equitable distribution of blood donors around the world and significantly reduce this imbalance.

I request individuals to donate blood without hesitation. Blood donation only takes a few minutes of your time. Each donation provides one unit of blood and has the potential to save up to three human lives, and, someone will remember those few minutes of yours for the rest of their lives.

Additionally, I urge that all branches coordinate blood donation drives with the local authorities and spread knowledge of the essential safety measures for blood donation. Giving blood is a heroic deed and makes a significant contribution to society. Friends let's pledge to give blood at least once a year in order to enrich our lives.

R.K Jain, IAS (Retd.)

Secretary General