## **World Blood Donors Day-2022**

## Message from Secretary General



"Your little effort can give others second chance to live life."

A lot of people ask the question 'Why should I give blood?' and the most appropriate response to that question is ... why not? In under an hour, one person can give one unit of blood, which can help to save the lives of multiple people.

Globally, approximately 80 million units of blood are donated each year. One of the biggest challenges to blood safety particularly is accessing safe and adequate quantities of blood and blood products. Safe supply of blood and blood components is essential, to enable a wide range of critical care procedures to be carried out in hospitals.

World Blood Donor Day, which is popularly known as 'WBDD', is observed every year on June 14 to make people aware of how important it is to donate blood and thank its donors for their services. This day was first observed in 2005 by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. World Blood Donor Day also marks the birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner, who discovered the 'ABO blood group system' and won Nobel Prize for it.

For 2022, the World Blood Donor Day slogan is <u>"Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives"</u> to draw attention to the roles that voluntary blood donations play in saving lives and enhancing solidarity within communities.

Regular blood donation is linked to lower blood pressure and a lower risk for heart attacks. It helps to reduce cardiovascular risk factors. This is universal truth that despite all the development in medical science an artificial blood cannot be prepared in a lab, factory or institution. From plasma treatments to research and emergency uses, donating blood has been an important cornerstone that has aided the world on several occasions.

I urge people to come forward for the voluntary blood donation without any fear. I also request all the branches to coordinate with the local authorities for organising blood donation camps & create awareness on safety measures during pandemic for blood donation.

Donating blood is a noble cause and a selfless act which helps save lives. Blood donation costs you nothing, but it can mean the world to someone in need.

R.K Jain IAS (Retd.)

Secretary General