

Toc H Institute of Science and Technology

MINUTES

13th GOVERNING BODY MEETING

DATE: 19th Aug 2026

Time: 10.30 am

Venue: Asoka Hall

13th GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 19th August 2025

VENUE: ASOKA HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sl. No.	Governing Body Members
1.	Chev. Pathrose Pankappilly (President, Toc H Public School Society).
2.	Mr. Kurian Thomas (Manager, Toc H Public School Society).
3.	Mr. Vipin K Mathew (Secretary, Toc H Public School Society)
4.	Mr. N J. Johnson (Treasurer, Toc H Public School Society).
5.	Mr. George Thomas (Chairman of the Governing Body). General Manager (HR) Retd., BPCL - Kochi Refinery
6.	Prof. (Dr.) P.G. Sankaran, Former VC - CUSAT
7.	Dr. A. Unnikrishnan (Associate Director at NPOL, DRDO, Retd.).
8.	Mr. Ramesh Nair, CMD, APTIV Connection Systems, India
9.	Prof (Dr.) Preethi Thekkath, (Principal, TIST). (Governing Body Secretary).
10	AICTE Nominee
11	Syndicate Nominee
12	Prof (Dr.) Deepa Elizabeth George, Vice Principal, HOD, Dept. of Electronics, TIST
13	Prof. (Dr.) S PerumalSankar, PG Dean, Professor, Department of Electronics, TIST
14	Prof (Dr.) Georgina Binoy Joseph, UG Dean, Professor, Dept. of RA, TIST

Leave of Absence:

1. Mr. Ramesh Nair, CMD, APTIV Connection Systems

Item No GB 13 (01) Silent prayer

Commencement of the meeting was by invoking the blessings of Almighty God.

Item No GB 13 (02) Welcome Speech

Welcome speech was delivered by **Prof (Dr) Preethi Thekkath, Principal, Toc H Institute of Science and Technology, (Secretary, Governing Body)**, The Principal delivered the welcome speech, extending a warm welcome to all the members of the Governing Board, Board of Directors (BODs), and Heads of Departments. She expressed her gratitude for their presence and highlighted the importance of their guidance and support for the continued development and progress of the institution.

Item No GB 13 (03) Address by Chairman of the Governing Body

Chairman's Address was made by **Mr. George Thomas (Chariman of the Governing Body). (Chief General Manager, HR (Retd), BPCL)** The Chairman, in his address, highlighted the need to give greater emphasis to campus interviews, particularly ensuring that students who have not yet secured placement opportunities are provided with adequate support and opportunities. He stressed the importance of taking concerted efforts towards attaining autonomous status for the institution, which would enhance academic flexibility and institutional growth.

He also emphasized the need to develop effective strategies for understanding and handling the present-day generation of students and to adopt innovative approaches to engage them meaningfully in the learning process. More training programmes and industry-oriented initiatives should be organized to enable students to gain a broader perspective of the engineering profession and understand the expectations of the industry. The Chairman further stressed the importance of strengthening faculty–industry interaction through industry visits, collaborations, training, and exposure programmes. He concluded by emphasizing that students should be engaged to the maximum extent possible through academic, co-curricular, and industry-oriented activities to enhance their overall development and employability

Item No GB 13 (04) Self –Introduction

A self-introduction session was conducted, during which all the Governing Board members, BODs, and HoDs present at the meeting introduced themselves and briefly shared their respective roles and areas of responsibility. The session facilitated familiarity and interaction among the members and set a positive tone for the proceedings of the Governing Board Meeting.

Item No GB 13 (05) Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th Aug 2025

The copies of the minutes of the previous Governing Body Meeting were circulated to all the members for their perusal and consideration. After due discussion, the Governing Body resolved to approve the minutes as circulated.

Item No GB 13 (06) Brief Report of the Principal of all academic and non academic activities of the college for 2025-2026

Prof (Dr) Preethi Thekkath (Principal, TIST) presented the report of all the academic and non-academic activities of the college for 2025-2026.

The academic year 2025–26 was a year of continued academic development, research advancement, innovation, industry engagement, student development and institutional strengthening at Toc H Institute of Science & Technology (TIST). The Institute continued its efforts towards achieving academic and professional excellence while strengthening its commitment to research, innovation, entrepreneurship, industry collaboration, social responsibility and sustainable development. The various initiatives undertaken during the year were in alignment with the vision and mission of the institution and the Strategic Plan 2020–2035.

TIST continued to offer a broad range of undergraduate and postgraduate programmes during 2025–26. The undergraduate programmes included Civil Engineering, Computer Science & Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Electrical & Electronics Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Mechanical Engineering, Robotics and Automation, and Safety & Fire Engineering. The postgraduate programmes included Construction Engineering and Management, Data Science, Data

Science for Working Professionals and MBA. The institution also offered the Post Graduate Diploma Course in Guidance & Counselling.

Academic Performance

The academic performance of students during 2025–26 showed encouraging results, with particularly strong performance in the postgraduate programmes. The aggregate pass percentage recorded was **65.9% for UG programmes and 90.67% for PG programmes**. Among the undergraduate programmes, Electronics & Communication Engineering recorded a pass percentage of 76.7%, Computer Science & Engineering 85.3%, Information Technology 81.0%, Civil Engineering 57.0%, Mechanical Engineering 45.3%, Safety & Fire Engineering 66.7%, Electrical & Electronics Engineering 35.0%, Electrical & Computer Engineering 46.0%, and Robotics & Automation 39.6%. At the postgraduate level, MBA recorded 92%, M.Tech. Data Science achieved 100%, and M.Tech. Construction Engineering & Management recorded 80%.

The institution continued to focus on faculty competency and professional development. Faculty members participated in MOOCs/SWAYAM programmes, served as resource persons in FDPs and STTPs, organised FDPs/STTPs, participated in professional societies and undertook faculty internships, training and collaborative activities. These initiatives contributed to strengthening the culture of continuous professional learning and academic development among faculty members.

Research, Consultancy and Industry Collaboration

Research and consultancy remained important areas of institutional development during the year. Various departments strengthened their interactions with industries and research organisations, including APTIV, Adani Group, Malabar Cements, NPOL, Cochin Shipyard, L&T, CUBET Technologies, Spectrum Antennas and Avionics Systems and ACARR-CUSAT. The activities included research publications in SCI/Scopus-indexed journals, patent filing, consultancy works, collaborative projects and efforts towards establishing stronger industry-research linkages.

Research infrastructure was also strengthened through the procurement of new equipment and the development of research facilities. These included a 3D printer for product and

component printing, a research engine for bio-fuel analysis, a Tile Flexural Testing Machine, Blaine's Air Permeability Apparatus, a BLDC Drive setup and a new IoT laboratory for research activities. Such initiatives are expected to provide greater opportunities for faculty and students to undertake application-oriented research and innovation.

The Institute extended significant faculty support to student innovation projects. A wide range of projects were undertaken in areas such as artificial intelligence, smart navigation, voice transcription, marine species identification, autonomous parking, environmental monitoring, IoT, additive manufacturing, electric mobility, sustainable construction materials and industrial safety. Faculty members from CSE, Safety & Fire Engineering, IT, ECE, Civil Engineering, Electrical & Computer Engineering and Mechanical Engineering actively mentored these projects. Institutional seed funding was provided to faculty research projects, including projects relating to Aero-Lab equipment and materials, a next-generation humanoid robot named ZEKO, and ASCEND, an autonomous UAV designed for GNSS-denied environments. This initiative reflects the institution's commitment to supporting faculty research and enabling promising ideas to progress towards development and application.

Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Start-up Development

The institution continued to strengthen its innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem through a series of awareness programmes, expert sessions, workshops, hackathons, innovation challenges, prototype development activities and research-oriented programmes. Activities included sessions on the R&D ecosystem, patent filing, copyright and research publication ethics, thematic research hackathons, Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL), technology commercialisation, licensing and technology transfer, deep-tech innovation and research publication.

The Institute also promoted entrepreneurship and start-up development through awareness programmes, expert talks by entrepreneurs, design-thinking and problem-solving workshops, orientation programmes, field visits, idea competitions, hackathons, innovation challenges, project exhibitions, boot camps and other mentoring activities. The institution has been mentoring students from three schools in innovative activities since 2022 and has trained faculty members through Innovation Ambassador programmes. Students, alumni and faculty

were encouraged to develop their ideas into prototypes and subsequently explore opportunities for start-up registration and funding.

The institutional report records several start-ups associated with students/alumni, including **ZENORIX SIXPIXEL LLP, SAMOSA INTERACTIVE PVT. LTD, KORVET INNOVATIONS, INNOV8 TECHNOLOGIES and TECHNEXT TECHNOLOGIES.** The presence of these ventures reflects the growing emphasis on converting innovative ideas into entrepreneurial initiatives.

Industry-Sponsored Laboratories and Industry–Academia Integration

Strengthening industry–academia interaction continued to be a major institutional priority. Industry-sponsored laboratory initiatives included the **TIST Industry–Academia Centre for Advanced Robotics** in Robotics and Automation in collaboration with CENTELON, the **Tele Presence Lab** in CSE with KDISC, the **Centre of Excellence for Refrigeration and Air Conditioning** in Mechanical Engineering with DAIKIN, and the **L&T Switchgear Lab** associated with Electrical & Computer Engineering. The Tele Presence Lab and DAIKIN Centre of Excellence were reported as completed, while the Advanced Robotics Centre was in the pipeline.

These initiatives are important in creating opportunities for students and faculty to gain exposure to contemporary industrial technologies and practices and in strengthening the connection between academic learning, research and industry requirements.

Faculty Achievements and Professional Recognition

The academic year also witnessed important faculty accomplishments. Four faculty members namely Dr. Stephy James, Associate Professor, Dr. Dhanya R, Assistant Professor, Dr. Smitha Mohan M, Asst. Professor and Dr. Lovin. K. John, from the departments of Safety & Fire Engineering, Electronics & Communication Engineering, Information Technology and Mechanical Engineering successfully obtained Ph.D. degrees from CUSAT, Sathyabama Institute of Science & Technology and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham respectively. These achievements strengthen the academic and research profile of the institution and contribute to the development of a stronger research culture.

Placement and Career Development

Enhancing employability and providing career opportunities to students continued to be a key institutional objective. During 2025–26, **220 out of 362 B.Tech. students were placed, representing a placement rate of 60.8%**, while **36 out of 56 MBA students were placed, representing a placement rate of 64.3%**. The highest salary package reported for B.Tech. students was ₹18.00 lakh per annum, while the highest MBA package was ₹4.85 lakh per annum. The average salary was ₹4.00 lakh per annum for both programmes.

The placement initiatives are closely connected with the institution's strategic objective of moulding industry-ready and creative professionals. Strengthening industry exposure, interaction with industry professionals, placement readiness, industry-recognised certifications and value-added learning remain important components of the institutional strategy.

Student Development, Sustainability and Institutional Activities

The Institute continued to provide opportunities for holistic student development through academic, co-curricular and extracurricular activities. College-level events such as **MUDRA** and **ADVAY** provided platforms for students to demonstrate creativity, leadership, teamwork and organisational skills.

Sustainable development was integrated into departmental activities through initiatives aligned with various Sustainable Development Goals. Departments undertook initiatives related to quality education, health and well-being, innovation, sustainable communities, responsible consumption, climate action and other SDG areas. The institution's sustainability-oriented activities reflect its commitment to responsible education and the development of socially conscious professionals.

Strategic Direction and Way Forward

The activities of 2025–26 were undertaken within the framework of the TIST Strategic Plan 2020–2035, which identifies nine strategic pillars: enriching curriculum and teaching-learning processes; research, innovation and entrepreneurship; developing industry-ready and creative professionals; quality intake and promising careers; social responsibility and ethics;

infrastructure development; green campus and sustainable development; institutional visibility; and alumni engagement.

Going forward, the institution proposes to strengthen outcome-based education, curriculum enrichment, experiential and project-based learning, faculty competency, industry–academia engagement, academic governance and digital academic systems. Greater emphasis will also be placed on research, innovation, entrepreneurship, collaborative and interdisciplinary research, research funding, consultancy and new and emerging academic programmes. The long-term institutional agenda includes preparing TIST towards greater academic autonomy, establishing an industrial park and innovation hub, strengthening industry–academia integration, improving UG and PG placements, starting new programmes, diversifying management courses, enhancing MBA admissions and implementing NEP 2020 in a phased manner. These priorities provide a clear direction for the institution's future growth and development.

The academic year 2025–26 was marked by sustained efforts towards academic quality, research and innovation, industry collaboration, entrepreneurship, faculty development, student achievement and institutional growth. The improvement of research infrastructure, institutional seed funding, faculty-supported student innovation, industry-sponsored laboratories, start-up initiatives, faculty Ph.D. achievements and placement activities demonstrate the institution's continuing commitment to academic and professional excellence.

The achievements and initiatives of the year provide a strong foundation for the next phase of institutional development. Moving forward, TIST will continue to focus on academic excellence, emerging programmes, research and innovation, industry relevance, employability, entrepreneurship, sustainability and preparation for autonomy and the phased implementation of NEP 2020. The institution remains committed to creating an academic environment that equips students with the knowledge, skills, creativity, ethical values and professional competencies required to contribute meaningfully to industry, research, business and society.

Item No GB 13 (07) Discussions on Strategic Pillars and Long-Term Plans

The Strategic pillars and long-term plans of Toc H Institute of Science and Technology were discussed as mentioned below.

Item No GB 13 (07.1) TIST towards Autonomy

The Governing Body discussed the roadmap for TIST towards achieving autonomous status, with a target of obtaining autonomy by 2027. It was proposed to decide a clear timeframe and identify the activities required, followed by a holistic review of the institution's academic, administrative, infrastructure, quality and placement preparedness. A detailed roadmap is to be prepared and the statutory authorities approached at the appropriate stage. An Advisory Council may be constituted to provide expert guidance and support the institution in its journey towards autonomy. It was also proposed to conduct workshops and awareness programmes on the process and requirements for becoming an autonomous institution and to convene the Academic Council at least twice a year to ensure academic preparedness and continuous improvement.

The Governing Body emphasised that autonomy should be pursued boldly while maintaining high academic standards comparable with leading institutions such as the IITs and IIMs. The curriculum should be renewed regularly and developed in close collaboration with industry to ensure relevance to emerging and real-time requirements. New and interdisciplinary courses/add-on courses in areas such as Quantum Computing, Quantum Mechanics, Nanotechnology, Electrical Technology, Battery Chemistry, Computational Algebra and Supply Chain Management may be introduced, with appropriate industry support and practical exposure through workshops, fieldwork and industry engagement. New subjects may be incorporated into the elective basket every year. Quality, transparency and placements were identified as key priorities, with robust examination systems, scrutiny committees, challenging and quality question papers, and external experts for question-paper setting. The institution should strengthen its academic preparedness, infrastructure such as MATLAB facilities, and real-time performance orientation, with the long-term objective of progressing from autonomy towards deemed university status.

Item No GB 13 (07.2) Industry Academia Integration

Industry–Academia Integration: Toc H Institute of Science & Technology (TIST) shall strengthen its industry–academia integration by appointing a **Professor of Practice (PoP)** with substantial industry experience, who will be entrusted with the overall responsibility of coordinating and developing industry–academia initiatives. The PoP will facilitate meaningful interaction between faculty, students and industry and identify opportunities for joint projects, internships, training, consultancy and technology development. Innovative models of engagement may be developed, such as providing a working space for companies such as **Centelon** on the TIST campus, where selected students can participate in live industry projects. Similarly, industrial experts may be invited to provide hands-on training to students in areas such as lathe and machine-tool operations. The **IEDC** may also function as a campus-level industrial interaction point to promote entrepreneurship, innovation and industry-linked activities.

TIST shall actively pursue strategic collaborations with organisations such as **DRDO, NPOL and IIC Bengaluru** for joint research, product development, internships and innovative student projects. In consultation with DRDO, TIST may identify suitable products or technologies for joint development, with different stages of the product being undertaken collaboratively by the institution and the industry/research organisation. Student projects may be aligned with real-world industrial requirements, including projects involving **forklift trucks, IoT systems, machine-tool learning and other emerging technologies**, with emphasis on innovation and prototype development. TIST may also explore collaborations with NPOL and DRDO for specialised facilities and testing capabilities such as temperature cycling, pressure cycling, RF testing and related technical facilities. Such initiatives will provide students and faculty with exposure to advanced technologies while creating opportunities for industry-oriented research and consultancy.

The isolation between academia and industry shall be progressively reduced by promoting **interdisciplinary collaboration among the various departments of TIST**, enabling them to work together on common technological and societal challenges. The institution may identify specific products or solutions and develop prototypes in collaboration with companies, thereby integrating the expertise of multiple departments. In consultation with **CUSAT**, TIST may also explore the establishment of testing centres and specialised facilities

for SEM analysis, calibration, testing and preparation of technical test reports. Industry consultancy projects may be systematically developed as an additional avenue for knowledge transfer and revenue generation. Overall, the appointment of a **Professor of Practice with strong industry experience** and vesting the responsibility for industry-academia integration with the PoP will provide a focused institutional mechanism for creating sustained partnerships, joint projects, internships, consultancy, product development and innovation, thereby making TIST more responsive to the evolving needs of industry and society.

Item No GB 13 (07.3) Improving UG/PG placements

Improving UG/PG Placements: TIST shall adopt a focused and structured approach towards improving the placement outcomes of both UG and PG students by strengthening their academic performance and employability skills. Greater emphasis shall be placed on improving academic results, while students shall be encouraged to undertake internships during their course of study so that they gain practical exposure and establish connections with potential employers. The institution shall provide systematic placement training covering **aptitude tests, group discussions, communication skills, technical assessments and personal interviews**. Regular industry interaction, career guidance and mock placement drives may also be organised to prepare students effectively for recruitment processes. A dedicated **front-end office in the vicinity of the Metro** may be established to enhance the visibility and accessibility of the institution and facilitate stronger interaction with industries and prospective recruiters.

TIST shall proactively develop structured internship and placement linkages with reputed organisations such as **Cochin Shipyard, BPCL and other leading industries**, with the objective of creating a continuous pipeline from internships to employment opportunities. Special emphasis may be placed on securing **stipend-based internships with organisations such as Cisco**, enabling students to gain valuable industry experience while also receiving financial support. Industry-specific internships, live projects and pre-placement engagement programmes shall be expanded across UG and PG programmes. By integrating academic excellence, internships, industry exposure, employability training and sustained corporate engagement, TIST can create a stronger ecosystem in which internships serve as a pathway to placements and students are better equipped to meet the evolving expectations of industry.

Item No GB 13 (07.4) Starting new programmes

As Toc H Institute of Science & Technology is presently affiliated to **APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University (KTU)**, the introduction of new UG programmes shall be undertaken in consultation with and subject to the approval of the University, in accordance with the applicable academic and regulatory requirements. The institution shall identify potential new programmes based on emerging technologies, industry requirements, student demand, faculty expertise and available infrastructure, and initiate discussions with KTU for their introduction. **Once Toc H attains autonomous status**, the institution may have greater flexibility to introduce innovative and emerging multidisciplinary UG/PG programmes that are aligned with future industry needs and technological developments, with emphasis on areas such as Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Quantum Technologies, Cybersecurity, Robotics, IoT, Advanced Manufacturing, Renewable Energy and other emerging interdisciplinary domains. The programmes may be developed in consultation with industry, research organisations and leading academic institutions to ensure contemporary, industry-relevant and future-oriented curricula.

Item No GB 13 (07.5) Possibilities of starting diversified courses in Management

Toc H shall explore the diversification of its management education portfolio by introducing programmes in emerging and industry-relevant areas such as **Logistics and Supply Chain Management**, while also expanding into undergraduate programmes such as **BBA and B.Com**. The institution may consider specialised B. Com programmes such as **B.Com with Computer Applications** and **B. Com with Taxation** to cater to changing industry and employment requirements. In the long term, the institution may also explore integrated and interdisciplinary programmes such as **B. Com LL. B**, subject to the applicable regulatory and academic approvals. In addition, flexible certificate, diploma and degree-oriented programmes may be developed specifically for **working professionals**, offering flexible learning options that enable them to upgrade their knowledge and professional competencies while continuing their employment.

Item No GB 13 (07.6) Strategies to enhance MBA admissions

Toc H shall adopt a focused strategy to enhance MBA admissions in view of the increasing competition in management education. Admissions to MBA programmes have become more challenging due to the introduction and expansion of **FYUGP programmes**, the growing trend of students pursuing higher education abroad, and the emergence of a large number of **private universities and institutions in Kerala** offering diverse management programmes. To address this changing environment, Toc H may strengthen its UG-to-PG pathway by introducing **BBA programmes** that can attract students at the undergraduate level and create a potential pool of candidates for the MBA programme. Along with this, the institution may strengthen industry-oriented curricula, internships, placement opportunities and industry linkages to enhance the attractiveness and distinctiveness of its management programmes and improve student enrolment.

Item No GB 13 (07.7) Phased Implementation of NEP

Toc H shall adopt a phased and structured approach towards the implementation of the **National Education Policy (NEP)**, with emphasis on multidisciplinary education, flexibility, skill development, experiential learning and holistic student development. The **Department of Science and Humanities** and the **Department of Psychology** shall be strengthened to support the emerging multidisciplinary academic framework and provide foundational as well as interdisciplinary learning opportunities. The institution may also explore offering **external and certificate courses in Psychology, Psychotherapy and Life Skills**, catering not only to regular students but also to professionals and the wider community. These initiatives will help TIST progressively align its academic programmes and institutional practices with the objectives of NEP while creating new opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and lifelong education.

Two additional points were discussed in the Governing Body meeting regarding Visibility of the Institution and Alumni Engagement as mentioned by the Board of members of the Governing Body

Item No GB 13 (07.8) Visibility of the Institution

The Governing Body discussed the need to enhance the **visibility and brand presence of Toc H Institute of Science & Technology (TIST)** in Ernakulam and nearby urban areas. It

was proposed that an **official Toc H city office/outlet** may be established at a suitable location in the city to serve as a visible institutional presence and a convenient point of contact for prospective students, parents, industry representatives, alumni, and other stakeholders. The city office could strengthen the institution's outreach and provide greater accessibility to stakeholders, thereby contributing to improved brand recognition and institutional visibility.

The proposed city office could also facilitate **initial discussions and coordination related to campus placements**, industry interactions, and other institutional initiatives. It may serve as a convenient venue for **initial faculty interactions and interviews**, while **admission enquiries, counselling, and dissemination of information on academic programmes** could also be handled through the outlet. Such an initiative would enable prospective students and parents to access information and guidance conveniently and would provide TIST with an effective platform for strengthening its presence and engagement within the city.

Item No GB 13 (07.9) Alumni Engagement

The institution should strengthen its alumni engagement initiatives by establishing alumni branches/chapters in different countries and major cities where a significant number of alumni are residing and working. Alumni may be encouraged to actively contribute to the academic and professional development of current students by sharing their industry experiences, delivering guest lectures, mentoring students, facilitating internships, and providing guidance on emerging career opportunities.

Greater alumni involvement in placement activities may also be promoted through industry contacts, referrals, campus recruitment support, and assistance in identifying potential employers. A structured and active alumni network would help strengthen the institution–industry interface, enhance placement opportunities, and further improve the reputation of the institution.

Item No GB 13 (07.10) Any other matter of concern by the Chairman

Chairman emphasizing that students should be engaged to the maximum extent possible through academic, co-curricular, and industry-oriented activities to enhance their overall development and employability.

The meeting concluded with the **Vote of Thanks** delivered by **Prof. (Dr.) Georgina Binoy Joseph, UG Dean and Professor, Department of RA, TIST**. She expressed her sincere gratitude to the Chairman, Secretary, members of the Governing Body, Heads of Department and all those who contributed to the successful conduct of the meeting.


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