

From the Desk of
The Secretary
General

Warm greetings on the arrival of this new year. This year we embark on a special and significant journey of a new decade. The Indian Red Cross Society has achieved quite a few milestones in the decade gone by. From reaching people affected by natural disasters to reaching vulnerable people with livelihood generating programs, we have gone from strength to strength along this challenging journey. Our volunteers have been our pillars of strength and have enabled us to create impact in the lives of the needy.

I was also present at the launch of the mobile app of the Indian Red Cross Society, Telangana State Branch by the Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind ji. This app can be accessed in all languages and enables easier access to blood banks and Red Cross membership. It has already been downloaded more than 13 lakh times, which include even JRC members. Members now have the facility to select their blood group to locate the nearest blood bank/donor in times of need. This app also connects to the Central government's 'e Raktosh' application.

The centenary year has begun. We have finalized a number of activities for the Centenary Year Celebrations. I am sure all of you are gearing up for THE THIRD FRIDAY of January to kick start the first event. Once again on behalf of the NHQ I wish all A Happy New Year and would request all the branches to make it the most memorable year of our life times.



State/UT Branch Secretaries discuss issues of Red Cross and map the way forward during the 2 day interaction with Sh. R.K Jain, IAS (Retd) Secretary General, IRCS NHq at National HQ on 18-19th December 2019. at IRCS NHQ

Ahead of the centenary of the Indian Red Cross Society, Shri R.K Jain, Secretary General Indian Red Cross Society meets G. Carbonnier, Vice President and Christine Cipolla, Regional Director for Asia, ICRC, at the International Conference in Geneva in December 2019.

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Activities planned for the Centenary Year Celebrations

- ◆ Coffee table book highlighting 100 years of Indian Red Cross Journey
- ◆ Setting up of IRCS Museum
- ◆ Red Cross Postal Stamp with Centenary logo
- ◆ Nationwide painting competitions for Junior Red Cross
- ◆ Nationwide First Aid competitions for Youth Red Cross
- ◆ Regional Youth Camp of BIMSTEC Nations
- ◆ International Workshop of National Societies on contemporary challenges being faced by the Red Cross movement.
- ◆ All IRCS branches to hold four events, namely, JRC/YRC activities, Blood Donation and Medical Camp, Swachha Bharat Abhiyan, Sensitization in first-aid on 3rd Friday of every month from January till April.



Events, Trainings & Courses

The enthusiastic students of our 'Home Health Aide Course' and Health Promotion through Ayurveda & Yoga' course attended sessions on 'communication skills and personality development' and 'Dosh & Dhatus' facilitated by Ms. Shalini Srivastava & Professor Anand More respectively.

IRCS is also inviting applications for a new batch of the 4 month 'Home Health Aide Course'. This course enables participants to serve the elderly, disabled & critically ill and empower themselves with a new skill set & become self reliant.



IRCS– NHQ Blood Bank



Month of December 2019

Donors - 1679

Voluntary Donors in camps – 1545

Voluntary Donors in-house – 127

Replacement Donors in-house – 7

Percentage of voluntary donors– 99.58%

Trainings & Events...

Glimpses from December, 2019 (From IRCS Branches)

Our Primary Health check-up camps enable people, especially those living in remote areas to access free medical care. They are treated for their ailments and are also provided free medicines.

IRCS West Bengal organized a free primary health check-up camp at Kuldiha village under Durgapur Sub-divisional Branch on 27th December 2019



Red Cross volunteers are always at the forefront of providing humanitarian aid and emergency action. The Assam State Branch deployed its dedicated First Aid team to meet FA needs during protests in Assam.



The recent Karnataka floods affected more than 2,000 villages, damaging more than 40,000 houses. IRCS, Karnataka State Branch carried out relief material distribution of Non Food Items & Dry Ration in the districts of Raichuru & Shimoga for more than 600 victims.

Hon'ble President of India launches a mobile app of the Indian Red Cross Society, Telangana State Branch in Hyderabad

Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, launched a mobile app of the Indian Red Cross Society, Telangana State Branch in Hyderabad. Enabling easier access to the blood banks & Red Cross membership, the app has been downloaded by more than 13 lakh members till date, including several YRC members as well.



The app can be accessed in all languages & enables members to select their blood group to locate the nearest blood bank/donor in times of need. It also connects to the central government's app--'eRaktkosh' for easily accessing up-to-date information! Read a coverage by The Hindu here <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/president-launches-app-for-easy-availability-of-blood/article30374855.ece>



Shri R.K. Jain, Secretary General, also visited the Red Cross Blood Bank, Vidya Nagar, Hyderabad & interacted with Thalassemic patients.



Working to build a better system!



The 3 Day "National Review Meeting of Blood Transfusion Services cum Stakeholder Consultation" saw Dr Vanshree Singh, Director (Blood Bank & St John), Indian Red Cross Society, address the gathering on the role Multi-stakeholder engagement shall play in strengthening Blood Transfusion Services in India. 11-13th Decmebr 2019, New Delhi

Achieving 100 VBD!



Regular voluntary (unpaid) blood donation is key to achieving a safe, sustainable blood supply for everyone in need. Shri R. K. Jain, Secretary General, IRCS Nhq invited experts to map the strategy to realize IRCS's cherished goal of achieving 100% voluntary blood donation!



Indian Red Cross Society

Blood Donation Camp on 13 December 2019

It was 18 years ago that the Indian Parliament House faced an unprecedented terrorist attack on December 13 2001. Like in the previous years, this year as well, on the occasion, the Indian Red Cross Society organized a Blood donation camp in the Parliament House to commemorate the sacrifice of the security personnel who laid down their lives in line of duty. More than 100 people, including family members, paid homage to the martyrs by donating blood voluntarily in the camp.



43 succumbed during a massive fire in a factory & go down in Delhi. Over 50 others were hospitalized due to asphyxiation in critical condition. Volunteers of the St. John Ambulance Brigade (First Aid Wing of Indian Red Cross Society) participated in rescue operations, transportation of injured and counseling of survivors & their family members of the Delhi fire tragedy.



Livelihood program.....



Sunflower, green pea and carrot seeds were distributed to beneficiaries at Koraput district, Odisha.



Goats are being administered vaccination by Block Veterinary Officers at Darlingbadi.