





# Message from Chairman

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Hon'ble Chairman IRCS and Union Minister of Health and  
Family Welfare Shri J. P. Nadda





जगत प्रकाश नड्डा  
Jagat Prakash Nadda



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
Minister of Health & Family Welfare  
Government of India

#### Message

I am happy to learn that Indian Red Cross Society, National Headquarter, is launching e-newsletter enumerating its philanthropic activities and programmes. Indian Red Cross Society is dedicated to community service and rendering help to the people in distress over the years.

I take this opportunity to convey my congratulations for the successful launch of e-newsletter. I am confident that it will achieve its targeted goals.

I also compliment the Secretary General of Indian Red Cross Society and his team for taking this new initiative and convey my best wishes.

(Jagat Prakash Nadda)  
Chairman, IRCS (NHq.)

New Delhi,  
February 11, 2019

348, ए-स्कंध, निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011  
348, A- Wing, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011  
Tele: (O) : +91-11-23061661, 23063513, Telefax : 23062358, 23061648  
Email: hfwminister@gov.in

# From Secretary General's Desk

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R K Jain, IAS (Rtd.), Secretary General IRCS, NHQ

I am delighted to present the first E-newsletter of Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS). The E-newsletter is a small but significant step taken by IRCS NHQ to reduce the use of paper and contribute towards the conservation of the environment, while providing a modern platform to showcase selected updates from IRCS.

This is a work in progress and is meant to be a conversation, as the title suggests, which will continue to evolve.

I take this opportunity to give my best wishes for this year to our stakeholders and partners. My sincere thanks to millions of our volunteers, who tirelessly



work and ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid and support to people in need.

The year has started with a positive momentum for us as the month of January saw some important meetings and conversations setting the tone for the year ahead. These included the meeting of the Managing Body of IRCS under the leadership of our Hon'ble Chairman and Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Shri J. P. Nadda. We also received Gilles Carbonnier, Vice President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) while he was in India.

In the following month of March, we have planned a meeting with the leadership of our State and Union Territory branches.

I urge you to read and share this e-newsletter.

R K Jain, IAS (Rtd.), Secretary General IRCS NHQ

11 Feb 2019 | New Delhi

**National  
Headquarters**



# Update

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## Managing Body Meeting

Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Shri J P Nadda and Chairman of Indian Red Cross Society, chaired the IRCS Managing Body meeting on 23rd January, 2019, to review and discuss statutory matters as well as key humanitarian endeavors undertaken by IRCS. Secretary General Shri R. K. Jain also shared his vision with the Managing Body at the meeting. Ongoing important activities

such as Kerala flood response, Cyclone Gaja response and other similar responses for calamities faced by different States were also reviewed at the Managing Body meeting. The meeting has set the direction and momentum for the IRCS activities for rest of the year.







**Jagat Prakash Nadda** ✓

@JPNadda

Following



Chaired the National General Body Meeting  
of Indian Red Cross Society.



7:17 PM - 23 Jan 2019

A Twitter post by Hon'ble Minister and Chairman IRCS



## Visit by ICRC Vice President

Gilles Carbonnier, Vice President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), visited India 7 – 11 January 2019. He called upon Secretary General R. K. Jain during the visit, along with Jeremy England, Head of delegation of the ICRC in New Delhi. Mr. Carbonnier and Mr. Jain discussed broader issues related to the Red Cross Movement and the IRCS 2020-30 strategy.







**Gilles Carbonnier** ✓

@GCarbonnierICRC

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The **@IndianRedCross** has adopted an ambitious Strategy 2030 to respond to emergencies in India and beyond. The **@ICRC** stands ready to support and collectively learn. Thank you Dr Jain for warm welcome! **@ICRC\_nd**

**Indian Red Cross** @IndianRedCross

Replying to @ICRC\_nd @GCarbonnierICRC and 10 others

It was an honour to have Vice-President @ICRC at @IndianRedCross National Headquarters and celebrate the common vision and mandate of #RedCross movement

A Twitter post by Vice President ICRC about his meeting with SG IRCS

## Visit by Goodwill Ambassador from Danish Red Cross

Forty-year-old Torbjørn C. Pedersen has been on travel for the past five years and is still going strong for experiencing the spirit that unites Red Cross across the globe! He attended an orientation lecture to Nursing students about the Indian Red Cross Society and the history of the movement delivered by Deputy Secretary, IRCS, Mr. N. K. Singh. He also met various officers at IRCS and IFRC team to

share his observations about the cross cutting spirit of service that drives the passion of staff and volunteers across the globe.



Torbjørn C. Pedersen, 40, has been on travel as a goodwill ambassador for Danish Red Cross the past 5 years to visit every single Red Cross National Society without using air transport.

## 26th batch of Health Promotion through Yoga and Ayurveda commences



Indian Red Cross run Health Promotion through Ayurveda and Yoga course has been attracting individuals from diverse background and age groups. An inaugural event was held on 17th January 2018 to mark the commencement of the 26th batch, consisting of 50 students.

## IRCS and St John Ambulance help desk at Help at Safdarjung Hospital



<https://youtu.be/dEwzx0t2a2s>



## Republic Day - A snapshot

As the nation observed its 70th Republic Day on 26th January, Indian Red Cross Society marked the day with branches across the country hosting and participating in various events. These ranged from organising blood donation camps to participation in formal ceremonies. As the largest statutory humanitarian organisation in the country, Indian Red Cross volunteers, including Junior and Youth Red Cross members, and First Aid teams were deployed at event venues and participated in various ceremonial processions. Here is a visual snapshot:





Indian Red Cross Society branches in West Bengal hosted various activities to mark the day, involving a significant number of young citizens to mark the Republic Day celebrations.



Indian Red Cross Society Manipur State Branch volunteers, members of Junior Red Cross and Youth Red Cross took part in the Republic Day parade held in the state capital and performed a mock drill at the saluting area. They also extended First Aid service to participants and contingent.



Indian Red Cross Society NHQ & St. John Ambulance operated First Aid medical posts from the time of the full dress rehearsals, Republic Day parade up to Beating the Retreat ceremony.

# Updates from Branches

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## Kerala: Flood Recovery Response



*QRCS and IRCS members  
during the assessment of  
Kerala flood-affected areas in  
Idukki, Wayanad and  
Malappuram .*



A joint field team from Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) and the Indian Red Cross Society has finished an assessment visit to the flood-affected areas of Kerala. The assessment is aimed at initiating the recovery phase. Between June 1 and August 18 last year, Kerala experienced the worst floods since 1924. During this period, the state received cumulative rainfall that was 42% in excess of the normal average. IRCS has been responding since the onset of the floods in early August 2018 and has moved from rescue to recovery phase.

## **Uttar Pradesh: Serving visitors and pilgrims at Kumbh Mela 2019**



<https://youtu.be/tuRFR0oiXQU>

Indian Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Uttar Pradesh volunteers have been providing First Aid services to pilgrims and visitors at the ongoing



Kumbh Mela. Thousands have received First Aid services from Red Cross volunteers who are continuing to work round-the-clock and will be deployed till 4th March 2019 when the Prayagraj Ardh Kumbh Mela, 2019, ends.

## Manipur: 'Light of Hope' hailed by Governor



Hon'ble Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla distributed livelihood support items to 'single women' beneficiaries as part of a IRCS and ICRC supported project in the state.

Hon'ble Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and President of IRCS Manipur distributed livelihood support items to women-headed beneficiaries under



the Ashagee Mangal (Light of Hope) project. The distribution of the livelihood support material was organised by Indian Red Cross Society, Manipur State Branch with support from International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) & Indian Red Cross Society, National Headquarter. Hon'ble Governor said that the selected widows will get positive light of hope with this support. She extended her best wishes for their future, while speaking at the event held at Lamyanba Sanglen, Palace Compound, Imphal, on January 30th 2019.

## **Uttarakhand: National Girl Child Day**



In the backdrop of snow clad mountains, JRC members held an awareness activity highlighting the rights of girls and the need for gender equality. The day, 24th January, has been instituted to shed light on the skewed gender ratio and bring a shift in the community mindset. The event took place in Bhatwari Block of Uttarakashi in Uttarakhand.

## Punjab: National Youth Exchange Program



Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, National Vice-chairman, IRCS, NHQ, welcomed by Shri C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), State Secretary, the former paid floral tributes to Sir Jean Henry Dunant, Bhai Ghanaiya Ji and Swami Vivekananda.

Indian Red Cross Society Punjab State Branch organized a National Youth Exchange Program from 30th Dec 2018 to 6th Jan 2019 at Rayat & Bahra University, Mohali (Kharar). The main objectives for organizing the programme was to inculcate and strengthen the spirit of national integration and service to humanity & Save Water. The inauguration was done by Hon'ble Shri Avinash Rai Khanna,

National Vice-chairman, IRCS NHQ, as the Chief Guest.

## Karnataka: Third State-level Youth Red Cross Quiz



A state-level Youth Red Cross Quiz Competition was inaugurated by Shri R.K. Jain IAS (Retd.), Secretary General, IRCS, NHQ at the DD Chandana studios. The programme was later telecasted across 58 countries through different episodes.

Indian Red Cross Society Karnataka State Branch Youth Red Cross wing organised its 3rd State Level Youth Red Cross Quiz Competition on 12th January 2019 to mark the National Youth Day. Over 15,000



thousand Youth Red Cross student volunteers from 17 higher education institution took part at events held at college and university levels, culminating at the state level. The programme is held annually with the broader objective of inculcating humanitarian values and the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross Movement among youth volunteers.

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[communicationircs@gmail.com](mailto:communicationircs@gmail.com)