



# INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY

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## INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



### COME, JOIN US

As we **celebrate 100 years** of love, hope & humanity!

1920-2020



## From the desk of The Secretary General



2020 is a special year for IRCS. Not only is it our Centenary year, this is a year when we have embarked on a mission to impact the lives of many more through our SERV upscale program and various blood services initiatives to build a resilient society.

I am sure that our august legacy of 'Minimizing, Alleviating and Preventing Human Suffering' for the last 100 years will be taken forward by our dedicated volunteers and staff members across the country!

We rolled out our Centenary year celebrations this month with the Junior/Youth Red Cross Painting and First-Aid competitions. I am absolutely delighted to see the enthusiasm and dedication with which our young 'Red Crossers' are participating and concurrently enjoying themselves. It is these young members who embody the spirit of the Red Cross Movement and champion the cause of our organization. I was also present at the launch of the centenary celebrations of Tamil Nadu State Branch this month where the Hon'ble Governor, Shri Banwarilal Purohit ji also launched the Special Cover at the occasion. On the same day, Arunachal Pradesh State branch also launched their centenary celebrations.

I encourage all branches, members and volunteers to take up some initiative at their level to mark this august occasion. Let's take this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and share them with the larger world! Wishing you the best!

Ms. Christine Cipolla, Regional Director Asia-Pacific, International Committee of the Red Cross called on Shri R.K. Jain, Secretary General IRCS on 15-01-2020 at IRCS Nhq. They discussed ways to consolidate existing projects and achieve better visibility and impact.



## Activities planned for Centenary Celebrations :

- ◆ Coffee table book showcasing 100 years of Indian Red Cross Society's Journey.
- ◆ An IRCS Museum.
- ◆ A postal stamp with Red Cross Centenary logo.
- ◆ All IRCS branches to hold four events, namely, JRC/YRC activities, Blood Donation and Medical Camp, Swachha Bharat Abhiyan, Sensitization in first-aid till April. **The Blood donation & Medical camp will be held on February 20, 2020.**
- ◆ A national painting competitions for Junior Red Cross members.
- ◆ A national First Aid competition for Youth Red Cross members.
- ◆ A youth fest of BIMSTEC Nations.
- ◆ An International Seminar of National Societies.



# Let's donate Blood & Save Lives!

Students of NIT Warangal donated 1205 units of blood at a mega Blood Donation camp organized in their college.

While India recorded a blood shortage of a staggering 1.95 million units in 2017-18, these enthusiastic youth have motivated everyone to follow their lead!



## How can you reduce the risk of coronavirus infection?



Wash your hand regularly with soap



Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing



Thoroughly cook meat and eggs



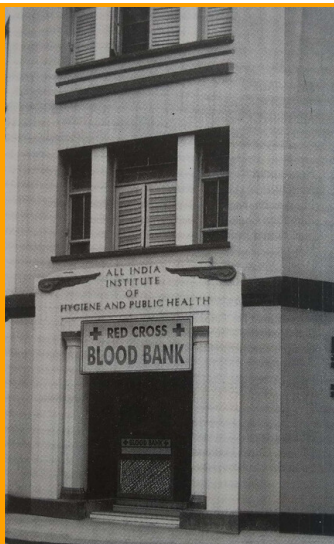
Avoid contact with anyone showing flu-like symptoms



Avoid contact with unprotected live wild or farm animals

Source: WHO

Stay informed, Stay protected.



### Did You Know?

During the times of World War II, IRCS established the first Blood Bank in India at the All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Calcutta (West Bengal) in 1942 to meet the needs of the soldiers wounded in the battlefield!

## IRCS NHO Blood Bank

A single donation can save upto 3 lives

### Month of January 2020

Donors - 2260

Voluntary Donors in camps - 2058

Voluntary Donors in-house - 202

Percentage of voluntary donors- 100 %



IRCS bid farewell to 3 staff members this month as they retired after decades of service. Shri Daler Singh, Shri Mohan Singh and Shri C.K. Rai played a prominent role in enabling Red Cross to serve humanity. We thank them and will miss them dearly!



### Be the sunshine in someone's life!

Shri Gaurav Dixit is a regular blood donor at IRCS. He believes that donating blood voluntarily is the noblest way to serve Humanity! We salute his dedication!







## Serving a sea of humanity!

Like every year, this year too, volunteers from Red Cross and St John Ambulance (India), Brigade Wing ran various help-desks at the Ganga Sagar Mela in the state of West Bengal. They supported visitors with medical needs and administered prompt first-aid care to the sick and wounded pilgrims at the Mela beside taking care of other exigencies.

Volunteers were also actively engaged in Search & Rescue operations that supported a crowd of almost 40 lakh pilgrims. Besides, visitors who had gone missing or had got separated from their families were helped to reunite with their families through Indian Red Cross Society's Family News Service (FNS) program.

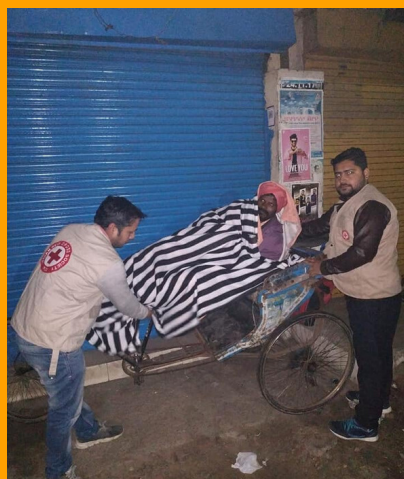
Ambulance services and free medical treatment was organized and relief materials like Dhoti, Saree, Blankets were distributed among the needy.

However, it was the first time that young Red Cross volunteers from a 2019 Youth program (started with support of ICRC in 2015) single-handedly managed the first-aid desk at the 'Joydeb Mela' in Birbhum- West Bengal this year and provided first-aid care to the needy.



## The silver lining in someone's dark cloud!

Every year, the cold wave sweeping North India puts poor, needy and vulnerable communities at serious risk. While we enjoy the winter season from the comfort of our homes, several people succumb to these harsh weather conditions. They sleep in the open & are exposed to severe biting cold. However, Red Cross volunteers from Uttarakhand & Punjab State Red Cross Branches welcomed the new year on a positive note by distributing blankets to the needy, setting a noble example for everyone to emulate!



Practical training helps equip students with skills/abilities that support their professional studies, preparing them for work later on. Students of our '**Home Health Aide Course**' gained confidence and developed practical skills through these sessions organized at IRCS.

Indian Red Cross Society is also **inviting applications** for a new batch of the 4 month 'Home Health Aide Course'. This course will enable participants to learn skills that will help them serve the elderly, disabled & critically ill, thus empowering themselves with a new skill set & become self reliant.





## IRCS Centenary Celebrations!

### First-Aid Competition for Youth Red Cross Members



### Painting Competition for Junior Red Cross Members



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1920-2020



CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS  
WE ARE 100



Take a look at our excited and enthusiastic Junior/Youth Red Cross members as they get ready for the **National Painting** & **First-Aid** competitions in Delhi!

Shri R.K. Jain (IAS, Retd.)  
Secretary General, IRCS  
participated in the  
inaugural function of the  
Centenary Celebration of  
Tamil Nadu State Red  
Cross Branch on 29-01-  
2020 in Chennai.  
Hon'ble Governor of Tamil  
Nadu, Thiru Banwarilal  
Purohit ji was the Chief  
guest. A Special Cover was  
also released by the  
Hon'ble Governor on this  
special occasion.

By tapping the potential of  
youth as 'agents of good', our  
J/YRC programs support  
young people to emerge as  
agents of change within their  
own communities and take  
care of the needs of  
vulnerable people.  
Recently, Youth Red Cross  
members organized several  
Road Safety awareness  
programs across the country  
to mark the 31st Road Safety  
Week and spread awareness  
on traffic rules, regulations  
and protocols.

With support from  
Karnataka Police  
Department, experts from  
Karnataka State Red Cross  
Branch facilitated  
training with Highway  
Patrol Police Personnel on  
casualty handling, first-aid  
for injuries & other  
lifesaving procedures.  
Being first responders in  
most cases of road  
accidents, this training will  
empower the Police  
personnel to save many  
lives.

Red Cross volunteers across  
the country celebrated  
**Republic Day 2020** by  
organizing several activities  
such as blood donation,  
free health & eye check up  
camps and cleanliness  
drives.  
Health & hygiene  
awareness campaigns were  
also conducted where  
volunteers went door to  
door to spread awareness  
among community members  
and distribute sanitary  
napkins to girls and women.

