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From the Desk of The Secretary-General

As temperatures soar & we find ourselves amidst a sweltering summer. I want to express my deepest gratitude to each one of our volunteers who are dedicating their time & effort to serve the needy during these challenging times.

Your selfless acts of kindness & compassion have made a significant difference in the lives of those who are most vulnerable to the effects of heat waves. Whether it's distributing cold water & refreshing snacks, providing access to cooling centers, or offering a friendly ear & a comforting presence, your contributions have provided much-needed relief and support to individuals & families in our community.

As we continue to navigate the challenges of this summer season, please know that your efforts have not gone unnoticed or unappreciated. You are the heart and soul of our organization, & we are incredibly grateful for everything you do.

This month Sh. Shividular Singh Dhillon, Member National Managing Body, IRCS, & Secretary, IRCS, Punjab State Branch attended 6th Commonwealth Red Cross & Red Crescent Conference on International Humanitarian Law, held at Pretoria, South Africa.

I am pleased to inform you that this month we held several important meetings including meetings of various committees of the Managing Body.

I would like to welcome Mr. A.N Narayanan who has joined as Officer on Special Duty in IRCS, NIHQ.

I would also like to appreciate the tireless work of the staff & volunteers of IRCS branches who are continuously providing relief in the form of food, clean water, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, kitchen sets & other medical care to those who have lost everything and ensuring their safety during any disaster or crisis.

I would like to appreciate the IRCS, state branch’s initiative of creating an awareness on first aid training to the people across its districts. Emergency first aid training, particularly training in CPR, empowers everyone to save lives.

The branches observed many important days in April like World Health Day, World Haemophilia Day, World Malaria Day, World Earth Day, etc. Such occasions give us an opportunity to connect with people & create awareness about Red Cross.
In his first visit to the Regional Delegation in New Delhi, Yoann Davison, Operations Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, held important meetings with ministries and had productive engagements with the Indian Red Cross NHQ and Red Cross Gujarat state branch.

29th April, 2024; Secretary General had a zoom meeting with Mr. Gintare Guzeviciute, Sr. Advisor & Leadership Transformation, Solferino Academy, IFRC

15th April, 2024; Secretary General, IRCS, NHQ had a meeting with Secretary Health on new IRCS Bill.

18th April, 2024, Virtual meeting on IRCS bill, 2024.

19th April, 2024, Warehouse and Property Development Committee Meeting was held virtually.

The Selection Committee of IRCS conducted interviews for the posts of Joint Secretary, OSD and Young professionals. The Selection Committee shortlisted, Mr. A.N Narayanan as OSD and who has joined IRCS, NHQ. Offer letters have been issued to 3 Young Professionals.
IRCS NHQ Blood Centre

Donate blood and be the reason for someone’s existence

The Month of April, 2024
Donors – 1927
Voluntary Donors in camps — 1612
Voluntary Donors in-house — 315
No. of camps - 24
Blood/Blood Components issued - 2572 units

IRCS NHQ Blood Center timings for blood donation:
Monday-Saturday (except 2nd Saturday): 9 AM - 7 PM
2nd Saturday, Sunday, Public Holidays: 10 AM - 6 PM
Note: The NHQ Blood Center is open 24/7 for issue of blood

Donate blood and save lives

World Hemophilia Day -2024

Bleeding disorders are not the end of the world, you could still lead a normal life

In 1989, the World Federation of Hemophilia (WFH) started the first-ever World Hemophilia Day to raise awareness about hemophilia and other bleeding disorders. April 17 was chosen as the date in memory of Frank Schneibel, who was born on that day in 1942 and dedicated his life to improving the lives of people affected by bleeding disorders.

Hemophilia is sometimes referred to as “the royal disease,” because it affected the royal families of England, Germany, Russia and Spain in the 19th and 20th centuries. It is a rare and serious disease affecting approx 1 out of 10,000 people around the world. Many people with hemophilia are still undiagnosed or inadequately treated. Even when treated, people may suffer from chronic pain and limited mobility mainly due to bleeds in the joints, and if untreated or not treated at all, risk dying at a young age.

This year 2024, World Hemophilia Day theme is “Equitable access for all: recognizing all bleeding disorders”. This theme emphasizes treatment for all and a society in which every individual with inherited bleeding disorders has access to care, regardless of their kind of bleeding condition, gender, age, or location.

India is home to the second-largest population of patients living with hemophilia. The poor availability of diagnostic and treatment facilities, along with the lack of awareness about hemophilia amongst primary care physicians and specialists is a major obstacle for the management of hemophilia.

Care of hemophilia has improved a lot in the last decade with an increase in hemophilia treatment centres and free factor injections, that help in blood clotting. In developed countries, majority of the patients are on regular replacement therapy which decreases or prevents bleeding.

Recently, India has conducted the first human clinical trial of gene therapy for haemophilia A (FVIII deficiency) at Christian Medical College (CMC) Vellore. The trial involved deploying a novel technology of using a viral vector to express a FVIII transgene in the patient’s own haematopoietic stem cell which will then express FVIII from specific differentiated blood cells. Hence there is a hope that manufacturing of this vector will commence soon in India and proceed with further clinical trials.

Let’s join people across the globe observing World Hemophilia Day to acknowledge volunteers, who support the hemophilia community and raise awareness about the condition.

Anant Pandhare
Vice Chairman, IRCS, Nagpur

Thank you, donors!

Blood donor being felicitated at blood donation camp, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Blood donation camp, Goa
Distribution of Relief Materials

Mr. Raman Kumar Sinha, a resident of Subhankarpur ward, Darbhanga, Bihar, who is suffering from post-traumatic paraplegia, was provided with a wheelchair, and Sh. Nagendra Yadav, resident of Bharaul, a fire victim, received utensils.

Volunteers of IRC West Bengal state branch provided relief assistance to the victims of storm hit areas of Jalpaiguri.

Volunteers of IRC Nellore district branch, Andhra Pradesh provided relief assistance to the victims of road accident. Volunteers cleared highway traffic and transferred the deceased to the nearby Govt hospital.

Indian Red Cross Society, Manipur State Branch handed over Tarpaulins and Hygiene kits to 11 windstorm affected families of Imphal East.

To emphasize on the role yoga plays in our lives and to sensitize people about its benefits that can be utilized to curb drug menace and get the life of drug addicts on track, a thirty Minute Yoga protocol for de-addiction was introduced by the team of Doctors in the yoga camp organised at Red Cross De-addiction and Rehabilitation Center Nawanshahr, Punjab.

An exhibition cum event named TARANG was organized by Centre for Social Work at Punjab University, Chandigarh in which 45 organisations participated including Indian Red Cross Society, Punjab State Branch, Chandigarh. The event TARANG was organized for local artisans, non-governmental organizations, student startups and Self Help Groups (SHG’s) etc. to raise awareness among the most vulnerable population so that they change their ways of life to achieve more economically sustainable life.

Distribution of dry ration and other relief items among 85 fire affected families, Bettiah, Bihar.
Trainings & Workshops

First aid training was conducted for DBS bank staff, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

First Aid training at KMTL, Manipur.

First Aid training at JJ School, Ghari by IRCs, Manipur State Branch.

First Aid training, Davanagere, Karnataka.

First aid training at state level flood relief training camp, Braham Sarover, Kurukshetra, Haryana.

Basic life support & CPR awareness program were imparted to the volunteers of the National Academy of Construction (Skill Development Training Institute), of Telangana State, Kondapur, Rangareddy district with support of Indian Red Cross Society, Rangareddy district branch.

Youth volunteers of IRCs, Imphal West District Branch under the guidance of Dr. Bankimchandra Thokchom (Master Trainer) conducted a Basic First Aid training program at 86 Bn CRPF.
Celebration of Important Days

World Health Day

A lecture on health awareness was organised at Red Cross Drug de-addiction Centre, Saket Hospital, Patiala, Punjab by following this year theme for World Health Day; My Health, My Right to raise awareness about the importance of global health.

IRCS DB Keonjhar celebrated World Health Day.

Indian Red Cross Society, Darrang District Branch (Assam) celebrated World Health Day.

Miscellaneous Activities

Vaisakhi

On 13th Apr 2024, Red Cross Drug De-addiction and Rehabilitation Centre, Nawanshahr, Punjab celebrated vaisakhi sangeet.

Sr_Citizens & divyang sewa by YRC Volunteers, DRCS Jhajjar, Haryana.
Health Camps

Health checkup, Bhiwani, Haryana

Red Cross drug addiction and rehabilitation centre Gurdaspur organized an awareness camp at Shivalik Public school GURDASPUR under "Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyaan"

An awareness seminar was organised by team Red Cross de-addiction centre, Gurdaspur at Sports stadium, Government college, Gurdaspur.

A drug awareness camp was organized under the "Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyaan" at St. John Convent School Kahnuwan, by the Red Cross de-addiction and rehabilitation center, Gurdaspur, Punjab.

Welcome

A.N. Narayanan joined as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) at iRCS,NHQ

Miscellaneous Activities

Awareness on heat stroke and its prevention, Chhapra, Bihar

An awareness session on drug de-addiction was organised under the "Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyaan" at village Chahal Kalan by the Red Cross De-addiction and Rehabilitation Center, Nawanshahar, Punjab.
3 day first-aid training programme held at Red Cross Bhawan

Early Times Report

The Red Cross Society, I & K UT organized three days First-Aid training course for employees of Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, India Today, Punjab National Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Lombard, Wipro Ltd, and other organizations.

The three-day training programme was inaugurated by Dr. Manpreet Kaur, Medical Officer, Red Cross Society, I & K UT at the Red Cross Bhawan in Jammu.

Emergency services of the Red Cross Society, I & K UT are conducting the first-aid training for all the participants. The training programme includes practical and theoretical lectures.

The training was conducted with all the participants involved in practical exercises.

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Media Coverage

SBF's support to the Indian Red Cross Society's Ananda Nilayam

Indian Red Cross Society engages in community outreach

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Media Coverage

Raksha: 100 rupee per day, 10 days - Helthy Skinning

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Media Coverage

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Media Coverage

Garhi Tola: 10,000 to NPP

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Media Coverage

Garhi Tola: 10,000 to NPP

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Media Coverage

Garhi Tola: 10,000 to NPP
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day celebrated on 8 May is of significance. This day we honour the legacy of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and the Movement's enduring commitment to humanitarian action for over 160 years. This year's theme “Keeping humanity alive” resonates deeply with the spirit of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in a world inundated by armed conflict and violence, natural disasters, climate-related crises, epidemics, food insecurity and mass displacement.

Message from the Vice Chairman on World Red Cross Day, 2024

Dear Friends,

As we commemorate World Red Cross Day 2024, it is with deep gratitude and admiration that I extend my warmest greetings to all members and volunteers of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

This year's theme, "Keeping Humanity Alive," resonates profoundly with the ongoing challenges and triumphs we face as a global community. In the face of adversity, conflict, and natural disasters, the Red Cross continues to be a beacon of hope, compassion, and resilience, tirelessly working to alleviate suffering and protect the most vulnerable.

Today, we honor the unwavering dedication and selfless service of our volunteers, staff, and partners who embody the spirit of humanity in action. Your courage, compassion, and commitment to serving others inspire us all to strive for a world where every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and empathy.

As we reflect on over 100 years of IRC and look ahead to the future, let us renew our pledge to uphold the fundamental principles of the Red Cross Movement: humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality. Together, let us continue to uphold these principles as guiding lights in our mission to alleviate human suffering and promote peace, health, and dignity for all.

On this World Red Cross Day, let us reaffirm our shared humanity and our collective responsibility to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Together, we can keep the flame of humanity burning bright, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to keeping humanity alive.

With warm regards,

Dr. Anant Pandhare
Vice Chairman
Indian Red Cross Society.
Message from the Secretary General on World Red Cross Day 2024

“One way or another, we all have to find what best fosters the flowering of our humanity in this contemporary life and dedicate ourselves to that.”
— Joseph Campbell

In a world often marked by strife, division, and adversity, the essence of humanity rises above adversity and upholds the values that define our shared humanity.

As we commemorate this occasion in 2024, the theme "Keeping Humanity Alive" serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring commitment of the Red Cross Movement to uphold human dignity, alleviate suffering, and extend assistance to people facing dire circumstances, particularly in remote and hard-to-reach areas.

In Indian philosophy, the concept of keeping humanity alive is deeply rooted in the ethical and spiritual teachings that guide individuals towards leading a life of compassion, integrity, and service. Across various philosophical traditions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism, there are profound insights and principles that emphasize the importance of nurturing humanity in both individual and collective spheres. It is not merely a philosophical concept but a call to action—a commitment to embodying noble virtues, promoting social harmony, and working towards the well-being and upliftment of all beings.

In the Indian Vedas, the concept of keeping humanity alive is conveyed through various hymns, verses, and philosophical teachings that emphasize the importance of ethical conduct, compassion, and service to others. "समान नाथं सामिति: समानी समान नाथसं विलम्बितायुः समानसं मन्त्रं अभि मन्त्रं के समानेन जो हविषय जुहियमिः"; This hymn from the Rigveda extols the principle of sameness and equality in thought and action.

As we observe World Red Cross Day, let us pay tribute to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of compassion to overcome adversity. Volunteers are the backbone of Indian Red Cross activities, enabling branches to execute successful initiatives and benefiting millions of disadvantaged people. Let us honour the countless volunteers and staff who work tirelessly to bring relief and hope to those facing the greatest hardships. And let us recommit ourselves to the noble cause of humanity, ensuring that the principles of compassion, dignity, and solidarity remain at the forefront of our collective efforts to build a better world for all. I wish all Red Cross governance, staff and volunteers a happy World Red Cross Day.

R.K. Jain
Secretary General, IRCS
Message from the Joint Secretary on World Red Cross Day, 2024

Dear esteemed colleagues, volunteers, and supporters,

On this esteemed occasion of World Red Cross Day 2024, it is with great reverence that I extend my heartfelt greetings to each one of you. Today, as we reflect on the enduring legacy of the Red Cross movement, we are reminded of our shared commitment to the timeless theme of "Keeping Humanity Alive."

In a world marked by strife, uncertainty, and adversities of all kinds, the Red Cross stands as a beacon of hope, compassion, and solidarity. Our collective efforts, guided by the principles of humanity and service, continue to uplift and empower those who are most vulnerable and marginalized.

As Joint Secretary, I am deeply humbled by the extraordinary dedication and selflessness exhibited by our volunteers and staff members, whose tireless actions exemplify the true spirit of humanity. Whether it be providing emergency relief in the aftermath of disasters, offering essential healthcare services to communities in need, or advocating for the rights and dignity of the most marginalized populations, your unwavering commitment embodies the essence of the Red Cross mission.

On this momentous occasion, let us reaffirm our pledge to uphold the sanctity of human life and dignity in all that we do. Let us recognize the inherent worth and equality of every individual, irrespective of their background, beliefs, or circumstances. Let us strive to create a world where compassion, empathy, and solidarity reign supreme, and where no one is left behind or forgotten.

As we commemorate World Red Cross Day, let us honour the countless lives touched and transformed by our collective efforts. Let us celebrate the resilience and strength of individuals and communities who, in the face of adversity, continue to uphold the values of compassion, generosity, and unity. Together, let us recommit ourselves to the noble cause of "Keeping Humanity Alive," and let our actions serve as a testament to the enduring power of compassion and solidarity.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and steadfast support.

With warm regards,

[Signature]

Dr. Knoop Kumar Puri
Joint Secretary, IRCS
Indian Red Cross Society
With the garlanding of the bust of Jean Henry Dunant, founder of the Red Cross, on World Red Cross Day 2024 celebrations were started at NHQ, Secretary General, IRCS, NHQ, Sh. R.K. Jain, Joint Secretary, IRCS, NHQ, Dr. Anoop Kumar Puri, Mr. Kedir Awol Omar, Head of Regional Delegation, ICRC and Dr. Vanshree Singh, Director Blood Centre, IRCS, NHQ were among those who garlanded the bust of Henry Dunant.
Tributes were paid to the founder of the Red Cross by the IRCS, NHQ Secretary General, Sh. R.K. Jain, Joint Secretary, Dr. Anoop Kumar Puri and Head of Regional Delegation, ICRC, Mr. Kedir Awol Omar together with staff and officials of the ICRC, IFRC, and IRCS.
A seminar on the theme was held at IRCS NHQ in which the Vice Chairman, IRCS, Dr. Anant Pandhare joined virtually from Sivasagar, Assam, where he attended World Red Cross Day 2024. Dr. Anant Pandhare extended greetings to all members and volunteers and said, “Your courage, compassion, and commitment to serving others inspire us all to strive for a world where every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and empathy.” He also informed in his address that a road in Sivasagar city is named after Red Cross showing the significance of the organisation.

Secretary General, IRCS, Sh. R.K Jain, Joint Secretary, Dr. Anoop Kumar Puri, Head of the Regional Delegation, ICRC, Mr. Kadir Awol Omar addressed the staff, officials, National Managing Body Members, Chairman and Secretaries of State and UT branches who joined virtually. Dr. Vanshree Singh, Director, Blood Center proposed vote of thanks.
Slogan Competition

A slogan competition was organised on the theme Keeping Humanity Alive for the World Red Cross Day 2024. 134 entries were received at the Indian Red Cross National Headquarters. Secretary General, Mr. R. K. Jain, Head of ICRC Regional Delegation, Mr. Kedir Awol Omar & Joint Secretary, IRC, NHQ Dr. Anoop Kumar Puri felicitated the winners, Ms. Rina Tripathi, DM, Advisor announced the awards.

The winners of this competition are as follows;

Congratulations

Best slogan - Sustaining Humanity's legacy - MANAVTA KI VIRASAT KO KAYAM RAKHNA coined by Ms. Garima, Department/Course & Semester : UIET (BCA 2nd Semester) Maharshi Dayanand University (Rohtak, Haryana)

1st highly acclaimed slogan - Ms. Rhema Mukti Baxter, Digital Marketing expert, Delhi Regional Communication Centre, ICRC, Slogan - Unity in Humanity, Strength in Solidarity. As she was not present during the ceremony, one of her colleagues from ICRC received the award on her behalf.

2nd highly acclaimed slogan - Ms. Mandeep Kaur, consultant, National Headquarters, Slogan - Imbibe Humanity and impartiality, Create a caste-class less society.
Celebration of World Red Cross Day on 8th May, 2024 by State/UT Branches

Branches from across the country commemorate the birth anniversary of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross. IRCS branches organized various events and activities to mark the day and raise awareness about the humanitarian work they do. These celebrations included: Blood donation camps, first aid training workshops, public awareness campaigns, community service projects i.e. distributing relief items to vulnerable populations, providing healthcare services, conducting disaster preparedness activities etc. Special events, such as seminars, conferences, or award ceremonies were organized to reflect on the history and achievements of the Red Cross and to honor individuals who have contributed significantly to humanitarian causes. Some of the pictures received from Odisha, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Goa, Tripura, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar are reproduced below;
रक्तदान से बढ़कर नहीं है कोई दान: देवदेव कुमार

25 रक्तदानकर्ताओं ने देश रक्तदान दिवस पर रक्तदान करके दिया महत्वपूर्ण कार्य का संदेह

रक्तदान स्टाफ को फाउंडेशन ने किया सम्मानित

नवंबर 5 में (राजनी): कुलग सुमूम बेडी किव्वेडनन ने दिवस रक्तदान दिवस पर रक्तदान के पूरे तौर पर रक्तदान का सम्मानित किया।

इस अवसर पर संस्थाओं के संरक्षण में व्यक्ति व भावन का अंतरदर्श किया गया कि रक्तदान दिवस पर मनाया जाना चाहिए। कुलग सुमूम बेडी के साथ राजनी आजम के साथ रक्तदान करके काम किया।

86 यूनिट रक्त प्रदान

86 यूनिट रक्त दिन के दौरान रक्तदान संगठन ने रक्तदान का कार्य किया।

पानीपत भाषकर

86 यूनिट रक्त प्रदान

86 यूनिट दिन के दौरान रक्तदान संगठन ने रक्तदान का कार्य किया।