

Indian Red Cross Society

Weekly Bulletin

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Recent Updates

As floods contaminate drinking water sources, Red Cross teams in **Assam** are installing hand pumps to provide clean drinking water to families who have been affected by the recent floods.

The State Branch has also set up relief camps in several locations to provide immediate shelter to people who have lost their homes in the wake of the recent floods. To prevent the transmission of COVID, volunteers have earmarked spaces for different families so that social



distancing can be maintained & the families feel safe during their stay in the camps. Concurrently, Red Cross teams are working tirelessly with communities to ensure that they follow all COVID precautions in these camps. Dry ration, utensils, mosquito nets, soaps, clean drinking water & other relief aid is also being provided to them. Besides, volunteers continue distributing tarpaulins among the needy across different districts. In the picture (above), tarpaulins have been erected alongside the railway line and national highway where several affected people have taken shelter.



IRCS **Manipur** State Branch has been conducting psychosocial support programs for people living under quarantine in government & community centers. The team is also working to create awareness on COVID safety precautions. Besides, aspects of social stigma & discrimination against people returning home are also being touched upon. Red Crossers also conduct a yoga session with the participants to help them stay mentally & physically refreshed during quarantine & keep a positive outlook towards life.

Given the massive spread of COVID, Red Cross volunteers in Erunakulam, **Kerala** as well as other districts in the State are working with the Police Department to encourage people to stay indoors & not venture out of their homes unnecessarily.



IRCS **Navsari Blood Bank, Gujarat** collected 91 units of blood in a camp organized by Sneh Setu Charitable Trust, Navsari GIDC Industries Association.

Stock Availability NHQ Blood Bank

Update from 3rd to 9th July, 2020

Units Collected: 517
Units Issued: 643
Units Available Today-

441 units of **PRBC**, **84** units of **PC**,

391 units of FFP; 8 units of WB

Despatch to State/UT Branches

IRCS West Bengal:

Face Masks: 1,02,000;

Gloves: **6000 pairs**; Face shields: **540**; PPE Kits: **150**; Jackets: **200**

IRCS Nagaland:

Face Masks: **45,000**

IRCS J & K:

Face Masks: **51,500**;

Gloves: **10,000 pairs;** Face shields: **540**; PPE Kits: **200**; Jackets: **200**





In the week gone by, IRCS **Warangal Blood Bank** collected 139 & 159 units in two camps, beside 25 units that were collected on Doctors day.

Also, 70 units of blood was collected by IRCS **Chatra** in a camp organised by Lavalong Rakt Mitra Chatra in Lavalong, Chatra.

Red Cross Volunteer: An Epitome of Selfless Service

Across the country, staff & volunteers of Indian Red Cross Society have been selflessly serving people in need during the COVID19 lockdown period. They have been doing all they can to support the needy, including the most vulnerable sections, living in the remotest areas of the country.

The story of Damodari Devi is no different. Damodari is a 39 year old woman who lives with her elderly mother in a remote area of Himachal Pradesh. She is disabled & also struggles with severe mental disorders since her childhood. Damodari depends on her daily dose of prescribed medications to uphold her health.

Trouble started mounting when Damodari's stock of medicines started to deplete during the lockdown period. Her mother, Smt. Mathura Devi's frail condition did not permit her to fetch the medicines, available at a distance from their house. Moreover, Damodari could not be left alone at home without supervision. Gradually, Damodari's health began deteriorating with each passing day.





Fortunately, word spread and Red Cross Social Emergency Response Volunteers (SERV) Smt. Kusum Devi & Sh. Amarjeet Singh rushed to her aid and take stock of the situation. These dedicated Red Crossers walked 10 kms to reach Damodari's home, located in a remote rural area. The required medicines were immediately purchased and provided to her.

What's more, IRCS **Mandi, Himachal Pradesh** went ahead & replenished Damodari's stock of medicines for the coming three months! The family was also provided with phone numbers of volunteers to ensure that they do not have to face any difficulty in the near future. Damodari's mother expressed her pleasure & heartfelt gratitude for dedicated Red Crossers who did not think twice before traveling almost 20 kms on foot to fetch & provide life saving medicines to Damodari, right at her doorstep.