

INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY



Monthly Bulletin

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From the Desk of The Secretary-General



This month tropical storm Remal made landfall near the Indo-Bangladesh border & crossed north-eastern India. The worst affected states were Mizoram, West Bengal, Assam, Manipur and Meghalaya. Millions of people had been affected and hundreds of houses were completely damaged. I appreciate the tireless work of the staff and volunteers of IRCS Manipur & West Bengal who continuously provided relief in the form of food, clean water, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, kitchen sets & other medical care to those who lost everything & ensuring their safety during this critical time. The IRCS team also assisted in evacuation, airlifting and road clearance operations along with the local authorities & state government rescue teams.

I'd also like to thank all the branches for carrying out different humanitarian actions such as providing hygiene kits, food items, kitchen sets, tarpaulins and mosquito nets to the vulnerable and needy during accidents and tragedies.

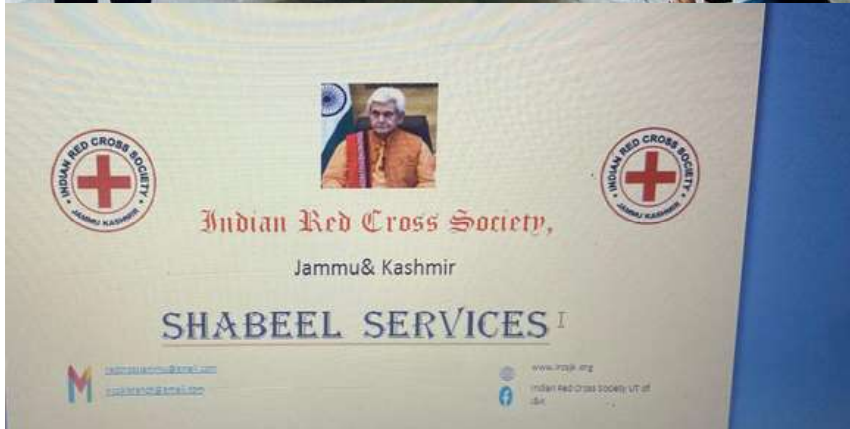
I appreciate the IRCS, J&K undertaking "Shabeel Seva" that aims to provide relief to students and the general public during this severe summer. This timely intervention met the urgent need for safe drinking water, ensuring hydration and reducing heat-related diseases.

Many significant days were observed in this month, including World Red Cross Day, World Thalassemia Day, World Asthma Day, National Dengue Day, World Hypertension Day, World's AIDS Vaccine Day, World No Tobacco Day etc. Such occasions give us an opportunity to connect with people & create awareness about Red Cross.

World Red Cross Day 2024 was celebrated at IRCS, NHQ. Vice Chairman, Dr. Anant Pandhare, National Managing Body Members, and State/ UT branch leadership joined the celebrations virtually. Head of the Regional Delegation, ICRC, Mr. Kedir Awol Omar also attended the event. A seminar and slogan writing competition was held on the theme, KEEPING HUMANITY ALIVE. I congratulate all the winners of the slogan writing competition, Staff & officials from IRCS NHQ, IFRC and ICRC also participated in the function.

I'm glad to note that branches participated in several activities during World Red Cross Day 2024. These activities included blood donation camps, health camps, cleanliness drives, distribution of relief items to the vulnerable and needy, seminar and competitions in schools and colleges. Theme for this year World Red Cross Day was "Keeping Humanity Alive".

The Red Cross, being a humanitarian organization deeply committed to promoting health & well-being, undertook several initiatives to raise awareness & combat tobacco use by organising educational campaigns in schools, communities & workplaces.



In response to the ongoing heat wave IRCS, J&K UT Branch has flagged-off a comprehensive Shabeel Seva initiative aimed at providing relief to students and the general public. This timely intervention addresses the acute need for potable water, ensuring hydration and preventing heat-related illnesses. Under this initiative, IRCS J&K distributed water at multiple locations including educational institutions, public transportation hubs and public places ensuring maximum reach and impact. Similarly, a Youth Red Cross- First-Aid Awareness cum Drug De-Addiction Program was organized for the students and staff of Govt. Degree College Akhnoor. Likewise, Indian Red Cross Society, J&K UT organized an eight day First-Aid training programme for the Commercial Vehicle drivers and youth of the society. J&K, IRCS branch also organized a 3 day comprehensive Medical Check-up and First-Aid Awareness camp for the employees of different hotels.

Visits



Mr Karma Dendup, Health Officer, Bhutan Red Cross Society visited IRCS, NHQ, Blood Centre. He also donated blood.



Meetings of State/UT branches

IRCS,WBSB conducted a Managing Committee meeting at Raj Bhavan, Kolkata. Dr.S.K.Pattanayak, IAS (Retd.), Chairman presided over the meeting. Members discussed matters for development of WBSB.



IRCS NHQ team visited Kolkata on 15th May. The team called on the Chairman of IRCS West Bengal State Branch. Ms. Rina Tripathi- Advisor, Disaster Management, Ms. Sunita Rana- Finance Officer (IRCS NHQ) and Mr. Pramod Sahu. - Logistics. Expert, ICRC attended the meeting. Chairman of IRCS, WBSB, Dr. S.K. Pattanayak chaired the meeting. Mr. Sandeep Kumar Singh, General Secretary, IRCS WBSB also attended the meeting.



Meeting of District Training Officers of District St. John Centres in Haryana was convened on May 29, 2024, at Red Cross Bhawan, Sector-16, Chandigarh. Officers from all 22 District Red Cross Branches of Haryana attended the meeting. Dr. Sushma Gupta, Vice Chairperson and Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal, General Secretary of the IRCS Haryana State Branch, led the proceedings. All districts were instructed to establish Centers of Excellence for Training equipped with necessary materials in the upcoming months. The meeting stressed the importance of CPR Training, First Aid and Home Nursing Training awareness campaigns in schools as well as extensive publicity for professional training through electronic and print media, the Red Cross website and display banners for the general public.



Officials of IRCS WBSB had a meeting with the Tollegunge Club authority at Kolkata to increase membership of Red Cross and encourage blood donation activities, trainings in FA & DM.



IRCS Bihar state branch organised voluntary blood donation camp in collaboration with Lions club, Patna, Bihar

IRCS NHQ Blood Centre

Donate blood and be the reason for someone's existence



The Month of May, 2024

Donors – 1709

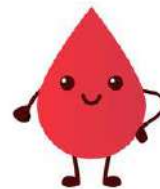
Voluntary Donors in camps — 1426

Voluntary Donors in-house — 283

No. of camps - 32

Blood/Blood Components issued - 3824 units

We need you.
Donate blood.
Save lives.



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



Blood donation camp, Kundrathur bus stand, Chennai,



IRCS Davengere district branch, Karnataka organised series of blood donation camps at several cities through the blood mobile buses donated by IRCS NHQ.



IRCS Manipur Branch together with CMC College of Nursing conducted a voluntary blood donation camp at RIMS.



Blood donation camp at Valeo India, Chennai



IRCS West Bengal state branch organised a blood donation camp in collaboration with IFFCO TOKIO GIC Park Street Kolkata

Thank you, donors!



Blood donation was held at UPS, American multinational shipping & receiving and supply chain management company, Chennai



Blood donation camp organised by team DRCS Gurugram at Air India Office

Distribution of Relief Materials



IRCS J&K branch provided essential relief to the victims of land sinking incident in Ramban.



Distribution of relief items amongst the fire victims in Ratanpura village of Darbhanga district of Bihar



Distribution of tarpaulins, blankets and mosquito nets amongst needy and poor of Garla Mandal, Mahabubabad, Telangana



Families affected by hailstorms received tarpaulins by the volunteers of Imphal West District Branch.



Distribution of tarpaulins and mosquito nets amongst needy and poor, Supaul, Bihar

Response to Cyclone Remal in Manipur



Severe Cyclonic storm Remal was a moderately intense but deadly tropical cyclone which affected West Bengal and Bangladesh in May 2024. It was the first depression and the first cyclonic storm of the 2024 North Indian Ocean cyclone season. The energetic rescue team of Indian Red Cross Society Manipur helped in evacuating people during a flood emergency and reaching the unreachable. Even with their own flooded office the dedicated members didn't stop providing essential supplies and rescuing people in boats.

Trainings & Workshops



Programs in basic life support and CPR awareness were offered to medical postgraduate (MD/MS) students by IRCS Imphal West District, Manipur.



First aid training to drivers and conductors in Bhiwani district, Haryana.



Dr. Brendon Peroz conducted a lecture on first aid on behalf of the IRCS, Goa state branch, on May 15, 2024, on the occasion of International Day of Families organized by the Children's Court for the state of Goa.



Professional First Aid Training at Hindustan Gum & Chemicals Limited, Bhiwani, Haryana



Volunteers of IRCS, Imphal West district branch conducted Awareness Programme for basic first aid to the workers of brick laying field at Lamsang.



Training program on life saving BLS and CPR for post Graduate students and interns of Ambedkar Dental College and Hospital, Bangalore



Mock drill exercise & awareness program on disaster management was held by IRCS, Sonamura Sub Divisional Branch, Tripura in collaboration with NDRF, fire service, TSR & other line departments on 18th May, 2024.



River and dams were monitored by the volunteers of IRCS North 24 Parganas district branch. Rescue operation were carried out and relief items were provided to the vulnerable.



Red Cross Drug De-addiction and Rehabilitation Center Nawanshahr, Punjab organized an awareness camp under "Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyan" at Government High School, Bhin (Nawanshahr).



Students of the Institute of nursing education, Bambolim visited IRCS state branch at Panaji, Goa



An awareness lecture was organized by Red Cross Drug De-addiction Centre, Patiala, Punjab at Shri Harkrishan Public School Patiala. 100 people benefited from this session.

Celebration of Important Days

World Red Cross Day

IRCS, NHQ and State /UT branches observed World Red Cross Day 2024, based on the theme " **Keeping Humanity Alive.**" Varied activities and programs were carried out in all parts of the country.



World No Tobacco Day

On World No Tobacco Day on 31st May IRCS all across the country joined the global community in raising awareness about the dangers of tobacco use and the importance of a tobacco-free world. Tobacco kills millions of people every year, but together, we can make a change.

Message from the Vice Chairman on World No Tobacco Day, 2024



Dear Friends,

World No Tobacco Day is being observed on 31st May 2024. On this occasion we stand united in our commitment to combat the menace of tobacco use and its devastating effects on public health. The Member States of the World Health Organization created World No Tobacco Day in 1987 to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes.

World No Tobacco Day will be driven this year by the theme 'Protecting children from tobacco industry interference'. The focus is on mobilising international efforts to enact stronger regulations that shield youth from harmful tobacco products and deceptive advertising practices.

World No Tobacco Day 2024 will give a platform to young people across the world, who are urging governments to shield them from predatory tobacco marketing tactics. The industry targets youth for a lifetime of profits, creating a new wave of addiction.

Tobacco not only poses a grave threat to individual health but also burdens our healthcare systems and undermines socio-economic development. It is imperative that we empower our communities with knowledge and resources to resist the allure of tobacco products and embrace healthier lifestyles.

The Red Cross, being a humanitarian organization deeply committed to promoting health & well-being, can undertake several initiatives on World No Tobacco Day to raise awareness & combat tobacco use: branches can organize educational campaigns in schools, communities & workplaces to raise awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco use, hosting of public awareness events such as rallies, marches, and public forums can help disseminate information about the dangers of tobacco and promote healthier lifestyle choices.

The branches may collaborate with healthcare providers & government agencies to support tobacco cessation programs. Collaborating with other organizations working in the field of public health & tobacco control can amplify the impact of anti-tobacco initiatives. By joining forces with like-minded organizations, we can reach a broader audience and maximize resources.

On this occasion, let us reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding the health and dignity of every individual. I urge all stakeholders - governments, civil society organizations, healthcare professionals, educators, and individuals - to unite in our mission to build a tobacco-free future for generations to come.

Every action, no matter how small, contributes to a healthier, happier tomorrow. Let us stand together, speak out against tobacco, and work towards a world where every breath is a breath of fresh air.

With warm regards,

Dr. Anant Pandhare,
Vice Chairman,
Indian Red Cross Society, NHQ



World AIDS Vaccine Day



World AIDS Vaccine Day was observed on May 18, 2024, at the Patiala Railway Station by the IRCS, Punjab State Branch, Chandigarh. Precautionary prophylactic articles were supplied to help prevent HIV and STDs in an effort to stop HIV transmission and encourage healthy sexual behaviors.

World Thalassemia Day



World Thalassemia Day observed at Keonjhar district branch, Odisha

Village Health and Nutrition Day



Village Health and Nutrition Day were observed by IRCS ,
Kaliganj Block Branch, Nadia District

Miscellaneous Activities



Due to the ongoing Heat Wave a "Jalchhatra Camp" was organised by the Indian Red Cross Society Kaliganj Block Branch, Nadia, West Bengal

Health Camps



Dental Camp was conducted by IRCS Imphal West district branch, Manipur on the occasion of World Red Cross Day



IRCS Senapati Branch youth volunteers held an awareness campaign about child safety and child feeding at several relief centers in Kangpokpi District. They also undertook social work on solid waste and drainage in relief centers in Kangpokpi.



A plastic free campaign was organised on the first foundation day of IRCS, Kakching district branch, Manipur.

Miscellaneous Activities



Rs 40000/- through cheques along with 4 kitchen sets, blankets, tarpaulins, buckets etc. were provided by the Chairman of District Red Cross, Baramulla to 04 fire victims of village Thajal Uri.



Employees of various projects located in Red Cross De-addiction Complex, Sector 14 Faridabad, Haryana were appealed to vote and everyone was made to take the voter oath.



DC Sh. Nishant Kumar Yadav, IAS, ADC Sh. Hitesh Meena, IAS along with Secretary, Red Cross Gurugram Sh. Vikas Kumar took pledge to vote in the general elections 2024.



Red Cross Drug De-Addiction and Rehabilitation Center Nawanshahr, Punjab organized a drug awareness camp under "Nasha Mukat Bharat Abhiyan" at Government Industrial Training Institute, Nawanshahr (Punjab)

Let's Connect



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