From the Desk of The Secretary-General

Unprecedented heavy rains have caused severe floods and landslides in the Himalayan regions of Himachal Pradesh. Families have lost their homes, schools have turned into debris-filled ruins, and basic infrastructure that once connected communities has been washed away, bringing unimaginable destruction and despair to the lives of countless families.

I would like to appreciate the tireless work of the staff and volunteers of IRCS in Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other states who are continuously providing relief in the form of food, clean water, hygiene kits, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and other medical care to those who have lost everything and ensuring their safety during this critical time.

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

The branches observed many important days in August like Independence Day, World Humanitarian Day, Hiroshima Day, World Organ Donation Day, Raksha Bandhan etc. Such occasions give us an opportunity to connect with people & create awareness about Red Cross.

As the world grapples with the urgent need for environmental conservation, the initiative of IRCS Boudh district branch, Odisha is heartwarming. On Raksha Bandhan the volunteers tied Raksha Sutra around the trees. I appreciate this gesture of the Red Cross volunteers. This fusion of tradition and environmental consciousness bridges the gap between age old customs and the pressing demands of a safer future. The other branches should also undertake such measures to protect our mother earth.
Meetings of IRCS, NHQ

Warehouse/Property development committee meeting was held on 23rd August, 2023. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Anant Pandhare, Vice Chairman, IRCS, NHQ. Several subjects were discussed in the meeting; which included consideration of the proposal of the Canadian Red Cross (CRC) to develop Red Cross warehouse at Vikhroli, consideration of the proposal of Canadian Red Cross (CRC) to renovate & upgrade Red Cross warehouse at Bahadurgarh, consideration of request received from M/S Nabadiganta Industrial Township Authority to provide 5 mtr stretch of our land at IRCS, regional warehouse complex at salt lake, Kolkata and recommendation of the IRCS, NHQ teams visit to the M& CW scheme properties in Uttarakhand etc.

Disaster Management /Project implementation committee meeting was held on 23rd August 2023 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anant Pandhare, Vice Chairman. Several decisions were taken such as to consider condemnation/disposal of unserviceable & unusable items at IRCS, warehouses, consideration of launching of disaster response emergency fund (DREF) etc.

Selection committee meeting was held on 9th August 2023 under the chairmanship of Dr. Anant Pandhare, Vice Chairman, IRCS. Important decisions taken during the meeting were to consider filling up the post of Joint Secretary at IRCS NHQ, to review the strength of officers & staff, to consider filling up of some of the posts at Blood Centre, IRCS, NHQ, to select a member & observer to South Asia Youth Network (SAYN) from IRCS etc.

Meetings of IRCS, State/UT branches

Red Cross volunteers meet was held at Jayashankar Bhupalpally district of Telangana. Hon’ble President TSB (Hon’ble Governor) interacted with the volunteers. Chairman of TSB, Dr. Justice M. Jaichandren and Dr. PVC Reddy former member of the National Managing Body were also present on the occasion.

Sh. Rajiv Rattan, IAS, Director General, Higher Education, Haryana, presided over the Youth Red Cross Sub-Committee Meeting. Members of this Sub-committee include 16 Haryana State Universities and 23 private universities. During this meeting, many key constructive decisions were taken like: Organising special campaigns for TB eradication and for Drug-de-addiction, preparation of yearly calendar by all the universities and their affiliated colleges, distribution of sanitary pads dispensing and disposable machines in colleges for the rural women etc.
IRCS NHQ Blood Centre

A single drop of blood can make a huge difference

The Month of August, 2023
Donors – 1894
Voluntary Donors in camps — 1662
Voluntary Donors in-house — 232
No. of camps— 33
Blood/Blood Components issued - 3809 units

A blood donation camp was held at RIMS on Patriots’ Day by the IRCS Imphal West District Branch & the Lions Club. 26 units of blood were collected.

IRCS, Manipur State Branch organised a blood donation camp at DM college of Arts Campus, Thangmeiband, Manipur
Blood donation camp was organised by the YRC, Boudh Panchayat College in Boudh, Odisha in coordination with the Press Club. A total of 30 units of blood were collected.

More than 100 units of blood were collected at a blood donation drive that the Red Cross Integrated and Rehabilitation Centre organized at Sarai, Qadian, Punjab.

On 31st Aug, 2023 Punjab State Red Cross branch organised a blood donation camp. The camp took place in Swami Vivekanand Hall of Red Cross. Sh. Kamal Kishor Yadav, IAS, Secretary, Education, inaugurated the camp. Many volunteers participated in this camp and donated blood.

Blood donation camp, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh

Blood donation camp, Vindhyanagar, M.P
Distribution of Relief Materials

Distribution of relief materials, including Hygiene kits and dry rations, amongst flood affected victims of Fatehabad district Haryana.

Hon'ble Governor of Telangana distributed food items, tarpaulins, and other essential items amongst flood victims at Hanumakonda and Yadadri Bhuvanagiri districts of Telangana.

Distribution of RO water purifiers by Haryana Red Cross for Government Schools (Rural areas) of District Kaithal (Haryana) to provide safe and clean drinking water to the school children.

To help the flood victims, IRCS Mulugu district branch, Telangana distributed kitchen sets and tarpaulins amongst 75 families of Anisettipalli village.

Chairperson, H.P. Red Cross Hospital Welfare Section and Member of National Managing Body, Dr. Sadhna Thakur along with the Red Cross volunteers provided relief items to the victims of flood & landslide in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Distribution of tarpaulins, bed sheets, and kitchen sets amongst flood victims, Amarchinta Wanaparthy, Telangana

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18 members of the Indian Red Cross Society's Senapati District branch visited various relief camps in Kangpokpi district and distributed supplies provided by UNICEF through the IRCS Manipur State branch. Items include buckets, soaps, detergent, nail cutters, oil, water purification pills, combs, mirrors, towels, and sanitary pads etc.

Relief aid being provided for the victims affected by flood and landslide by IRCS, Bageshwar district branch, Uttarakhand

Distribution of hygiene kits amongst school girls, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh

Distribution of nutritional food packets to TB patients, Bijapur, Chhattisgarh
Haryana Red Cross branch conducted CPR awareness training amongst people

IRCS Tumkur district branch, Karnataka with the support of Health Department conducted the training for RBSK Doctors on First Aid & Emergency Management

CPR training was conducted for the employees of the Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy, N-AYUSH Department, Government of India, Vikrampuri, Habsiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana

First Aid Training was provided in 45 Schools of Bhiwani district, Haryana.

First aid and CPR training was conducted at the grassroot level at Imphal East, Manipur.

Disaster Management and First Aid training was provided to home guard department staff, Karnataka. Training mainly focused on management of emergencies related to floods, fire, road accidents, and health emergencies.

IRCS Maharashtra State branch conducted a one-day first aid session in Mumbai, Maharashtra for 36 engineers and safety personnel from CPWD, Wadala, and the BG Shirke group.

Disaster management training, Banaskantha, IRCS Gujarat state branch

First aid was provided by the volunteers of IRCS, South 24 Pargan district branch, West Bengal

At the International Airport (GMR Airport) Shamsabad, Hyderabad, the ARFF (Airport Rescue & Fire Fighting) squad receives senior professional first aid training.
At Sri Guru Vidya Peeth, Kalaburagi, Karnataka the second JRC Divisional level camp was formally opened by Sri Arunkumar M. Patil, ex-ZP member, and Sri Shivraj Diggavi, the organization’s secretary.

CPR training was conducted at various schools of Haryana.

CPR Training Van in Faridabad district of Haryana. Seventeen districts of Haryana was covered.

CPR Training, Kaithal, Haryana.

First aid training, Bhavnagar, Gujarat.
Trainings & Workshops

Orientation class for Nursing students of Father Muller College of Nursing, Mangalore was held on 03rd August at IRCS NHQ in which 01 teacher and 50 nursing students participated.

Orientation class for Nursing students of Laxmi Memorial College of Nursing, Mangalore was held at IRCS, NHQ on 10th August in which 02 teachers and 47 students participated.

Orientation class for Nursing students of Laxmi Memorial College of Nursing, Mangalore was held on 11th August at NHQ in which 01 teacher and 47 students participated.

First aid training, Bhiwani, Haryana

First aid training was conducted at Mt. Olive College, by IRCS Nagaland State Branch.

IRCS Nagaland imparted first aid training to Kohima Mariani Transmission Zhadima.

IRCS Maharashtra State branch held a one-day first aid session for 18 employees of J M Baxi and Co. in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

JRCS Nagaland imparted first aid training to Kohima Mariani Transmission Zhadima.

Junior Red Cross divisional level camps were organized by, IRCS, Mandya district branch, Karnataka. Students from 08 districts of Mysore division attended this camp.

CPR Training was exhibited at various schools in Gurugram, Haryana by mobile team touring all districts.

Free CPR Training program was conducted at KR Mangalam University, Gurugram, Haryana.

Orientation class for Nursing students of Laxmi Memorial College of Nursing, Mangalore was held on 11th August at NHQ in which 01 teacher and 47 students participated.

Orientation class for Nursing students of Father Muller College of Nursing, Mangalore was held on 03rd August at IRCS NHQ in which 01 teacher and 50 nursing students participated.

Orientation class for Nursing students of Laxmi Memorial College of Nursing, Mangalore was held at IRCS, NHQ on 10th August in which 02 teachers and 47 students participated.
Celebration of Important Days

**Independence Day**

On the eve of Independence Day, 15th Aug 2023, District Magistrate, Purba Bardhaman, West Bengal, and Chairman of the district branch Smt. Priyanka Sringla raised the national flag. A blood donation camp was also inaugurated by her. She also distributed tricycles to the people with special needs.

**Raksha bandhan**

Nursing students provided a meaningful gesture of care and support by tying hand-crafted Rakhis (thread) on the wrists of individuals who were admitted to the Red Cross Drug-de addiction & Rehabilitation Centre, Saket Hospital Patiala, Punjab. All these rakhi's were made on the theme of Nasha Mukt Bharat.

**Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day**

Indian Red Cross Society, Punjab State Branch Drug De-Addiction and Rehabilitation Center observed ‘Hiroshima and Nagasaki Day’.

**World Organ Donation Day**

Indian Red Cross Society, Punjab State Branch Celebrated World Organ Donation Day.
Health Camps

IRCS Medchal-Malkajgiri district branch, Telangana conducted free medical care camp for senior citizens.

A camp was organised by the Red Cross Punjab state branch at Integrated Rehabilitation Centre for addicts at Patiala. The visitors at the camp were screened for various ailments, including blood pressure, diabetes, fever, eye infection, orthopaedics, ENT, and thyroid. Free medicines were given to the patients in this camp. Total Beneficiaries: 250

An eye check-up camp was organised by the IRCS, Gurdaspur district branch, Punjab

An awareness seminar was held at the Employment Exchange Office in District Complex, Gurdaspur, Punjab by IRCS, REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR ADDICTS, GURDASPUR as part of the mission NASHA MUKT ABHIYAN. The seminar attendees were made aware of the urgent public health problem of drug abuse, and they were encouraged to be brand ambassadors for the ‘Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan’ by spreading drug addiction awareness in their communities.

Ranga Reddy district branch of Telangana conducted mobile Medicare Unit (MMU) for senior citizen.

Tree plantation drive IRCS, Telangana State branch, in collaboration with HPCL

Miscellaneous Activities

Youth Red Cross volunteers from Bhavans Vivekanand College actively participated in the clean Kapra Lake initiative, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
Media Coverage

Protections

Kapil: Media Express: An exemplary display of community collaboration and environmental conscientiousness, the Kapil lake Inauguration event was organized by the Kapil lake Delhi group, in association with Green Gandhians, the Greater Hydraulic Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Phased Out, and the Youth Red Cross wing of the Ministry of Culture. The event was graced by the presence of distinguished guests, including Uppal MLA and a youth Red Cross Rotaract member. The event was successful in raising awareness about the Kapil lake’s role in maintaining water balance and preserving the environment. The event’s success is a testament to the dedication of the young generation towards community welfare and environmental protection. The event aimed to raise awareness among the public about the Kapil lake’s role in maintaining water balance and preserving the environment. The event was a call to action for everyone to participate in the conservation efforts.

YOUTH RED CROSS

Protest against pollution

The YRC on 30th August organized a protest against pollution in the Kapil lake. The protest was led by the Youth Red Cross Rotaract member, who emphasized the importance of protecting our water bodies. The event urged the public to take responsibility for protecting our natural resources and create a cleaner, healthier environment for all.

Harish

HARISH

30 Aug 2023