

Minutes of IRCS State and UT Branches' Leadership Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Conference Hall , IRCS (NHQ.)

A meeting of IRCS State and UT Branches' Leadership was held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at Conference Hall, IRCS (NHQ.) under the chairmanship of Sh. R K Jain, Secretary General, Indian Red Cross Society. Meeting was attended by leadership of State/UT branches, Heads of Delegation IFRC & ICRC and officers of IRCS (NHQ.) as per list at Annexure 'A'.

**DAY 1 - 7.3.2019 ( Thursday)**

**Key Note Address by Secretary General**

Meeting started with welcome address by Dr. Veer Bhushan, Joint Secretary, IRCS which was followed by the keynote address of Sh. R K Jain, Secretary General, IRCS. At the outset Secretary General welcomed all the participants and congratulated branches for doing outstanding work in terms of various projects and programmes. He informed that it would be our endeavor at Hqs. to restrict the expenditure on establishment and administration to 33% and enhance expenditure on programmes and projects to achieve the goal of community resilience. He also highlighted the need of upscaling SERV in all districts of the country. Further he desired that properties owned by headquarter and state branches should be optimally utilized in a manner that enhances income generation from them. He emphasized the need of visibility of activities which will provide credibility to Red Cross and help in fund raising. It was also communicated that the pendency of certificates (membership and FA Training) is being targeted to be liquidated by March end. States were requested to send data of membership and FA training electronically . It was informed that after 6 months FA training certificates will be issued for those Training Centres which are accredited by Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS). Soon the branches will also be asked to send video clips of trainings conducted. States were also informed about ongoing activities and future endeavors of Nhq. ,like purchases through GEM portal, Solar Panels on office building, adoption of File Tracking system etc. Secretary General encouraged all states to participate in interstate events. He also expressed the desire to felicitate best performing branch and support best branch. He encouraged the states to conduct visits to other branches to learn best practices from each other. He offered that the Nhq. may cover the expenses on such visits, if required. He concluded his address saying that there has to be complete harmony between Nhq. and states. He assured the participants that the need and requirements of states will be the priorities of Nhq. Nhq. will align its priorities with the priorities of states and liberally fund for the initiatives taken by states/ UTs.

Key note address was followed by **briefing by state branches** during which they flagged the areas where Nhq. support and intervention are needed.

1. Assam, Uttarakhand and J&K state branches requested for technical support to establish blood bank. It was decided that Dr. Vijay Vats from Blood Bank Nhq. will visit these states and do the needful.
2. Odisha state branch requested that the state headquarters may be allowed to enroll members. It was decided that suitable amendments will be done in rules allowing states to enroll members. Odisha state branch also requested for waiver of Income tax and Toll charges on highways. It was agreed that matter will be taken up at appropriate level and the Nhq. will write to the Income tax department and Transport department.
3. Manipur state branch raised the issue of pending reimbursement of DREF expenditure and it was decided that the pendency will be liquidated within a month.
4. Tamil Nadu state branch desired that Youth Red Cross and Junior Red Cross Syllabus be introduced in schools and colleges. Chairman Tamil Nadu state branch volunteered to forward a draft proposal to Nhq. which can be sent to Ministry of Human Resource Development. On the issue of revising budget of WASH programme it was decided that Odisha, Tamil nadu and Uttarakhand state branches will discuss the financial structure of WASH programme with Advisor (DM) .Tamil Nadu state branch offered to conduct regional conference of southern region at Tamil Nadu.
5. Sikkim state branch flagged the problem of paucity of funds. Secretary General advised that affluent branches such as Gujarat state branch, may advise branch on how to raise funds.
6. Punjab Red Cross informed that funding of Irish Red Cross supported TB project is being stopped.Punjab was assured by SG of 80% project funding from Nhq. Punjab Red Cross also requested for amendments of branch rules. SG informed about constitution of a committee to look into it.
7. Karnataka and Uttarakhand state branches desired that weightage be given to JRC members in getting admissions for higher studies. They were informed that this would be taken up at appropriate level with MHRD on receipt of formal proposal from states.
8. Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Tripura state branch informed pendency in reimbursement for DM Prog. while J&K, Maharashtra and UP state branches informed delay in disbursal of working advance. They were assured this will be sorted out within a month.
9. Meghalaya and UP state branches expressed the need of uniform HR policy.

10. Andhra Pradesh state branch requested for IT support for Blood Bank and Social media.

11. It was also decided that 16 hour training of First Aid could be spread over to any number of days but not less than 3 days.

### **Discussion on Centenary Celebration**

Later during the day suggestions were invited for centenary celebrations. The states suggested a variety of activities like establishment of souvenir shop, special session at Rashtrapati Bhawan, Establishment of Red Cross Haat, organization of International Youth festival, Rallies, quizzes, seminars, debates, involvement of celebrities like film stars and sportspersons as ambassadors, Red Cross pledge, flags, badges, t- shirts, cultural programmes, theme song, Run for Red Cross etc. A committee for brainstorming and action on Centenary Celebration was constituted. The participants who volunteered for committee include:

- a) Mrs. Chhaya Shukla, Chairperson, Uttarakhand
- b) Sh. Harish Metha, Chairman, Tamil Nadu
- c) Major (Dr.) Kalpana Das, Secretary, Odisha
- d) Dr. Parkash Parmar, General Secretary, Gujarat
- e) Dr. R N Deokota, Secretary, Sikkim

It was also decided that Sh. N K Singh, Deputy Secretary, IRCS, Nhq shall be the convener of the committee.

### **Presentation on “ Working as One Indian Red Cross”**

Discussion on centenary celebration was followed by a session on Working as One Indian Red Cross during which states offered suggestions for fund raising like Red Cross Souvenir shop, increase in number of membership, FA training to be made mandatory for those seeking vehicle licence, negotiations with Industries and PSUs, benchmarking like ISO certification, donation boxes etc. Suggestions were also invited on branding of IRCS and states suggested for Red Cross message on backside of railway tickets, standardized design of relief material bearing Red Cross emblem, standardized letter head, standardized website, interlinking of websites, use of social media etc.

A committee in this regard was constituted to take the agenda forward with Mr. Manish Choudhary, Deputy Secretary, IRCS Nhq. Committee consists of following:

- a) Ms. T Y Das, Chairperson, Assam
- b) Mr. S Balasubramanyam, General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh
- c) Mr. T B Sakloth, General Secretary, Maharashtra

d) Sh. C S Talwar, Secretary, Punjab

#### **Discussion on Finalization of Criteria for assessment**

Criteria for best performing branches and Blood Bank was presented by Dr. Vanshree Singh, Director (BB). The proposals circulated were discussed and necessary changes were made. Amended and finalized criteria have been circulated by post. Further Secretary General once again emphasized the need of accreditation of Blood Banks and Training Centres and announced those blood banks which get NABL/NABH accreditation in 6 months will get reward of INR One lakh each from Nhq. It was also announced that the blood banks which score highest as per the criteria decided shall be given cash prize of Rs. 50 lac, 40 lac, 30 lac, 20 lac and 10 lac respectively in accordance with their score.

#### **DAY 2- 8.3.2019 (Friday)**

##### **Recap of Day 1**

#### **Discussion on SERV Programme**

There was a presentation on expansion of SERV programme and suggestions were sought from states. It was decided that participants for volunteer training would be drawn both from colleges as well as community. The strength of one batch of trainees would be 30-40 candidates and cost of training of one batch would be Rs. 20,000/-. Certificates of training conducted at district level would be issued only by states. National Headquarter will fund 80% of the cost of programme and would release 50% of Nhq. share as advance, 40% of Nhq. share will be released on receipt of completion certificate and remaining 10% will be released after receiving Utilisation Certificate verified by CA. SG desired that training of Master Trainers should start immediately at 5 designated locations.

#### **Discussion on Strategic Development plan- 2030**

There was discussion on Strategic Development Plan- 2030 and few states informed that they have already drafted state strategic development plan aligned with National SDP.

During extended discussions states offered to contribute important archive photographs and videos for gallery to be established at IRCS (Nhq.). SG deputed Sh N K Singh, DS to collect material from states for establishment of gallery. SG asked the states to send list of various departments, organisations and PSUs so that a DO letter may be sent to them informing if they require FA training to be imparted to their staff they may contact IRCS state branches. Mr. Manish Choudhary, DS was deputed by SG to facilitate this activity.

Further SG desired that states should start sending soft copy of membership data. States were informed that they will get state login within one week to enter membership data online. It was also decided that volunteer data entry shall be done at the district level. This shall be verified by the state/UT branch before being published. It was also agreed that if states are not able to send membership data within six months of enrollment, Nhq. would not be able to issue certificates.

A list of five priority relief item was finalized consisting of 1) Tarpaulin 2) Durries 3) Kitchen sets 4) Hygiene Kit and 5) Buckets. Gujarat and West Bengal state branches were requested to speak with manufacturers of Tarpaulin and ask for bulk donation of items bearing logo of donor and Indian Red Cross Society. Similarly Haryana was deputed to detain donation of Durries, Maharashtra and Haryana for Kitchen sets, Uttarakhand and Gujarat for Hygiene Kits and Maharashtra for buckets.

In the closing section Mr. Leon Prop, Head, Country Cluster, IFRC and Mr. Yves Heller, Acting Head of Regional Delegation, ICRC appreciated IRCS for all its endeavours and Secretary General thanked all participants for their active participation and meaningful discussions.

Annexure 'A'

State & UT Branches

- 1 - Mr. Subhash T. Salkar, General Secretary, Goa
- 2 - Dr. R. Thulasi Dasan, Hon. General Secretary, Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- 3 - Mrs. Prashanth Chandrashekar, General Secretary, Karnataka
- 4 - Sh. Tushar Kanti Chakraborty, Hon. General Secretary, Tripura.
- 5 - Dr. N V Kamal, Hon. General Secretary, Delhi.
- 6 - Dr. Prakash Parmar, General Secretary, Gujarat.
- 7 - Mr. Ashok M. Shila, Deputy Secretary, Gujarat
- 8 - Sh. M. S Rather, General Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir.
- 9 - Sh. Diganta Bujarbaruah, General Secretary, Assam.
10. Dr. Y. Mohen Singh, General Secretary, Manipur.
11. Mr. Balmukund Dubey, Chattisgarh
12. Sh. S Balasubramanyam, General Secretary, Andhra Pradesh.
13. Prof. V. Gopal, Chairman, Puducherry.
14. Ms. Diana E Kharsiing, General Secretary, Meghalaya.
15. Sh. Kuldip Singh Moondra, General Secretary, Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
16. Sh. D R Sharma, Secretary, Haryana
17. Sh. K Madan Mohan Rao, Secretary, Telangana.
18. Nagina Sharma, General Secretary, Bihar.
19. Dr. Chhaya Shukla, Chairperson, Uttarakhand.
20. Major (Dr.) Kalpana Das, Secretary, Odisha.
21. Sh. T B Sakloth, General Secretary, Maharashtra
22. Sh. Muraleedharan V. P., Chairman, Kerala.
23. Syed Nasiruddin, General Secretary, West Bengal.
24. Sh. C R Das, Chairman, West Bengal.
25. Sh. C S Talwar, Secretary, Punjab.
26. Mr. Leon Prop, Head Country Cluster, IFRC.
27. Mr. Yves Heller, Head of Regional Delegation, ICRC.
28. Ms. T Y Das, Chairperson, Assam

29. Dr. R N Deokota, Secretary, Sikkim.

30. MSM Nasiruddin, General Secretary, Tamil Nadu

31. Sh. Harish Metha, Chairman, Tamil Nadu

IRCS (Nhq.)

1. Sh. R K Jain, Secretary General.
2. Dr. Veer Bhushan, Joint Secretary.
3. Dr. Vanshree Singh, Director Blood Bank.
4. Sh. Manish Choudhary, Deputy Secretary
5. Sh. N K Singh, Deputy Secretary.
6. Ms. Bindu Aggarwal, Faculty, DM
7. Ms. Rina Tripathi, Advisor, DM
8. Ms. Shikha Chopra, ISD Manager
9. Ms. Utplakshi Kaushik, First Aid Manager