Indian Red Cross Society, Karnataka State Branch wishes HAPPY AND HEALTHY DEEPAVALI to all its members, staff, frontline Corona Warriors and volunteers, who are striving to reach the last person in the community.

I am feeling very proud and glad that many Indian Red Cross Society District and Taluka Branches celebrated this year Deepavali festival by providing timely assistance to the families affected by Covid-19 Pandemic and North-Karnataka floods-2020. We at Indian Red Cross Society, Karnataka State Branch stresses upon the importance of psychosocial care during Covid-19 Pandemic to the infected and affected people as on how to stay strong and positive during the difficult situation to quote an example SERV volunteers of Indian Red Cross Society-Ballari District Branch done an exemplary work by visiting the hospitals and providing psychosocial care to Covid-19 patients.

As we are in the relief phase, post Disaster assessment should be compulsorily conducted to analyze the extremity of the situation, so that we can mobilize the funds and resources to re-stabilize the losses occurred due to disasters.

The entire world is battling with Climate change, it is the need of hour to develop Social Emergency Response Volunteers in more numbers to analyze the situations, to build resilience among the communities with this intention Indian Red Cross Society-Karnataka State Branch is committed in developing more number of volunteers under SERV in the districts of Karnataka.

Let’s join together with IRCS, KSB in this fight to build back communities and families at this moment and to make them much more stronger, resilient, peaceful World for the generations to come.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Masks

Why should people wear masks?
Masks are a key measure to suppress transmission and save lives. Masks reduce potential exposure risk from an infected person whether they have symptoms or not. People wearing masks are protected from getting infected. Masks also prevent onward transmission when worn by a person who is infected.

Masks should be used as part of a comprehensive ‘Do it all!’ approach including: physical distancing, avoiding crowded, closed and close-contact settings, improving ventilation, cleaning hands, covering sneezes and coughs, and more.

Medical masks are recommended for the following groups:

- All health workers in clinical settings. See our guidance for more information on the use of personal protective equipment by health care workers.
- Anyone who is feeling unwell, including people with mild symptoms, such as muscle aches, slight cough, sore throat or fatigue.
- People caring for suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 outside of health facilities.
- People aged 60 or over.
- People of any age with underlying health conditions, including: chronic respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer, obesity, immunocompromised patients and diabetes mellitus.

Non-medical, fabric masks are advised for use by the general public when physical distancing cannot be maintained, as part of a comprehensive ‘Do it all!’ approach, including improving ventilation; cleaning hands; covering sneezes and coughs, and more.

Source: WHO
**Stock Availability, IRCS, KSB, Blood Center.**

Update from 1st November to 15th November 2020.

- Units Collected: 654
- Units issued: 597

Units available as on 21.11.2020
- 47 units of PRBC
- 397 units of FFP
- 6 units of PC
- 0 units of CRYO

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IRCS-Kundapura Taluka Branch: Sri. Jayakar Shetty Chairman, IRCS Kundapura Taluka Branch was honoured by the Udupi District Administration for organising more number of voluntary blood donation camps in the district. District Commissioner of Udupi and Chief Executive Officer of Udupi were present during the program.

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IRCS-Vijayapura District Branch: Members of the IRCS Vijayapura District Branch visited the Belagumba Speech and Hearing Residential School, run by the IRCS Tumkur District Branch, and the members observed the best practices adopted by the IRCS Tumkur District Branch for the welfare of children with special abilities.
Indian Red Cross Society-Belgaum District Branch in collaboration with Department of information and Public relation organized National Cancer Awareness Day and felicitated Corona Warriors, who served at the front line and worked 24/7 during Covid-19 National lockdown to assist the local administration in the relief operations.

IRCS Ballari District Branch: Social Emergency Response Volunteers of Ballari District branch are doing commendable job in serving the people, who are infected and affected by Covid-19 pandemic. They are conducting Psychosocial care and Basic First Aid camps. Basic First Aid camps as on how to do the bandaging and how to handle the small injuries. WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) camps were conducted to sensitize communities on hand washing and basic hygiene.

IRCS Raichur District: Mask & Soaps were distributed among the diploma cooperative Management students at Tagore B.Ed College Hall, Raichur on 15 November 2020.

IRCS Chittapur Taluka Branch: Indian Red Cross Society, Kalburgi District branch had provided and assisted Chittapur Taluk branch by providing the relief materials, Kitchen sets, Tarpaulin sheets and Mosquito Nets were distributed to the Chittapur flood affected families and visibility Red jackets were given to the volunteers and members who are involved in the relief operations.

IRCS Belgaum District Branch: Indian Red Cross Society-Belgaum District Branch in collaboration with Rani Channamma University has provided Soaps and Facemasks to the Rani Channamma university staff, security guards and helpers for the protection of their safety and hygiene.

IRCS Belgaum District Branch volunteer, Distributed soaps and masks to Gharkul old age home inmates and oriented them on importance of personal hygiene especially during this Covid-19 Pandemic.

@ircskarnataka
**IRCS-Shimoga District Branch:** Training Police officers of the Rank inspectors on Life Saving Skills and First Aid during Emergencies. Police personnel are the First Responders in any Emergencies or mass casualty, training them and sensitizing them on Emergency Response will help in saving lives. This training program held on 6th and 7th of November 2020. Dr. Kumar VLS Vice-Chairman of IRCS, KSB participated as trainer and Mr. Devaraja A. SERV volunteer facilitated the training.

**IRCS-Mysore District:** Mysore District Red Cross in coordination with University of Mysore organised Covid-19 test and distribution of mask to beneficiaries, staff of the St. Philomena College, Mysuru on 13 November 2020, at 9-30 am.
To minimize Disasters, Indian Red Cross Society with the support of its partners ICRC and IFRC embarked on a program to develop a cadre of First Medical Responders (FMR’s) at District level in most Disaster prone states of the country.

The concept behind this initiative has been to develop preparedness and resilience at the community level, the program was first piloted in the year 2011 in the state of Karnataka. In the 2018, SERV was implemented in the Karnataka State.

**Objectives of SERV**
- Act as First Responders in times of Emergencies
- Sensitize the community to make them more resilient to Disasters to which the community is vulnerable.
- Facilitate linkages between the community and the Government programs.

**Principles of SERV**
- Provide immediate relief and response to the affected communities before additional support from the Government and other agency arrives.
- Reduce vulnerabilities of the community by training the community on First Aid, Hygiene promotion etc.,
- Conduct Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment of their own communities.
- Support any other identified issues that contribute to the development of the communities.

**Practices of SERV**
- Community understands their problems and opportunities than anyone else.
- Community is more interested to understand their problems than anyone else.
- Community is the key stakeholder for development of the country, hence it has to participate for their own development.
- Local communities are capable of initiating and sustaining their own community development.

The above districts were selected on the vulnerability profile and flood assessment in the districts of Karnataka.

In the year 2020, SERV scale up was initiated which aimed to cover 1000 SERV volunteers per district i.e. by selecting 5 districts initially for 03 months.

**About Social Emergency Response Volunteer (SERV)**

To minimize Disasters, Indian Red Cross Society with the support of its partners ICRC and IFRC embarked on a program to develop a cadre of First Medical Responders (FMR’s) at District level in most Disaster prone states of the country.

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The team of IRCS, Bagalkote District Branch, Karnataka, has been working tirelessly on the frontline of the COVID-19 relief and recovery response. Besides, 28,000 masks among migrant workers. 9,000 energy drinks and 2,000 soaps were distributed among the needy people in the district.

The district branch also mobilized 6 vehicles to disseminate information on COVID-19 safety precautions in 6 talukas namely Bagalkote, Bilagi, Badami, Hunagund, Mudhol, Jamakhandi, Rabakavi-Banagatti talukas in the district covering 104 Gram Panchayaths in the district.

40,000 handbills were distributed in the district to disseminate the accurate information among the general public.

**RED CROSS RESPONSE IN BAGALKOTE DISTRICT DURING COVID-19**

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- 40,000 handbills were distributed in the district to disseminate the accurate information among the general public.

**Assistance provided by IRCS, KSB**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Energy Drinks</td>
<td>9000 pkts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masks</td>
<td>2200 nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soaps</td>
<td>2000 nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarpaulin sheets</td>
<td>100 nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kitchen Sets</td>
<td>100 nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mosquito nets</td>
<td>100 nos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raincoats</td>
<td>25 nos</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RED CROSS RESPONSE IN BAGALKOTE DISTRICT DURING COVID-19

Every District and the Taluka Red Cross Branch have a crucial role to play in helping the vulnerable in public health emergency.
YOUTH RED CROSS IMPACT ON YOUNG MINDS

Youth Red Cross aims at

- Encouraging community service through training and education.
- Promoting international friendship with activities that cultivate a humanitarian spirit.
- Provides Technical support in the development of youth programs, fund-raising, identification of material and human resources.
- The Youth Red Cross Unit aims to have young people recognized by societal leadership as equal partners who address the needs of the most vulnerable.

The objectives of the Youth Red Cross is to teach younger the value of life and health, as well as the importance of respecting human dignity. The Youth Red Cross aims to teach its members to "Notice, Think and Act". It does so by providing activities relating to the following three areas: "Protecting of life and health" (protecting a human life regardless of race, ethnicity and/or religion, and promoting health and hygiene), "volunteer services" (community and humanitarian service) and "International Understanding and Friendship" (International sensitivity i.e. teaching youth how to be sensitive to and adaptable in other cultures).

PULSE OF YRC VOLUNTEER

I am privileged to work in this esteemed organisation as a youth volunteer and I am glad to share my experience which I Would wish to inspire many more youths to participate in this extremely adorable Indian Red Cross Society, Karnataka State Branch, Youth Red Cross Wing (YRC).

As a youth, it is very important to build a personality which includes passion, compassion, empathy, being decisive during critical times, to serve our nation with good deeds and evolve as a good leader who could make a positive impact on others life.

YRC has given me a beautiful platform to showcase about myself. Being Volunteer inspires me to involve myself actively to new experiences which has created a great impact in my personality and has helped me to mould myself to be a responsible citizen and a great human being to forecast my compassion towards the vulnerable and needy. It has helped me to develop friendly, encouraging, environment around me and has strengthened my leadership skills to a great extent.

We are excited to share your thoughts in our fortnightly communique too!
We request, Red Cross members, volunteers / YRC Program Officers to share your experiences with us at yrckar@gmail.com +91 9538330511
"From start to finish, #RedCross is there to help and give assistance wherever and whenever we are needed."

After rescuing residents who were trapped during the floods, volunteers are back to help clear the streets of mud and debris.

#Myanmar #RedCross volunteers waiting for Myanmar nationals returning from #Thailand after released from Thai prison to provide #dignity kits, hygiene kits, clothes, and #cash for food and travel. A great way to welcome back migrants and help them stay safe & feel supported.

To ensure continuity of access to health services, #RedCross has installed an emergency medical tent beside Eastern Bicol Medical Center to be used as OPD and ER since the hospital's ER was also affected by #RollyPH.

#AlwaysFirstAlwaysReadyAlwaysThere

#Philippines #RedCross teams are working hard to meet the immediate needs of people affected by #TyphoonGoni even as another storm heads towards the same region.

Finding ways to reach the most vulnerable.

After Typhoon #RollyPH, the Philippine Red Cross, together with DPWH, took action to immediately clear roads of debris and make it accessible for assistance to reach communities and provide those affected with basic needs.
Handwashing
Proper hygiene stops the spread of the virus.

01
Wet your hands before applying soap.

02
Bring your palms together and rub soap all over the palms and backs of your hands, including between the fingers.

03
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.

04
Wipe your hands with a clean towel or paper towel and avoid rubbing too vigourously.

Keep Your Workplace Safe!

Practice good hygiene
- Stop hand shakes and use non-contact greeting methods
- Clean hands at the door and schedule regular hand washing reminders
- Disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, and desks regularly
- Avoid touching your face and cover your coughs and sneezes
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning

Limit meetings and non-essential travels
- Use video conferencing instead of face-to-face meetings
- When video calls are not possible, hold your meetings in well-ventilated rooms and spaces
- Suspend all non-essential travels and trips

Stay home if...
- You are feeling sick
- You have a sick family member at home

Take care of your emotional and mental well-being
Outbreaks are a stressful and anxious time for everyone. We’re here to support you! Reach out to irecskar@gmail.com anytime.

www.redcrosskarnataka.org
ಲೋಡುಗರು ತಮ ಅರ್ಮ ಸುಗಳನು ಪಚತಸ್ಕರಣಗಳನು ನಮಗಳಾಗಿ ಕಳಸಬಹುದು.

+91 9538330511

REPORTS IN NEWS PAPERS
Volunteers of IRCS Bagalkote District Branch

CONTACT US:
Indian Red Cross Society, Karnataka State Branch
#26, Red Cross Bhavan, 1st Floor, Race Course Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560001
Email: ircskar@gmail.com Ph: 080 -22264205
website: www.redcrosskarnataka.org