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INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY, PUNJAB STATE BRANCH, CHANDIGARH

Quarterly Newsletter - January to March, 2019



Bhai Ghanaiya Ji (Pre Cursor of the Spirit of Red Cross)

Main Activities

- 'A Tribute to Martyrs of Pulwama Attack': Organization of Mega Blood Donation Camp
- CSR initiative: Max India Foundation comes forward and joins hands with Red Cross to mitigate the human sufferings
- 1322 patients get benefitted through health check-up & screening camps under TB Project
- Celebration of 'Red Cross Volunteer Enrolment Day'
- National Youth Exchange
 Programme
- A Boost to "Save Water" Campaign
- Finance Committee Meeting held on 26.03.2019

Other Activities

- Social Service Camps
- Drug-de-addiction Centres of Punjab Red Cross
- First Aid Training
- Ambulance & Funeral Van Services
- Organization of blood donation camps
- Meeting held with Secretaries of District Red Cross Branches, Punjab

OF ROSES INTO 'A TRIBUTE TO MARTYRS OF PULWAMA ATTACK'

PUNJAB RED CROSS COMES FORWARD AND CONVERTS THE FESTIVAL

Holds a Mega Blood Donation Camp

Every year, the Rose festival is held in Chandigarh in which thousands of visitors come to enjoy the beauty of Rose Garden, Chandigarh. During this year, the rose festival was held from 22nd to 24th Feb 2019. To get the benefit of the occasion, the State Secretary held a meeting with the officials of Punjab Red Cross and decided to organize a mega blood donation camp to pay tributes to the martyrs of Pulwama Attack in J & K. Thus, Punjab State Red Cross Branch came forward and converted the festival of roses in to Tribute to the martyrs of Pulwama attack (j & K) by organization of a 3 days mega blood donation camp in Swami Vivekananda Hall of Punjab Red Cross Bhawan. The camp was organized in collaboration and cooperation of Haryana State Red Cross Branch and NGO namely "Sri Shiv Kanwad Mahasangh Charitable Trust

(Regd.), Panchkula".

It is not out of place to mention here that the various blood donors (visitors of Rose festival) took active part and donated their blood. Thus, 310 units of blood were collected in the said camp by the blood bank team from Civil Hospital. Sec-16A, Chandigarh. The said camp was held under the direct supervision of Deputy Secretary and with the valuable guidance of the State Secretary.

From time to time, Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), State Secretary and Sh. Harbans Singh Salh, Deputy Secretary, Punjab Red Cross Branch visited the camp site and examined the activities being held. The staff of Punjab Red Cross worked day & night to make this mega camp a success. The State Branch presented certificates and mementoes to all the blood donors and some food items as refreshment were also given to them.







Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), Secretary, Punjab Red Cross Branch and Sh. D. R. Sharma, General Secretary, Haryana Red Cross Branch examining the activities during Blood Donation Camp







<u>CSR – INITIATIVE BY PUNJAB RED CROSS</u>

Max India Foundation comes forward and joins hands with Red Cross to mitigate the human sufferings



Punjab State Red Cross Branch is running four drug-de-addiction centres at Patiala (30 bedded), Gurdaspur (30 Bedded), S.B.S. Nagar (15 bedded) and Khanpur, Mohali (15 bedded) with 75% grant-in-aid received from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India, New Delhi. Thousands of patients have been treated by these Drug De-addiction Centres since inspection from 1991-92.

As advised by Hon'ble Governor, Punjab, Punjab State Red Cross Branch is approaching various cooperative Bodies to persuade them to perform their CSR Duties for strengthening Red Cross activities. In this regard, Max India Foundation, Noida was contacted by Punjab State Red Cross Branch. They came forward and decided to donate Rs.20 lacs immediately to Red Cross Society to under-

Organization of blood donation camps

To boost up the voluntarily blood donation movement, the State Red Cross Branch organized 17 blood donation camps other than mega blood donation camp (3 days camp) from Jan to Mar 2019 . These camps were organized with the support and cooperation of other NGOs. During the quarter, we have collected total 1466 units of blood which included 310 blood units collected in mega blood donation camp from 22 - 24 Feb, **2019 at Punjab Red Cross Bhawan, Chd**. take its humanitarian services to mitigate human sufferings especially for up-gradation of Red Cross Drug-De-Addiction centres in general & Patiala in particular. Max India was requested that beginning may be made from Drug-de-addiction centre, Patiala. In addition to that, they have assured that in near future, an ambulance van may also be donated to Red Cross by Max India Foundation. They also promised that such donations will continue in future also.

Max India Foundation and Punjab State Red Cross Branch are going to sign an MOU under which Artificial Limbs may be provided to the needy. The financial burden on that will be borne by Max India Foundation. Facilitation and liaison with the beneficiaries will be done by Punjab State Red Cross.

In this connection, Mrs. Mohini Daljeet Singh, the CEO of Max India Foundation visited the Punjab Red Cross office and held a meeting with Shri C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd), State Secretary on 27th Feb, 2019. On her arrival, she was welcomed by the State Secretary.

During the meeting, detailed discussions about utilization of Rs. 20 lacs given by Max India Foundation were held. It was decided that the

First Aid Training

The importance of First Aid Training can't be over emphasized. It is a well known fact that a trendy First Aid helps in saving thousands of life. Punjab State Branch of Indian Red Cross Society is imparting First Aid Training to employees of govt. as well as corporate sector, factory workers, Red Cross volunteers, school and college students etc. During the quarter, we have imparted First Aid Training to 619 persons of various organizations. Drug De-addiction Centre at Patiala may be upgraded in the first instance. The State Secretary informed that we propose to provide new treatment and recreational facilities to inmates of the Centre by developing the play grounds, renovation of existing structure of the building and to provide modern sanitary facilities etc.

The State Secretary informed that a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner-cum-Chairman of District Drug De-addiction Society, Patiala was held on 19th February, 2019 to chalk out an action plan to upgrade the de-addiction services being provided at Red Cross Drug De addiction Centre, Saket Hospital, Patiala. The DC, Patiala assured to send rough estimates for up-gradation of DDC in due course of time.

Shri C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd), Secretary, Punjab State Red Cross Branch informed the CEO, Max India Foundation that the DC, Patiala has sent estimates of Rs. 37 lacs for the purpose as a part of the project improvement. On her departure from Red Cross, Mrs. Mohini Daljeet Singh, CEO, Max India Foundation was honoured with a token of love and respect by Red Cross.

Ambulance & Funeral Van Services

Punjab State Red Cross Branch has a fleet of 7 (seven) Ambulances. We have AC as well as Non AC Ambulances which provide 24x7 hours Services at very subsidized Rates. Each Ambulance is provided with First Aid Box & First Aid Trained Staff. From Jan to Mar, 2019, the total number of beneficiaries were 97. Similarly, we also serve the Society by providing funeral van services. A fleet of 3 (three) Funeral Vans are available at subsidized rates. The number of beneficiaries during the quarter were 57.

NATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

A very graceful & colorful, 7 days National Youth Exchange Programme was organized by Punjab State Red Cross Branch from 30th Dec, 2018 to 6th Jan 2019 at Rayat & Bahra University, Ropar in which 9 States and 12 Districts from different parts of Punjab State participated by sending their students, volunteers, artists, counsellors and delegates. The programme was marked by contests and competitions of quiz written, cultural dance, folk dance, group dance, patriotic folk song competition & group songs, declamation contest, paper reading contest & poster making competition etc. S. Amarjit Singh, State Coordinator, YRC, was the Camp Director while Sh. Kulwinder Singh, Sr. Assistant was the Assistant Camp Director. All the activities were held under their supervision.

<u>OBJECTIVES OF CAMP</u>: To give boost to - Spirit of National Integration, Service to Humanity & Save Water.

A very colorful grand function was organized on 1st Jan, 2019 to inaugurate this camp in which Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna, National Vice-chairman, IRCS NHQs, New Delhi was the Chief Guest. On the arrival, the Chief Guest, Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna, National Vice-chairman, IRCS NHQs, New Delhi was received Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), Secretary, Sh. R.C.Rana, Deputy Secretary (O) & S. Amarjit Singh, State Coordinator cum Camp Director from Punjab Red Cross. They were accompanied by Sh. Gurvinder Singh Bahra, Chancellor, Sh. Daljit Singh, VC, Rayat & Bahra University and Floral welcome of the Chief Guest was done by the Red Cross Volunteers. At the same time a brief introduction of the volunteers came from various States was also done.

Sh. A. R. Khanna, the Chief Guest along with Sh. Gurvinder Singh Bahra, Chancellor, Prof. Daljit Singh, VC, Rayat & Bahra University and Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), State Secretary, Punjab Red Cross took a round of exhibition set up by students/ volunteers came from various States & Districts of Punjab.



The Red Cross Flag was hoisted by the Chief Guest. After flag hoisting, the Chief Guest alongwith other VIPs and volunteers took Oath on "Junior Red Cross". Sh. A. R. Khanna, National Vice Chairman, IRCS, NHqs, Sh. Gurvinder Bahra, Chancellor, RBU, Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), Secretary, Punjab State Red Cross Branch and Sh. Daljit Singh, VC, RBU paid tributes at the feet of great personalities i.e. Sir Jean Henry Dunant (Founder of Red Cross), Bhai Ghanaiya Ji (the Precursor of Spirit of Red Cross) and Swami Vivekananda (Pioneer of Indian Youth). Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), State Secretary, Red Cross welcomed Sh. A. R. Khanna, National Vice Chairman and other VIPs and presented them bouquets.



The function started with SHABAD "DEH SIVA VAR MOHE" presented by the students of Mata Sahib Kaur Public School, Swara (S.A.S. Nagar).

Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd), State Secretary said that it is a matter of great pleasure to welcome the Chief Guest of the Day, Sh. A. R. Khanna, National Vice-Chairman, IRCS, NHQs, Sh. Gurvinder Bahra, Chanceller, RBU and other dignitaries. In the last but not least he also welcomed the dearest young boys & girls volunteers from various States of India and districts of Punjab who have arrived in this Youth Exchange Programme. He called the volunteers –'The Young Hopes of India'.

Speaking about the Chief Guest, Sh. Talwar said that Sh. A. R. Khanna Ji is a very kind hearted man and a very pure soul who is always ready for service to humanity. He said that it is our good-luck that we have a working Vice-Chairman like him. He combines so many qualities like a visionary leader, philosopher, guide & a friend. Under his inspirational guidance, Red Cross has taken many new initiatives. He said that Sh. A. R. Khanna Ji has a vision to impart First-Aid-Training to 30% Population of Punjab. Under his able guidance, our First-Aid-Training increased many times in the last five years. He thanked Sh. Gurvinder Bahra, Chancellor and Sh. Daljit Singh, VC, RBU for their cooperation & support provided to organize this function in their University premises. Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd), State Secretary presented a brief report on the multifarious welfare activities and Projects undertaken by Punjab State Red Cross Branch in the State. In the end, he appreciated S. Amarjit Singh, State Coordinator (JRC) cum Camp Director, Sh. Kulwinder Singh, Sr. Assitt cum Assitt Camp Director and their team of officials from Red Cross for their efforts to organize this 7 days camp-National Youth

Exchange Program. The youth volunteers from Jammu & Kashmir presented a welcome song. While addressing the audience, Sh. Gurvinder Singh Bahra, Chancellor, RBU appreciated the efforts of Punjab State Red Cross Branch for organizing this National level event in Rayat & Bahra University. He assured that they will provide all possible help & cooperation for providing homely atmosphere to the participants. He especially thanked the Secretary, Punjab Red Cross Branch for providing them an opportunity to host this National Youth Exchange Program. He also thanked the Chief Guest, Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna, Vice Chairman, IRCS, NHQ for sparing his valuable time and gracing the occasion. Speaking about the 'Save Water' issue, he informed that initially the ground water level at University Premises was about 150-200 feet but at present this level has gone upto 1200-1400 feet which a matter of great concern for creating awareness among the community to save water for our future.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Guest, Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna, National Vice Chairman of Indian Red Cross Society welcomed the youth volunteers, counsellors and other VIPs present over there. While



appreciating the efforts of Punjab State Red Cross Branch for organizing this National Youth Exchange Programme, he said that the Red Cross volunteers are the backbone of Red Cross Society. Today all of you (volunteers) are unknown but during this camp, you all would be friends. He advised the youth volun-



teers to learn and interact with the volunteers of other States to have knowledge regarding their culture, food & life style etc which is the main objective for organizing this interstate junior Red Cross Camp. He suggested that each State should try to learn about three great personalities, three important historical places, three important events of each State. During his speech, Sh. A. R. Khanna specially stressed upon 'Save Water'. While presenting vote of thanks, Sh. Daliit Singh, Vice-Chancellor, RBU conveyed his sincere thanks to Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna, National Vice-Chairman, IRCS, NHQs. He conveyed special thanks to Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), State Secretary, Punjab Red Cross to choose RBU for holding this national camp in their campus. In the end, he thanked the staff members of Punjab State Red Cross Branch who made all possible efforts to organize this function and the youth volunteers who came from various States & Districts of Punjab. He said that they are grateful to get this honour of holding this camp in their campus.

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CELEBRATION OF 'RED CROSS VOLUNTEER ENROLMENT DAY'



As per resolution passed by the National Managing Body of Indian Red Cross Society held on 29.03.2016 at New Delhi (Agenda item no. 35) and also the decision taken by the Managing Body of Punjab State Red

Cross Branch in its meeting held on 14.06.2016 (Agenda item no.6), the 12th January being the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda Ji is being celebrated as 'Red Cross Volunteer Enrolment Day' by all the State/UT Red Cross Branches.

In the light of said decision, Punjab State Red Cross Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society celebrated the day in a befitting manner on 22.01.2019. A very significant and colorful function was organized in the Swami Vivekananda Training Hall of Punjab Red Cross in which Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal, Vice Chairman, Haryana Red Cross was the Chief Guest, Sh. Jagdish Mittal, IPS, I.G., Punjab (Retd.) as Special Guest and Sh. Vishal Jain, Managing Director, Safali International School, Ludhiana was the Guest of Honour.

In the beginning of the function, the Chief Guest, other VIPS and Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.), Secretary, Punjab State Red Cross Branch paid tributes to the great Indian Personalities like - Bhai Ghanaiya Ji who is known as Precursor of spirit of Red Cross in India and Swami Vivekananda Ji, Indian Youth Icon and Sir Jean Henry Dunant, the founder of Red Cross. Mrs. Manju Talwar, Sh. R. C. Rana, Deputy Secretary and Dr. R. P. Verma, State Consultant, were also present at the occasion.

After paying tributes to the great personalities, all the VIPs were welcomed and they were presented bouquets by the State Secretary.

A 'Shabad' was presented by the students of Guru Gobind Singh Vidya Mandir, Ratwara Sahib, district Mohali.

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE STATE SECRETARY

In his address, Sh. C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd.),

State Secretary welcomed the chief guest, Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal, VC, Haryana Red Cross, Sh. Jagdish Mittal,



(Retd.) our Special Guest and Sh. Jain, Managing Director, Safali International School, Ludhiana, our guest of honour. After

IPS, IG, Punjab

this, Sh. Talwar, narrated the life and teachings of Swami Vivekananda Ji and he also explained about how 'Swami Vivekananda Ji' worked to uplift the downtrodden.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal conveyed his best wishes to Punjab State Red Cross Branch for celebrating the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda Ji as 'National Youth Volunteer Day'. Speaking on the occasion, he narrated about the greatness of Swami Ji. He also shared some incidents of his childhood.

Dr. Mukesh Aggarwal also appreciated multifarious welfare activities being undertaken and the projects being run by Punjab State Red Cross Branch.

ENROLMENT OF PATRONS/LIFE MEMBERS/VOLUNTEERS

The State Secretary announced that on this special occasion, Punjab Red Cross enrolled 6 Patrons, 2 life members and about 45 Red Cross volunteers. <u>CULTURAL PROGRAM</u>

The volunteers from Shafali International School, Ludhiana, Punjab presented 3 patriotic songs like- 1. 'Hum Us Desh Ke Wasi Hai' 2. 'Na Sar Jhuka K Jiyo Na mooh Chhipa Ke Jio' and 3. 'Jab Zero diya mere Bharat Ne' which were dedicated to Swami Vivekananda Ji. These were highly appreciated by the audience. There was a huge round of applause in the hall when the volunteers ended their presentation. The volunteer namely, Vedant from Shaifali International School who played the role of Swami Vivekananda Ji in this presen-



tation was also highly appreciated by the audience.

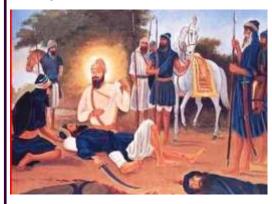
MOTIVATIONAL SPEECHES: DONA-TION OF HUMAN ORGANS

During this function, the various resource persons motivated the youths through their speeches. Ms. Neha Sharma from MOHAN Foundation gave a lecture and made the audience aware about donation of human organ. She told that we can save the precious life by donating our organs like-heart, kidney, eyes, lungs etc. Similarly, a student from Rayat & Bahra University presented a talk on Chicago Convention and its historical background. The vote of thanks was presented by Sh. R. C. Rana, Deputy Secretary, Punjab State Red Cross Branch. All the participants who took active part in this function were given awards by Punjab State Red Cross Branch.



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Punjab Red Cross comes forward to serve the Pilgrims of Maghi Mela at Sri Muktsar Sahib (Pb.)



ABOUT THE MELA:

Maghi is the occasion when Sikhs commemorate the sacrifice of forty Sikhs, who fought for Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

Maghi, Makara Sankranti, the first day of the month of Magh. The eve of Maghi is the common Indian festival. For Sikh community, Maghi means primarily the festival at Muktsar, a district town of the Punjab, in commemoration of the heroic fight of the Chali Mukte, literally, the Forty Liberated Ones, who laid down their lives warding off an attack by an imperial army marching in pursuit of Guru Gobind Singh Ji. The action took place on 29th Dec, 1705 near a pool of water, Khidrane di Dhab . The bodies were cremated the following day, the first of Magh (hence the name of the festival), which now falls usually on 13th of January.

On the eve of Maghi, the largest assembly of pilgrims takes place at Muktsar (Punjab) where big fairs are organized and pilgrims take a holy dip in the sacred waters of 'Sarovar' and also visit several shrines.

ROLE OF RED CROSS:-

In the last year, a meeting of Secretaries of District Red Cross Branches was held under the Chairmanship of Shri C. S. Talwar, IAS (Retd), Secretary, Punjab State Red Cross Branch at Red Cross Bhawan, Sector-16-A, Chandigarh. In the meeting it was decided that the State Branch in collaboration with all the District Red Cross Branches will provide services to the visiting pilgrims during the Melas by setting up of First Aid Posts in collaboration with District Administration, Health Department and District Red Cross Branches in their respective areas. **RED CROSS AT THE SERVICE OF PIL-**GRIMS:-

In order to provide services to the visiting pilgrims, Punjab State Red Cross Branch in collaboration with District Administration, District Health Department and District Red Cross Branch, Sri Muktsar Sahib, Fazilka & Ferozepur organized Social Service Camp by setting up of



8 (eight) First Aid Posts in the Mela area alongwith Ambulance vans. Support & cooperation was taken from various District Branches like – Sri Muktsar Sahib, Fazilka & Ferozepur. On these posts, Red Cross staff alongwith a team of 32 Red Cross volunteers provided day & night services to the visiting pilgrims. The medicines were provided free of cost by State as well as District Red Cross Branch, Sri Muktsar Sahib. 989 persons were examined and provided medicines from 13th to 14th January, 2019 at these First Aid Posts.

Social Service Camps during Shivratri & Holla Mohalla

On the occasion of **Maha- Shivratri**: In order to provide services to the visiting pilgrims, Punjab State Red Cross Branch in collaboration with Health Department, District Administration and District Red Cross Branch, Sangrur organized social service camp from 3rd to 4th March, 2019 by setting up of first-aid posts at village Ranike, distt Sangrur during Shivratri Mela. Thousands of pilgrims were examined and free medicines were given by Red Cross.

Holla Mohalla: The another social service camp was organized by Punjab State Red Cross Branch in collaboration with Health Department, District Administration and District Red Cross Branch, Roopnagar at Sri Anandpur Sahib during Holla Mohalla from 19th-21st March, 2019. During this 3 days camp 1,03,337 pilgrims were examined through 24 first-aid posts with 226 Red Cross volunteers . 52 injured persons were transported to the local hospitals and 18 lost children were restored to their parents.

Drug-de-addiction Centres of Punjab Red Cross

The Punjab Red Cross is running 4 drug-de-addiction centres at Khanpur, Patiala, S.B.S. Nagar & Gurdaspur. 102 indoor and 255 outdoor patients were treated during the quarter and 7497 persons were educated through 92 awareness camps. The progress of these 4 centres from Jan to Mar, 2019 is as under: -

Sr.	Name of DDC	Outdoor	Indoor	Total	Total awareness
No.		Patients	Patients		camps held
I	Patiala	112	129	241	49
2	Gurdaspur	571	90	661	23
3	SBS Nagar	186	50	236	15
4	Khanpur	58	60	118	05
		927	102	1256	92 camps

<u>1322 patients get benefitted through health check-up & screening camps held by Punjab Red</u> <u>Cross under TB Project and 31 hidden TB patients were identified during Jan to Mar 2019</u>

TB Project is being in implementation by Punjab Red Cross from Sept 2009. Tracing out of TB cases in slum areas is one of the most important activity of the ongoing TB Project which is being implemented in District Jalandhar & Amritsar.

In the month of March, 2019, 2 mega health check-up & screening camps were successfully organized to trace out hidden suspected TB cases in slum areas of district Amritsar (on Ialandhar 17.3.2019) & (on 26.3.2019). The concerned Civil Surgeons and District TB Control Program Officers provided their full cooperation. 1322 patients visited these camps, out of them 475 were suffering with chest problems. 13 patients of them were found as confirmed TB patients and they were put on DOTS treatment. At the spot x-ray facilities were also provided 90 patients in these camps.

During the quarter, the TB Project staff & volunteers conducted awareness meetings, went door-todoor and participated in outreach camps held under NHM to identify the TB suspects in the vulnerable community. After getting their sputum tested in the TB Centre, 18 confirmed TB

Finance Committee Meeting held on 26.3.2019

The Finance Committee meeting for the year 2019-20 of Punjab State Red Cross Branch was held on 26th Mar, 2019 under the Chairmanship of Sh. J. M. Bala Murghan, IAS, Principal Secretary to Governor of Punjab cum Chairman of Finance Committee of Punjab Red Cross Branch. In this meeting, budget for the year 2019-20 was approved and the agenda items were discussed in detail. cases were identified and they were also put on DOTS Treatment. Thus, we were successful in tracing out 31 confirmed TB cases in district Amritsar & Jalandhar. These hidden TB cases are responsible in further transmission of TB disease. In this way, we helped in control of further transmission of tuberculosis in the vulnerable community.

The other important activity of this project is to provide regular counselling, health education & nutritional care support to the poor TB patients. Under this activity, 322 patients were provided these services during the quarter in order to get their treatment completed without default.



These patients were also provided supplementary food items i.e. soyabean, milk, egg, rusk, chana etc on weekly basis in order to strengthen their early recovery and building up immunity. Out of 322 TB patients, 217 were cured till 31st March, 2019.

Ignorance about the tuberculosis is the major cause of spread of disease in the vulnerable community. In this regard, the project staff and the Red Cross volunteers held 25 Group meetings and 35 mohalla meetings to create awareness and disseminate the correct knowledge on tuberculosis in the unreached population. Besides, the project staff also participated in 7 nukkad natak shows & 4 magic shows arranged on tuberculosis by the District Health Department.



HIV Project at Saket Hospital, Patiala

The care & support centre is working at Saket Hospital, Patiala by the Punjab State Red Cross Branch, Chandigarh. This project is being sponsored by Hindustan Latex Family Planning Promotion Trust, Noida. Sarbat Da Bhala, Charitable Trust is providing their assistance in holding monthly camps for PLHIV. More than 360 clients were benefitted by them during the quarter. The other activities held during the quarter are mentioned below : -

- 1. Psychosocial support to 530 people living with HIV/AIDS
- 2. Families provided voluntary counselling & testing services = 70
- 3. No. of families provided Economical and Govt Social Welfare = 106
- 4. Group awareness meetings held in the community on HIV = 6
- 5. Flu Client Tracking =235 and back to ART =121
- 6. No. of clients newly registered at CSC= 215
- 7. No. of clients found with TB/HIV = 23

<u>A BOOST TO "SAVE WATER" CAMPAIGN</u>

During the National Youth Exchange Program at Rayat & Bahra University on 1st Jan 2019, Sh. A. R. Khanna emphasized the importance of Saving Water. He told the students of Rayat & Bahra University and the volunteers from various states that it is often said that the next world war would be fought on Water because the level of the water underneath is going lower & lower day-by-day. If we continue to waste water then there will be no water for our future generations. Sh. Khanna ji advised the audience to take only half glass of water instead of full which you can drink and don't waste even a single drop of this precious property. He asked the volunteers to take an oath that they won't waste water in future and will save every drop of water.

In the end, Sh. Avinash Rai Khanna ji also asked the volunteers to write their own views on 'Save Water' in the form of essay. He announced that the volunteers who would stand 1st, 2nd & 3rd would be awarded an appreciation certificate and cash prize sponsored by Parkash Rai Khanna Kushlya Devi Khanna Memorial Trust (Regd.) Garhshankar (Pb.). These 3 winners would be given: -

 1^{st} Position : Rs.1500/- + Appreciation certificate 2^{nd} Position : Rs.1000/- + Appreciation certificate 3^{rd} Position : Rs.500/- + Appreciation certificate

The specialty of the speech delivered by Sh. A. R. Khanna was that he made it interactive and participatory which gets an immediate response from the volunteers of various States.

The youth volunteers took the challenge sincerely & seriously. The essay writing competition was held 2nd Jan 2019 and the results were announced accordingly on 5th Jan 2019. The three winners -1st Position : Ms. Komal Rajan from Guru Gobind Singh Vidya Mandir, Ratwara Sahib (Pb), 2nd Position, Ms. Pratiksha from Govt Girls Senior Secondary School, Dhanana, Bhiwani (HR) & 3rd position, Ms. Ramandeep Kaur from Govt Girls Senior Secondary school, Railway Mandi, Hoshiarpur (Pb) were awarded by S. Shivdular Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner cum President, DRCS, Sri Fatehgarh Sahib who was the Chief Guest in the valedictory function of National Youth Exchange Program that is on 5th Jan 2019.



Ms. Komal Rajan from Guru Gobind Singh Vidya Mandir, Ratwara Sahib (Pb) – 1st Position, Ms. Pratiksha from Govt Girls Senior Secondary School, Dhanana, Bhiwani (HR) - 2nd Position and Ms. Ramandeep Kaur from Govt Girls Senior Secondary school, Railway Mandi, Hoshiarpur (Pb) - 3rd Position winners in essay writing competition on 'Save Water' were honored by S. Shivdular Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Sri Fatehgarh Sahib

Indian Red Cross Society, Punjab State Branch, Chandigarh
