

Proceedings of the meeting of the Annual General Meeting of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch held on 16th April, 2008 at 3.30 PM in Jaydev Bhavan, Bhubaneswar.

The Annual General Meeting of members of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch was held on 16th April, 2008 at 3.30 P.M. in Jaydev Bhawan, Bhubaneswar. His Excellency, the Governor, Orissa and the President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch presided over the meeting.

The list of participants is placed at Annexure-I.

Hon'ble Minister Health and Family Welfare and Chairman of the Working Committee & the Vice President extended warm welcome to His Excellency the Governor of Orissa and President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch, other Vice Presidents and Members present. He stated that the Orissa State Branch has completed 72 years in service of humanity in the State. The Red Cross movement is dedicated to this ideal through out the world. It is said that Red Cross endeavours to wipe out tears of all suffering human beings. Red Cross is working in 5 core areas—

1. Disaster Management
2. Disaster Preparedness
3. Health and Care
4. Promotion of Fundamental Principles and Humanitarian Values
5. Branch Development

Orissa State Branch has already earned a good name in the country. Specially it has excelled in enrolment of members, fund raising, disaster management and promotion of voluntary blood donation movement. The members, volunteers and the staff have positively contributed for significant achievement. In view of the global climate change, more disasters such as flood, cyclone etc. are expected in future and the role of Red Cross is assuming greater relevance. He called upon all District Branches to strengthen organization to face challenges ahead.

Thereafter, Honorary Secretary of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch delivered his introductory address. He presented a brief account of the activities of the State and District Branches in 5 core areas during 2006-07. He stated that overall achievement in membership enrolment and fund raising was satisfactory. The disaster preparedness and response activities of the State Branch were significant. The State and District Branches implemented the approved Annual Action Plan. The Branch Development which is key to the programme sustainability and improving the quality of humanitarian services was constantly monitored. Health and Care Services covered a wide range of activities. He stressed that Orissa is a multi hazard prone State. On account of global warming and climate change disasters are expected to increase. Therefore the relevance of Red Cross has been increased. The District Branches have to accept the challenge and respond in time with quality services. He also gave an overview of the activities for the year 2007-08.

Thereafter the Hon'ble Minister, School and Mass Education and the Vice President addressed the meeting. He thanked His Excellency the Governor of Orissa and President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch and others present for giving him an opportunity to be present in the meeting. He gave a brief account on the role of Junior Red Cross movement. He mentioned about the activities of Junior Red Cross in promotion of health and hygiene which included blood grouping and organization of health camps. He also mentioned about notable achievements of Junior Red Cross in social service campaign undertaken in various festivals. He also mentioned about participation of Junior Red Cross in Inter State Study-cum-Training Camps and the Counsellors Training Camps as a measure of organizational development and strengthening at the grass root level. He promised that support would be given to the Junior Red Cross to further their activities in the State.

Thereafter the Lady Vice President Dr. Saraswati Swain presented her address. She drew the attention to the danger of HIV/AIDS for which more awareness has to be created through Red Ribbon Clubs. She mentioned about awareness generation against girl child infanticide, which should receive attention. She suggested to improve

the health of girls. She welcomed the steps taken by the Youth Red Cross for the treatment of college students. She also suggested that if the Youth and College students can participate to serve the patients in the Hospitals it would alleviate their suffering to a great extent. Red Cross being a humanitarian organization should take up the work on priority basis. She also emphasized that health camps should be arranged in a particular place and at a particular time in a regular manner in order to achieve maximum benefit there-from.

Thereafter agenda items were taken into consideration.

Item No. 1 : Confirmation of the proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17th March, 2007

No comments and suggestions were received from any of the members on the proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17.3.07. The proceedings were confirmed.

Item No. 2 : Review of action taken on the proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17th March, 2007.

The action taken report on the proceedings of the last Annual General Meeting held on 17.3.07 was discussed in detail. The members appreciated that most of the decisions have been implement^{ed}. The report was accepted.

Item No. 3 : Presentation of the Annual Report for the year 2006/07 alongwith the Audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet showing assets and liabilities as on 31.3.2007 of the State Branch/ Youth Red Cross/ Junior Red Cross wings for consideration and adoption.

The Annual Report for the year 2006/2007 containing activities of the State and District Branches alongwith the Audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet showing

assets and liabilities as on 31.3.2007 of the all wings of the Orissa State Branch duly approved and recommended by the Executive Committee were adopted in the Annual General Meeting.

Item No. 4 : Any other matter with the permission of the President.

- (i) In pursuance of provisions of Rule 11 (f)(i) of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch Rules, 1990, 3 proposals were received duly signed by not less than 4 members. These were discussed as follows

1. Sri Rabi Narayan Mishra and 6 others

They proposed for

- i) Establishment of a Blood Bank at Sisu Bhavan, Cuttack.
- ii) Include services from among life members in the Executive Committee.
- iii) More number of Health Check up and blood grouping camps for downtrodden people living in remote areas.
- iv) Traffic awareness service at the state and regional levels.
- v) Organisation of a number of road side one act plays in Ganjam and Gajapati districts for awareness generation on HIV/AIDS.

The Honorary Secretary mentioned that the principal proposer has been provided with feed back on status, possible response and cooperation needed from the proposers on each proposal. Sri R.N. Mishra indicated that they have been satisfied with the response of the State Branch on their proposals. However he appealed to His Excellency the Governor, Orissa for facilitating establishment of a blood bank at Sisu Bhawan, Cuttack with State resources and to enhance health check up, blood grouping and awareness generation on road safety and HIV/AIDS as proposed by them.

2. Mrs. Ashalata Das and 5 others

They wanted to know

- i) When the JRC syllabus prepared by the committee will be implemented at the High School level and proposed to
- ii) Introduce blood grouping programme of rural students with the support of the Red Cross District Branches.

The Honorary Secretary stated that the status report and possible response have been shared with the principal proposer on the aforesaid matters. Smt. Ashalata Das stated that they are fully satisfied with the response of the State Branch

3. Sri Ramakanta Panda and 3 others

They proposed for

- i) Provision of one water cooler with aqua guard facility at the District Headquarters Hospital, Rayagada to provide fresh, cool and disinfected drinking water to patients and their attendants.
- ii) Reduction in existing processing charges of Rs. 500/- per blood unit.
- iii) Provision of funds to the tune of Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 10,000/- with the ADMO, Medical of the District Headquarters Hospital, Rayagada for purchase of emergency medicines for Red Cross aid eligible patients for immediate assistance and to avoid delay in sanction.
- iv) Provision for refreshment to blood donors after donating blood.
- v) Provision of mortuary van (Hearse Van) for Rayagada.

The Honorary Secretary mentioned the status report, possible response from the State Branch and cooperation needed from the proposers already shared with the main proposer. Sri R.K. Panda stated that they are satisfied with reply from the State

Branch on all the proposals. However he appealed that the poor tribal patients are unable to pay existing processing charges which is about Rs. 500/- per unit in small blood banks like Rayagada.


Many members mentioned that service charges are not uniform and varies to a large extent. The Blood Bank Officer, Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar explained about variations in absence of supply of free testing kits by NACO. The President observed that there is need for a policy with simple, uniform and affordable rate of processing charges per unit of blood which can address the confusing rates with or without free testing kits. Such contingencies can be eliminated by a State supported uniform and simple rate which should be looked into by the Health & Family Welfare Department of the State Government.

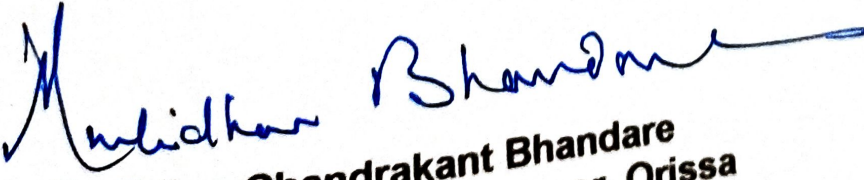
Thereafter medals and merit certificate were awarded to the office bearers and volunteers.

After distribution of awards His Excellency and the President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch addressed the member at the Annual General Meeting.

He congratulated the State and District Branches for their sincere and determined efforts due to which there has been increase in membership over the previous years. But he found that there were certain branches where membership drive was not satisfactory even though they possessed enough potential. He suggested them to find out innovative means to increase the membership. He also expressed his satisfaction that fund raising from different sources had gone up. He called upon the members to show clear commitment and determination in extending the pioneering activities to the remote and backward areas of the State. He also stated that the real strength of Red Cross organization is its members and through them the message of Red Cross could be spread and more numbers of service minded individuals could enter into the Red Cross fold. He called upon District Branches to increase fund in order to take up different programmes and to bring more numbers of individuals

within the Red Cross fold. He also urged upon the District Branches to convene regular meetings with members at their level to ensure better coordination and find out key areas to focus the activities of Red Cross. He appreciated the initiative of Orissa State Branch in opening Block Red Cross Branches to take the service of Red Cross to the community at the Block level. He also praised the opening of free medicine banks in the District Headquarter Hospitals as a notable step to extend support to the needy and poor patients. He appealed that the districts where these medicine banks are not yet opened to take steps to do so. He also praised the increase of voluntary blood donation, which is praise worthy. He also stressed upon health camps and awareness camps to be held regularly by the District Branches in the rural areas. The role of Youth and Junior Red Cross were important to the growth of organization. All steps should be taken to strengthen the Red Cross movement in schools and colleges. He congratulated the recipients of various awards giving them recognition for their outstanding achievement for the promotion of Red Cross ideas and growth of Red Cross organization. The Annual General Meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the President and the august audience.


R. Das
2/5/2008
Honorary Secretary
Indian Red Cross Society,
Orissa State Branch


Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare
His Excellency, the Governor, Orissa
&
President,
Indian Red Cross Society,
Orissa State Branch