

Proceedings of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch held on 12th January 2010 at 11 AM in Raj Bhawan, Bhubaneswar.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch was held at Raj Bhawan on 12th January 2010 at 11 A.M. His Excellency, the Governor, Orissa and the President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch presided over the meeting.

The list of members present is placed at **Annexure-A**.

The Honorary Secretary, Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch extended warm welcome to His Excellency, the Governor of Orissa and the President of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch, the Vice Presidents, members of the Executive Committee and the Special invitees.

Handouts containing the overview, briefly describing the activities, of the Orissa State Branch for the period January to December 2009 was circulated to the members of the Executive Committee.

The Honorary Secretary presented the activity report for the period January to December 2009 along with a power point presentation.

The report highlighted the activities that have led to the promotion of new initiatives and strengthening the core activities pursued by OSB.

1. Strengthening the State branch as well as District Branches. To reach out the community in the rural hinter lands and promote establishment of the Block Branches.
2. Health & Care intervention to be further strengthened. Modernization of Blood Banks in various parts of the State and increase voluntary collection of Blood.
3. Disaster Management for mitigation and support to the District Branches during the disasters.
4. Networking and Partnership programmes with different National Partner Societies, UN bodies & INGOs along with Inter Agency Group on disaster risk reduction, promotion of Community Health, women health, resilient community building for Disaster Risk Reduction and impact of climate change, Implementation of Community preparation for Influenza, Integrating persons with different abilities in community based disaster risk reduction and response.
5. Programmes of other wings of State Branch: Youth Red Cross, Junior Red Cross, Family Counseling Centre, Akhyama Sahayak Suchana Kendra (ASSK), and Disaster Preparedness Training Centre.

The President of the IRCS Orissa State Branch, Hon'ble Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare, His Excellency the Governor of Orissa, welcomed the gathering with New Year Greetings. Informing the house about the day being the Birth Day of the icon of Indian Youth, Swami Vivekananda, he said that the meeting was convened on such a promising Day and Orissa also having the National Youth Festival is a great coincidence. On the growth of the Red Cross Movement he said that the active support of the members had led to the increasing strength of the organization. He congratulated the Honorary Secretary and his team for commendable performance of the OSB. He extorted them to maintain and enhance the efforts during the coming years.

While commending the service provided by 81 Blood Banks, he said that the number could be increased to 100 by the end of 2010. He emphasized on the promotion of the humanitarian services. He said that the OSB has found a place in the heart of people of the state in distress. He landed increasing participation of women and youth in blood donation. He hoped for

✓ involvement of more educational institutions in mobilizing more and more voluntary donation of blood. On the other hand the initiatives of making the youth aware of the sanitation, health and hygiene practices and HIV AIDS is a timely step taken in the right direction.

He thanked the Minister for Health and Family Welfare for initiating steps for waiving the service charges. Blood is precious for saving human lives and it should be made cheaper and easily available for all.

X Highlighting the number of health camps organized by the State Branch he said that such camps should be organized in all the 30 districts. This way Red Cross can reach out to the community in interior pockets. He expressed confidence in the ability of State Branch to achieve the goal.

Jana Ausadhi Stores to be opened by Red Cross would fulfill the aspirations of the poor and the needy patients as the drugs could be available at a cheaper price.

The partnership project has made the Red Cross more acceptable and proved that in the Disaster Management Programme Red Cross State Branch is the pioneer. He expressed happiness to be a part of the new initiatives that the State Branch is envisaging. He recalled the Geneva Convention of Red Cross and said that the increased international cooperation in Orissa is a notable achievement.

The Inter-state Juniors Training-cum-Study Camp was a good step and it was praiseworthy. He appreciated the active role played by the Minister for School and Mass Education and the support extended for the event.

✓ He said that the Global Mission of Red Cross is to reach out to more people with membership drive and further strengthening the movement. The spirit of the organization is manifested in the actions initiated. The district branches could take up innovative activities which could strengthen Red Cross work. The districts should share their experience on the new initiatives with the state branch. These actions could take the largest humanitarian organization further.

The State Branch with the help of the active members can increase the membership and resources of the organization he emphasized.

He expressed his desire to listen to the suggestions of the members.

Thereafter agenda items were taken up for consideration

Item No.1 Confirmation of the proceedings of the last meeting of the Executive Committee held on 16th April 2008.

The proceedings of the last meeting of Executive Committee held on 16-4-2008 were confirmed.

Item No.2 Review of action taken on the decisions, observations and suggestions of the last meeting held on 16th April 2008.

The action taken report on the decisions, observations and suggestions of the last meeting of the Executive Committee held on 16th April 2008 was considered and accepted.

Item No.3 Ratification of the decisions of the Working Committee of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch taken in its meetings held on 25th March 2008, 16th September 2008, 19th January 2009, 27th March 2009 & 10th August 2009.

151 (25)

The Executive Committee ratified proceedings of the meetings of the Working Committee held on 25th March 2008, 16th September 2008, 19th January 2009, 27th March 2009 & 10th August 2009.

Item No. 4 Ratification of the decisions taken by the Working Committee of the Youth Red Cross in its meeting held on 4th April 2008 & 27th August 2009.

The Executive Committee ratified decisions taken by the Youth Red Cross Working Committee in its meeting held on 4th April 2008 & 27th August 2009.

Item No. 5 Ratification of the decisions taken by the Working Committee, Junior Red Cross in its meeting held on 7th April 2008 & 29th June 2009.

The Executive Committee ratified the decisions taken by the Junior Red Cross Working Committee in its meeting held on 7th April 2008 & 29th June 2009.

Item No.6 Consideration and adoption of the Annual Report on the activities of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch and District Branches for the year 2007/08.

The Executive Committee considered and approved the Annual Report on the activities of the State and District Branches for the year 2007/08. The Executive Committee recommended to place this report in Annual General Meeting of members for approval and adoption.

Item No.7 Audited Statement of Accounts and the Balance sheet showing assets and liabilities as on 31.3.2008 which was duly approved by the Working Committee on 19th January 2009.

The Executive Committee considered and approved the Audited Statement of Accounts for the year 2007-08 which was duly approved by the Working Committee on 19th January 2009.

Item No.8: Consideration and approval of the recommendations of the Sub Committee constituted by the Executive Committee under rule 7 of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissssa State Branch (R & CS) Rules , 2001 in its meeting held on 28th February 2009.

After a detail review of the suggestions and recommendations submitted by the Sub Committee in its meeting held on 28.02.09, the Executive Committee considered and approved the following recommendations taking into account the resource position and financial implications:

a. Enhancement of Dearness Allowance

- (i) Sanction of 91% of the basic pay (existing 71% + 20%) as dearness allowance for the employees on time scale of pay.
- (ii) Treating 50% of the dearness allowance as dearness pay in respect of employees on time scale of pay.
- (iii) Sanction of 6.61 percent of the consolidated remuneration as inflation cost for the employees on consolidated remuneration in addition to existing 8.15% making 14.76% of the consolidated remuneration.

b) Revision of the House Rent Allowance.

(1) Bhubaneswar/Cuttack - 15% of the basic pay plus D.P.

(2) Berhampur - 10% of the basic pay plus D.P.

c) Enhancement of accumulation of earned leave and unutilized earned leave.

Enhancement of the upper limit of accumulation of earned leave from 240 days to 300 days as well as encashment of unutilized earned leave from 240 days to 300 days in favour of Red Cross employees on time scale of pay. The benefits recommended at (a) & (b) under item 8 will be extended w.e.f 01.04.2008 retrospectively. As regards the recommendation at (c) under item 8 will be effective from 01.01.2009

d) Earned Leave

The Figure 240 days appearing under Rule 23 shall be substituted with the figure 300 days and the Executive Committee approved to amend the provisions of rule 23 and 28.

D. Extension of retirement benefits to employees resigned from service.

The note of dissent given by the Secretary to Govt. Finance Dept that extending retirement benefits on resignation contravenes the service law and there is a need to obtain views of a law expert on amendment of rule 28. The Executive Committee reviewed the matter and recommended to consult a legal expert to examine this matter. On receipt of the views of the law expert the same will be placed before the Sub Committee for recommendation.

While approving the above proposal, the committee emphasized on the long term prospective of OSB and its activities. It was decided that a Long Term Action Plan regarding activities, programmes and resource mobilization be prepared and placed before the Sub Committee for eventual approval by the Executive Committee.

The proposal for inviting Health Secretary, Finance Secretary or their representatives as special invitees to the Working Committee to speed up the decision making process was approved.

Item No. 9: Consideration and approval of actual receipts and expenditures for the year 2008-09 up to 31.01.2009, Revised Estimates for the year 2008-09 and the Budget Estimate for the year 2009-10.

The Executive Committee considered and approved the actual of receipts and expenditures for the year 2007/08 up to the end of 31st January, 2009, Revised Estimates for the year 2008-09 and Budget Estimates for 2009 -10 in respect of the following accounts of the Orissa State Branch.

- Revenue Account
- Capital Account
- Disaster Preparedness Training Centre Account

Item No. 10: Consideration and approval of the Annual Action Plan for the year 2009/10.

The Executive Committee considered and approved the Annual Action Plan of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch for the year 2009-10

Item No. 11: Maintenance of the five Red Cross Dispensaries

After going through the agenda notes in detail the Committee felt that the District Branches should continue to maintain the respective dispensaries and these could be done through developing partnership with the non-state development agencies and industrial/ corporate houses. The proposal should be given to the Health and Family Welfare Dept. to consider for further enhancement of the grant for management and maintenance of the 5 Red Cross Dispensaries. The concerned District Branches were also suggested to explore new resource mobilization initiatives to ensure smooth functioning of the dispensaries.

Item No. 12: Appointment of Auditors to audit the accounts of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch for the year 2009-10.

The proposal to appoint M/S.SRB Associates Chartered Accountants to audit the accounts of the Indian Red Cross Society, Orissa State Branch for the year 2009- 2010 with a nominal professional fee of Rs. 5,000/- was approved by the Executive Committee.

Item No. 13 : Implementation of different programmes

The following programmes have been apprised to the Committee and the same was appreciated and approved for implementation.

- a) Promotion of Community Health in Rural Areas of Ranapur in Nayagarh District, Orissa with Support of Spanish Red Cross
- (b) Red Cross–Concern Worldwide, India partnership programme on “Resilient Community Building for Disaster Risk Reduction”
- (c) Implementation of Community Preparedness for Influenza to create Sensitization of the volunteers through state and district level meetings and dissemination of Information Education Communication (IEC) materials.
- (d) Partnership with Handicap International Integrating Disability in Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Response”
- (e) Structure of the Facility Management Unit (FMU) for sustainability of the Orissa Disaster Mitigation Programme of the IRCS-OSB.
- (f) Utilization of Development Grant sanctioned by the Indian Red Cross Society, National Headquarters for Fund Raising Activities and for capacity Building

Item No. 14: Introduction of E- Governance for Red Cross Blood Banks in Orissa.

The Executive Committee appreciated and approved the proposal to introduce a comprehensive e-governance for all blood banks operated under the banner of Red Cross with support from Dept. of Health, & Family Welfare, Govt. of Orissa & OSACS.

Item No. 15: Any other matters with the permission of the Chair

- a) The Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare intervened to indicate major initiatives regarding making service charges free for BPL patients taking blood and for opening Jan Aushadhi stores selling cheaper generic medicines in all districts. He also assured continued guidance and support to OSB.

- 731
- b) The Hon'ble Minister, School & Mass Education indicated that steps are being taken to enhance the JRC fees to strengthen the Junior Red Cross activities throughout the state. Moreover, the proposal for the enhancement of annual grant to the State Junior Red Cross is under active consideration.
 - ✓ c) Sri.S.B.Mishra, IAS (retired), suggested that the Red Cross should give more emphasis on the welfare of physically challenged persons and to organize Health Check Camps in all the 30 Districts. He also said that steps be taken to address the problem of autism.
 - d) The Shri Parag Gupta, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary to the Governor suggested that the IRCS Orissa State Branch should charge administrative cost of at least 1% of the project cost of different partnership programmes.
 - ✓ e) The Commissioner-cum-Secretary H&FW suggested that the Red Cross should supplement the effort of Govt. in organizing the Mega Health Check up Camps for the benefit of the community.
 - ✓ f) Prof. Asha Hans, Vice President laid emphasis on programmes relating to disability and welfare of women.
 - g) Sri.Soumya Ranjan Patnaik said that Red Cross being a humanitarian Organisation there could be more focus on women and children. He said that lots of funds are available from Govt. sources for disaster management activities and this may be explored. He emphasized on reduction of service charges on supply of blood and modernization of Blood Banks in Orissa. He suggested deployment of quality staff in OSB. He suggested that Red Cross employees be paid at par with the Govt. servants.
 - h) Dr.D.P.Ray, V.C. OUAT suggested that the Executive Committee meetings may be convened on a quarterly basis to expedite the decision making process.
 - i) Dr.Achyut Samant suggested for more institutional linkages and resource mobilization. Besides, the IRCS, OSB should take up to setrite family related issues pertaining to dowry, divorce, domestic violence and counselling etc.
 - j) Many other honorable members/invitees also made valuable suggestions about activities and programmes of OSB.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Murlidhar Bhandare
 2-2-2010
Shri Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare
 His Excellency, the Governor, Orissa
 &
President,
Indian Red Cross Society,
Orissa State Branch

Dr.M.P.Mohanty
 18-1-2010
Dr.M.P.Mohanty
Honorary Secretary
Indian Red Cross Society,
Orissa State Branch