



RED CROSS HISTORY A 100-YEAR COMMITMENT TO THE REGION

The first ICRC representatives arrived in the Indian subcontinent in 1917 for an assessment of prisoner of war camps. By 1920, a Bill was passed in the Indian Legislative Council for the creation of the IRCS and by 1950 India became a signatory to the Geneva Conventions. The ICRC in collaboration with the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the region continues to support responses to humanitarian emergencies.

WHO WE ARE

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is an independent and non-political organisation with a large scope of strictly humanitarian activities which it undertakes through its presence in over 80 countries around the world. It has a universally recognised responsibility to promote International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and to respond to the needs of people affected by situations of humanitarian concern, in particular armed conflict and violence.

Working in partnership with National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, local authorities and others, the ICRC provides humanitarian aid and expertise in areas such as: international humanitarian law, emergency response, health and rehabilitative services, water and habitat, livelihood support, humanitarian forensics, detention management and the restoration of family links.

The ICRC has a proven record and long history in Asia and works by engaging with all parties concerned through a unique approach based on confidential dialogue, transparent activities, sharing of expertise and partnerships in order to be able to reach and meet the needs of vulnerable persons.



PUTTING INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW (IHL) INTO ACTION

The ICRC is supporting multiple regional and national programmes towards ensuring respect for the implementation of IHL. It works with government officials, armed and security forces, multilateral and international organisations, lawyers, academia and media. The ICRC along with the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) jointly organised the International Conference on the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons in 2017 in New Delhi.

HIGHLIGHTS 2017



New Red Cross formed

On 8 May 2017 Her Majesty, The Gyaltshuen, launched the Bhutan Red Cross Society



INR 111.06 crores

worth relief material sourced from India



15 countries

participated in the ICRC-CUNPK peacekeeping seminar



IHL Handbook in Nepali was revised for Parliamentarians in Nepal

All figures in this brochure correspond to Jan-Dec 2017 except where specified.



ICRC

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SERVING HUMANITY

ICRC REGIONAL DELEGATION FOR INDIA, NEPAL, BHUTAN AND THE MALDIVES



ICRC

The ICRC is working on humanitarian opportunities and challenges related to new technologies, cyber and space programmes, with Indian think tanks, policy experts and research institutions as part of efforts to ensure appropriate global discussion on utilisation and regulation concerns.



2280 peacekeepers in India and Nepal benefitted from ICRC disseminations on IHL



60 teams participated in India's largest IHL moot court competition



45 judges and government attorneys were trained on IHL and transitional justice in partnership with the National Judicial Academy, Nepal

IN BRIEF

WORKING TOGETHER

In the region today, the ICRC works primarily with and through local partners, in particular the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), Nepal Red Cross Society (NRCS), Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) and the Bhutan Red Cross Society (BRCS). Other major partners include government agencies, health institutions, universities and think tanks. The regional delegation works closely with the leadership, staff and volunteers of the national societies to address humanitarian needs through capacity sharing and supporting service delivery. In coordination with the IRCS, the ICRC supports various initiatives on first aid, disability, youth, livelihood, restoring family links and emblem protection among others. The ICRC continues to support the NRCS to strengthen its family news network and emergency preparedness, the MRC in first aid, resource mobilisation and emergency preparedness and the BRCS in its formation and recognition.



14

IRCS state branches supported on implementation of projects on youth education, first aid, restoring family links, disability and water and sanitation



1000

flood-affected households in Bihar received essential household items



79

people received first aid services from the MRC in the first three months of 2018



INCLUSION & INNOVATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The ICRC with its partners in India is assisting persons with disabilities (PwDs) to regain mobility using assistive devices and supports their social inclusion through sports initiatives like the National Wheelchair Basketball Championship. It supports physical rehabilitation services in nine centres in India and Nepal. In 2017, it supported the Global Clubfoot Conference held in New Delhi where India committed to facilitating access to treatment for every child with clubfoot by 2022. The ICRC in 2016 launched Enable Makeathon (EM), an intensive programme aimed at developing innovative solutions and services specifically dedicated to PwDs. The second edition of EM was launched in 2017.

HEALTH SERVICES

ICRC experts support local health institutions to strengthen their capacity in first aid and emergency trauma care management.

SUPPORTING DETAINEES & THEIR FAMILIES

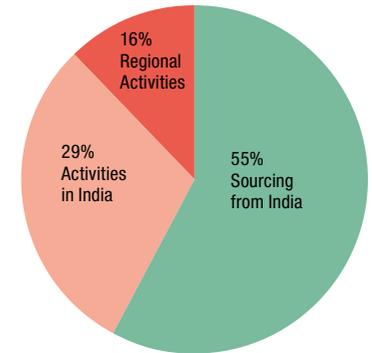
Since 2004, the ICRC has been carrying out visits to persons deprived of their liberty in the Maldives and engages with authorities on issues relating to detention visits and correctional services. In Jammu & Kashmir, the ICRC has been supporting families of persons detained in relation to the prevailing situation to maintain contact with their relatives. It helps the most vulnerable to develop coping mechanisms and reintegrate within the society.

HUMANITARIAN FORENSICS

The ICRC works with stakeholders in promoting best practice and supporting capacity sharing in the use of forensic sciences for humanitarian purposes, including handling the dead with dignity. It is also a partner in the International Centre for Humanitarian Forensics in Gujarat. In Nepal, the ICRC supported the establishment of the Forensic Coordination Committee (FCC) to assist in management of the dead including forensic human identification.

PEOPLE, IDEAS & GOODS - SOURCING FROM INDIA TO THE WORLD

Buying in India - Working with the private sector enables the ICRC to promote humanitarian principles. It works with them to help people affected by emergencies through mutually beneficial partnerships based on ethical criteria. The goods sourced from India have helped those in need in countries like Bangladesh, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Yemen among others.



Figures correspond to Jul-Dec 2017

Promoting Indian talent - Specialists in IHL, information management, human resources and communication based in India directly support the ICRC activities in South Asia and beyond. The ICRC Regional Communication Centre based in New Delhi provides support to delegations and missions across the Asia Pacific, Eurasia, Africa and the Americas. The ICRC also scouts for talent to serve in its global operations. Currently, over 30 Indians are working in various ICRC delegations overseas.



1682 FIRST AID

personnel from 11 states were trained by IRCS in collaboration with the ICRC



284 PLAYERS

from 14 states participated in wheelchair basketball related events and trainings



45,000 PERSONS

received services from the seven physical rehabilitation centres assisted by the ICRC in India



51 FORENSIC EXPERTS

from South Asia and beyond participated in the Regional Forensic Conference in Nepal with the help of the ICRC in 2017

