

Speech by the Hon'ble Governor of Tripura

World Red Cross Day 2025

Theme: “Keeping Humanity Alive”

Indian Red Cross Society, Tripura State Branch, Agartala

Bimal Kanti Ray Ji Chairman IRCS, TSB

Chandan Debnath Ji Secretary IRCS

Paramananda Sarkar Banerjee Ji

Vice President IRCS

Dr Vishal Kumar Ji IAS DM & Officers from
Medical and Health Department,

Esteemed members of the Indian Red Cross
Society, dedicated volunteers,

Distinguished guests,

My dear Blood Donors

Good Morning to you all

It is both an honor and a profound privilege to stand before you today as we gather to observe World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2025. This day, marked globally is a testament to the enduring spirit of humanity—a spirit that the Red Cross has championed tirelessly for over a century.

This year's theme, **Keeping Humanity Alive**, resonates deeply in these times. It reminds us that compassion, solidarity, and selflessness are not mere ideals but the very pillars that sustain societies. In a world often divided by strife, the Red Cross stands as a beacon of hope, proving that humanity transcends borders, languages, and ideologies.

Indian Armed Forces launched ‘OPERATION SINDOOR’, post midnight, hitting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir from where terrorist attacks against India have been planned and directed.

In a world increasingly shaped by uncertainty and evolving challenges, the observance of World Red Cross Day serves as a poignant reminder of the enduring power of humanity.

The recent directive from the Ministry of Home Affairs to conduct nationwide mock drills on Today Evening underscores the gravity of the challenges before us. In the shadow of the Pahalgam terror attack and escalating tensions, these drills are a critical exercise in vigilance.

For Tripura, particularly Agartala—a Category-1 civil defence district—the mock drills are not mere formalities but a strategic necessity. They entail crash-blackout measures to simulate sudden power disruptions, the camouflaging of vital installations to safeguard infrastructure, and the meticulous rehearsal of evacuation plans to ensure civilian safety.

These steps, coupled with the operationalisation of air-raid warning systems and the testing of hotline communications with the Indian Air Force, reflect a proactive approach to national security. Yet, beyond the technicalities lies a deeper truth: preparedness is not an act of fear but a testament to our commitment to protect every life.

However, even as we strengthen our defenses, the essence of the Red Cross movement reminds us that security alone cannot sustain a society. The Indian Red Cross Society, Tripura Branch, embodies this balance.

While the mock drills focus on physical safeguards, the Red Cross ensures that the human spirit remains unbroken. Their blood donation camps, disaster relief operations, and medical aid initiatives are the threads that weave compassion into the fabric of crisis response. Volunteers who guide the vulnerable during evacuations, medics who tend to the injured amid chaos, and donors who give selflessly—these individuals exemplify the synergy between preparedness and humanity.

In their actions, we see that true resilience lies not just in robust systems but in the hearts of those who serve.

As we mark World Red Cross Day, let us embrace this dual mandate. To the volunteers and members of the Red Cross: your role in these challenging times is irreplaceable. Your ability to blend crisis management with kindness ensures that preparedness is not a cold, mechanical process but a humane one.

To the citizens of Tripura: participate in the drills with diligence, donate blood, and support community initiatives. Let us prove that our strength lies not only in our ability to anticipate threats but in our capacity to care.

The path forward is clear. Vigilance and compassion are not opposing forces but complementary pillars of a resilient society. As the mock drills test our systems, let the Red Cross's legacy inspire us to keep our humanity alive. Together, we can face the uncertainties of tomorrow, not with trepidation, but with the confidence that comes from unity, preparedness, and an unyielding belief in the power of human goodness.

The Indian Red Cross Society, Tripura State Branch, has been instrumental in embodying this mission. From disaster relief to healthcare initiatives, your work has touched countless lives across our state.

Whether it is aiding flood-affected families, conducting health camps, or organizing blood donation drives, your unwavering commitment has fortified Tripura's resilience.

Today, we inaugurate a two-day program that epitomizes the essence of Keeping Humanity Alive.

The blood donation camp inaugurated today is not just a medical endeavor but a collective act of empathy. Each drop of blood donated is a lifeline, a gesture that binds us in shared humanity.

I urge every able citizen to participate, for in giving, we receive the greatest reward—the knowledge that we have saved a life.

Tomorrow, our Hon'ble Chief Minister will grace the public program, and blood donation camps will extend to all districts of Tripura.

This decentralized effort ensures that no corner of our state is left untouched by the spirit of service.

To the volunteers, doctors, and staff of the Red Cross—your tireless efforts often go unseen, but they are the backbone of this noble institution. You are the unsung heroes who keep humanity alive, even in the darkest hours. Let us take a moment to applaud your dedication.

As President of the Tripura State Red Cross, I call upon every citizen to embrace the ethos of service. Let us not confine kindness to days like today but make it a way of life. Whether through donating blood, volunteering, or simply helping a neighbor, each act of compassion fortifies our collective future.

In the words of Henry Dunant, the founder of the Red Cross: **We are not saints, but we must never tolerate injustice.** Let this day renew our pledge to uphold justice, dignity, and humanity for all.

May the events of these two days inspire a wave of goodwill across Tripura. Together, let us ensure that the flame of humanity burns brighter than ever.

Thank you, and Jai Hind!