

# Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

Together for a resilient community and better future



## DOCUMENT INFORMATION

**Type of the document:** Monthly Activity Report (MAR)

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## DEPARTMENT COVERED

Administration, Disaster Risk Management; Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR), Vulnerability to Resilience (V2R), Urban Disaster Risk Reduction (UDRR), Human Resource Department, Training, Tracing, Planning and Development; PMER Section, Fund Raising, Unit Affairs, Youth and Volunteer.

## ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

As a part of regular activities, the Administration Department undertook duties related to preparation of ID card and visiting card of officials and staff of the Society, duty roster of Anser and Security Guard, circulation of various office orders and circulars, absentees statement to Finance Department, submission of the of electricity, Robi, telephone, and newspaper bills to the Finance Department for payment and ensuring the cleanliness of the NHQ on a regular basis. Besides, the preparation of organizing the observation of the National Mourning Day, 15 August was also underway.

### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Distributed Identity cards and visiting to BDRCS staff
- ✦ Prepared roster for security guards and Anser
- ✦ Extended support to Finance on staff salary and other corporate bill

## COMMUNITY BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (CBDRR) PROGRAMME

The CBDRR Programme organized 48 awareness raising sessions on CCA/DRR at the 48 schools in the selected communities during this reporting period. On an average 52 students participated in each session. Besides, 96 courtyard sessions, covering on an average 26 participants, have also been conducted with the community people. Teachers and community organizers facilitated the session with relevant information and communication materials such as the co-curricular book on 'Bhugol Sir's Class' and flip charts.

The sessions focused key issues on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) during the disaster period.

Contingency plans have been developed at the Shekhapura and Uttarsharsha community of Jessore and Satkhira district respectively. The plan outlines specific responsibilities and coordination mechanism among the local people, community leaders and sector specific actors through appropriate networking.



Figure: Contingency planning workshop at Shekhapura community, Jessore, Bhola

Community people have stepped forward in disaster preparedness by opening bank accounts in the name of 'Community Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF)'. At present, all twelve communities operated CDREF (Community Disaster Response Emergency Fund) through maintaining a bank account and depositing monthly contribution of the locals. The cumulative household contribution of twelve communities is 83% of the planned total.

Four advisory sessions on agriculture were conducted in the communities of Dhalchar, Charpatila, Charmotahar, Uttarsharsha of Bhola and Satkhira district.

The agricultural officer from the DAE (Department of Agriculture Extension) of the Bangladesh Government facilitated these sessions. Various issues like HYV (high-yielding variety), saline tolerant rice cultivation, seed preservation and formation of seed banks have been discussed in those sharing. Communities were also supported with necessary inputs to enhance its livelihood options in the face of recurring hazards.

The programme organized training on Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) for the community volunteers and staff under on 30 July- 3 August, 2015 at the Unnayan Sanga DTRC, Deorpar, Chandra, Jamalpur. This training has designed such a way that the participants can be able to deal with common injuries to the community, identify and address community health priorities, advocate health promotion and disease prevention and prepares the volunteers to respond to disasters. Moreover, 11 volunteers (6 CDRT & 2 CDMC) and 3 staff (2 CO & APO) from the community were trained and mobilized to carry out activities in the community. CBHFA's learning contributed to enhance skills and knowledge of the volunteers to that they can adapt and take action in their communities.

As a regular activity, the programme arranged monthly meeting with the Programme Implementation Committee (PIC) members, Community Disaster Management Team (CDMC) members, and bi-monthly coordination meeting with the Unit Disaster Management Committee (UDMC), Community Disaster Response team (CDRT) during the reporting period.

#### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Organized 96 community yard session and 48 school session
- ✦ 11 community volunteers and staff received training on community based health and first aid (CBDFHA)
- ✦ Developed Contingency Plan in Shekhpura and Uttarsharsha communities of Jessore and Satkhira districts respectively

#### PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

The Department planned to organize a 'Write Shop' before going for the ToT for Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA). In this regards, selection of venue and potential participants for the upcoming write shop has been finalized during this reporting period. The key objective of the program will be to finalize the BOCA Tool through interactive discussion sessions. As per plan, Mr. Alex Toress, Asia Pacific Volunteering and Organizational Development Delegate will facilitate the Write Shop for the BDRCS.

The Bangala translation of five key Branch Operation Manual documents has been finalized and now under process of printing. The consultative group members put their effort to complete this task.

The PMER Section planned to hold an orientation on PMER for the BDRCS Branches in August 2015. In this regards, communication with the Khulna, Jessore and Satkhira Branched has been done by the PMER Section regarding participant selection and venue arrangement. Besides, the Section compiled the Monthly Activity Report (MAR) for the last three months April-June, 2015. The report has already been published in BDRCS Website.

#### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Planned for 'Write Shop' for BOCA, PMER Orientation for the Branches
- ✦ Published MAR for April-June, 2015

## HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

In July 2015, the HR Department was involved in various activities like an appointment, transfer, retirement, providing yearly increment, contract extension of BDRCS etc. Throughout the reporting period, the HR Department undertook the process of contract extension of 3 officers, transfer of 10, and yearly increment to 52. Monthly coverage with gender disaggregated information on different HR activities during July 2015 is given in the table below:

**Table:** The table representing the different status of HR activities in July 2015.

SL	Activity	Male	Female	Total
1	Transfer	10	-	10
2	Increment	41	11	52
3	Contract Extension	03	-	03
<b>Total</b>				<b>65</b>

### ACHIEVEMENT

- ★ Appointment, transfer, retirement and yearly income were done by the HR Department as a regular activity.

## FUND RAISING DEPARTMENT

During the reporting month the Fund Raising Department undertook various regular and new initiatives for raising funds. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of Fundraising Standing Committee was held in 29 July, 2015 in participation of BDRCS Treasurer and all Directors and In-charges where discussions were made on how to promote the fundraising activities of BDRCS.

As a part of 20<sup>th</sup> Red Crescent Lottery, the Department contacted telecom operator Robi and Airtel to sell the tickets through SMS/ M-Ticketing. The Department also kept the process going to organize “Prime Minister Fund Raising Dinner ‘15” and holding fundraising ‘Concert’. Besides, the Department carried out an inspection to know the current status of 25 donation boxes being placed in various locations of the country.

The work order was issued to collect 4,000 ball pen and 1,200 T-shirt in April and 1,150 T-shirt in May, collection of 200 First Aid bag in April and 1000 cap and 150 T-shirt in May was conducted as a part of their regular fundraising activities.

The Department communicated some of the telecom operators like Banglalink, Grameenphone, Robi, Airtel, Teletalk and Citycell for selling the 20th Red Crescent Lottery tickets through SMS/M-Ticketing. Keeping the World RCRC day ahead the Department circulated letter

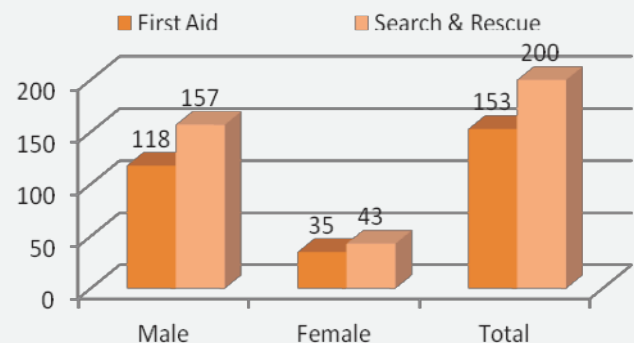
In the reporting month, the Department collected and deposited an amount of BDT 63,365/- by selling souvenir items and BDT 10,025/- from the donation boxes.

### ACHIEVEMENT

- ★ Organized 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Fundraising Standing Committee
- ★ Collected an amount of BDT 73,390/= from selling of souvenir items and donation boxes

## TRAINING DEPARTMENT

In July 2015, the Training Department conducted refreshers training on First Aid and Search & Rescue, under the partnership between BDRCS and Islamic Relief, aiming at providing updated information and refreshment to the participants who received training earlier. There were all planned 6 refresher training on First Aid and 8 training on Search & Rescue where altogether 353 volunteers of Islamic Relief participated during the reporting month. Both the training was organized in the targeted area of Islamic Relief in Patuakhali, Tala, Satkhira and Sunamgonj. The number of participants in specific refresher training with gender disaggregated data is given in the below graph:



### ACHIEVEMENT

- ★ Conducted 14 refresher courses on FA and SAR with 353 participants.

## TRACING DEPARTMENT

The Department performed tracing related activities in July, 2015 as a part of their regular activities. A total of 56 Red Crescent Message was delivered by the tracing department and in response to that delivered message they got 2 replies. The messages were received from Sittwe, Buthidaung and Mendeli prisons of Myanmar and sent to Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sirajgonj, Naogaon, Bandarban Shoriatpur, Bogra and Pabna to reduce anguish of the families of detainees by reestablishing contact. 29 family notifications were received from Thailand and notified to different district of Bangladesh with the support of concern National Societies and ICRC to reduce their anxiety.

A two days long training on Restoring Family Links was organized for the new volunteers of the Unit where 30 participants (Male-27 and Female-3) from the 28 districts including Headquarters were participated. The main objective of the training was to provide knowledge on RFL activities and make the participant confident to handle the RFL activities.

In the month of the July, 2015, BDRCS Tracing Department provided mobile services to 573 persons, first aid and medical services to 155 migrants. Apart from these BDRCS reunited 16 minor migrants in different districts to their families with the support of ICRC and 27 minors reunited by associates. Hygiene kits were distributed to the foreign detainees in one district where 6 packets were distributed at Hobiganj jail.

Tracing Department communicated with ICRC Geneva office to establish Family Links Answers and know the update in this regards.

### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Training on restoring family links was organized for the new volunteers
- ✦ 573 mobile services, 155 first aid and medical services were provided to the migrants
- ✦ 56 Red Crescent message delivered which was received from Myanmar
- ✦ Hygiene kits were distributed to the foreign detainees

## URBAN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (UDRR) PROGRAMME

In the reporting of July 2015, four meetings with the Slum Disaster Preparedness Committee (SDPC) were held in Dhaka and Rangpur by the UDRR Program with the support of TRF project. A total of 100 participants attended the meeting.

A total of four bi-monthly sessions and one Unit Disaster Response Team (UDRT) meeting were held in Dhaka, Rangpur and Gazipur Unit and as well in the community where 25 UDRT member and 150 community people participated respectively. UDRT members are now aware about the School Based Disaster Risk Reduction (SBDRR). Two mobile medical health camps were organized at Mogbazar slum and Gandaria slum of Dhaka. A total of 120 patients received medical services through the medical camp.

Besides, training on "School Level Leadership" was held in Gazipur Unit under the School Based Disaster Risk Reduction (SBDRR) project. A total of 30 participants attended the Hong Kong Red Cross supported SBDRR project training.

### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ School Level Leadership training was held in Gazipur Unit
- ✦ 02 Mobile Medical Camp were held in Magbazar and Gandaria slum

## VULNERABILITY TO RESILIENCE PROJECT

The V2R project conducted DRR and WASH sessions in its 27 working communities, thereby around 4425 male and female participated. The participants have received information on how to prepare for, mitigate and respond to multiple hazards through these sharing. Besides, the project organised refresher's training for fish culture producers where 75 participants (covering 61 male and 14 female) were updated with techniques and improved knowledge to increase their productivity and incomes.

A total of 27 schools conducted hygiene practices and hand wash demonstration with 1538 students (including 647 boys and 891 girls) under School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) activities. The school teachers reported that students have now been more informed about the safe water use and sanitation practices that lead to break the contamination cycle of unsanitary latrines, contaminated water, and unsafe hygienic behavior.

In order to replicate the existing V2R's model and approach to additional 30 communities, neighbouring communities from existing V2R working areas in Patuakhali and Barguna district and Bhola district have already been selected. Demarcations of 30 target communities have already been completed during this reporting month. In doing so, the participatory approach was overwhelmingly followed by active participation of 382 male and 33 female members within the entire demarcation process.

#### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Conducted sessions on DRR and WASH with 4425 people
- ✦ Organized refresher training with 75 participants
- ✦ Conducted demonstration on hygiene with 1538 school students

#### UNIT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

A total of 195 Life Members have been enrolled in different Units and NHQ of BDRCS during April-June, 2015. They are now involved in RCRC Movement and the Department collected 20% shared money from these membership drives. A total of BDT 29,100 has been collected as shared money from the Units. The Department issued life membership certificates in favor of 21 members. However, receiving the list of life members in time and shared money remained as the key challenges for the Department. Emphasis should be provided to increase the female life members to join and work for the humanity through the Red Crescent Movement.

The department received 67 reports from 68 branches in the month of July, 2015. BDRCS gets the picture of the activities implemented in the branches through these reports.

#### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Collected BDT 29,100 as shared money
- ✦ Handed over 21 Life membership certificates

#### YOUTH AND VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

The Department undertook different activities during the reporting period. A 'Ifter Party' was arranged by the Department on 7 July 2015 at the NHQ BDRCS. The Chairman, treasurer of BDRCS, representatives from IFRC, ICRC and PNSs, the team leaders from various education institutes and officials of BDRCS were present. Total 20 volunteers were involved in the arrangement of this party.

The volunteers responded to a fire incident happened on 22 August 2015 at Badda, Dhaka. A total of 10 Red Crescent Youths (RCYs) provided first aid services to the injured people. Besides, nine volunteers supported to the Bangladeshi migrants, in terms of re-establishing communication with migrant families, at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport.

#### ACHIEVEMENT

- ✦ Arranged Ifter Party at NHQ BDRCS
- ✦ Supported migrants to re-establish communication with their families

#### DISASTER RESPONSE DEPARTMENT

The southeast region of Bangladesh, Cox's Bazaar, Chittagong, Bandarban districts were affected by the rains experiencing flash flooding and landslides. The excessive rain started from June and the context turned into a flash flooding and landslide scenario in the areas. BDRCS responded immediately and provided dry food among the affected people. In 2nd time, BDRCS with the support of IFRC provided BDT 1000 cash & 1 bathing soap in each of 1000 families in Bandarban (400) and Cox'sBazar (600). Total BDT 1,00,000 and 1,000 bathing soap assisted in 2<sup>nd</sup> phase.

BDRCS distributed 6500 Food Packets (each packet contains fine rice 03 kg, milk powder 200 gm, oil 1 lit, vermicelli 200 gm, sugar 2 Kg) among 6500 families of two Ruhingya camps in Cox'sbazar. This food packets were supported by Turkish Red Crescent Society (TRC) for Eid-UI-Fitr.

### **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**

The Bangladesh Red Cross Society was constituted on 31 March, 1973 by the President's Order No.26 of 1973 with retrospective effect from the 16 December 1971. The Society was recognized by ICRC on 20 September, 1973 and admitted to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 2 November, 1973. The name and emblem were changed from Red Cross to Red Crescent on 4th April 1988 vide Act 25 of 1988. The President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh is ex-officio President of the Society. BDRCS is conducting different interventions covering five divisions, namely, Disaster Management, Health Services, Planning & Development, Central Support Services and Finance & Accounts through its 68 Unit/Branches across the country.

#### **Vision**

To become an effective and efficient humanitarian organization in Bangladesh by 'doing more' 'doing better' and 'reaching further'.

#### **Mission**

To prevent and reduce human sufferings and save lives of the vulnerable people.

#### **Important Contacts (queries and grievances)**

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