



PRESS RELEASE

World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day 2020: #KeepClapping for Bangladesh Red Crescent Society volunteers and staff

Dhaka, 8 May 2020 — On this World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are immensely proud to recognize the work of our volunteers and staff who are doing everything they can to support communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, a part of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, is everywhere for everyone every day,” said **Md. Feroz Salah Uddin**, Secretary General of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

The year 2020 is even challenging than ever. Our Red Crescent volunteers are at work, despite vivid risk to themselves, helping vulnerable individuals and communities to protect them from COVID-19, and the BDRCS continue providing many other services that people need to keep themselves safe and healthy.

Each and every volunteer in Bangladesh deserves applause, and we encourage everyone to #KeepClapping on 8 May.

Bangladesh Red Crescent volunteers have been active in communities since the novel coronavirus was first detected: helping people to prepare, sharing life-saving health information to stop the spread of the disease, and working to limit its impact on the most vulnerable members of society.

These COVID-19 response activities have been carried out alongside other humanitarian works that Bangladesh Red Crescent is well known for in the country. With support from the ICRC and IFRC, Red Cross Red Crescent Partner National Societies and others, every year, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society reach almost two million people with a diverse range of services tailored to local needs, such as

community based disaster preparedness and response, blood service, community development, restoring family links, cyclone preparedness, health service, livelihood improvement etc.

Azmat Ulla, the Head of IFRC Bangladesh Country Office said: “When we practise physical distancing to break the transmission, it is extremely important to have social solidarity and support.”

“This is a difficult time for everyone, but I see so much hope in the bravery and dedication of Bangladesh Red Crescent Youth volunteers, the community volunteers, cyclone preparedness volunteers countrywide. This solidarity will help us not only survive this pandemic, but also help it to thrive afterwards.”

Pierre Dorbes, the Head of Delegation for ICRC in Bangladesh said: “Beyond the public health crisis, the COVID-19 epidemic is impacting the economic security of millions of Bangladeshi people while for displaced people from Rakhine, this is another factor of vulnerability. The ICRC together with other partners of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement stands side by side with all those vulnerable people in such an unprecedented crisis.”

For more information:

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