

Role of Youth Red Cross Unit in the Overall Growth of Higher Education Institutions: A Case Study

Dr. J D Chauhan

Assistant Professor, Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala Cantt

Arti

Assistant Professor, Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala Cantt

Rajinder Singh

Principal, Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala Cantt

ABSTRACT

“The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) is a voluntary humanitarian organization to protect human life and health based in India” It was established in 1920 under the Indian Red Cross Society Act which works as an supplementary unit to help nation to carry out humanitarian. Youth Red Cross Unit is established in many higher education institutions to connect the youth with the wellbeing of the society. The counsellors and volunteers of the cell are helping nation in disaster management and pursuing social and health welfare activities Haryana state branch of IRCS is helping people since 1966. Till date it has 22 District branches including Junior Red Cross and Youth Red Cross units in most of the schools and colleges of Haryana. This paper emphasis on Red Cross unit of Sanatan Dharma College where it is working since 2015. This case study will provide the insight view of identifying the various activities run by the YRC unit of college by involving students to inculcate the humanity and other leadership qualities. A in-depth analysis of the various activities done by college unit has been done to know its contribution in the overall growth of students, society and the institution as well.

Keywords: Indian Red Cross Society, Sanatan Dharma College, Youth Red Cross

Introduction:

“The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) was established in 1920 under the Indian Red Cross Society Act and incorporated under the Parliament Act XV of 1920 (as Amended by Act No. 22 of 1956 and the Adaptation of Laws (No 4) order of 1957 and the Act No. 14 of 1992)”. [1] IRCS is a member of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and is recognized by the International Red Cross Committee. The aim of this body is to take initiatives and encourage the all types of humanitarian activities so that human suffering can be minimized thus making the society more calm and peaceful. It also provides different services to the humans, including disaster relief, health and social welfare programmes in the country. In the time of difficulty, it works as auxiliary to the armed forces and help them in various medical services and also serve the civilians in hard times. In accordance with the elementary Principles of the international Red Cross, the mission of the society are: Unity, Neutrality, Humanity, Impartiality, Independence, Voluntary Service, Universality.

Establishment of Youth Red Cross:

To attain a conducive environment for healthy physical, moral and intellectual growth of the youth, extra-curricular activities have been introduced in the form of N.S.S., N.C.C. and Youth Red Cross (YRC).

The Aim for the establishment of the Youth Red Cross was to inculcate the students who are the foundation of country with the human values. In 1925 first time The Indian Red Cross Society engaged young people in its work. The first unit was established in Punjab state followed by similar units in Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Mumbai, and Uttar Pradesh. Youths are the pillars & future leaders of the Country. With this thought, establishment of YRC unit was done at Sanatan Dharma College Ambala Cantt in 2015. Today's youth is tomorrow's India. In our country the age group between 15 to 35 is considered as Youth. More than half of our total population is youth. To achieve national developments, efforts are to develop youth resources, which is of vital importance in this century of advancing technology. It is feeling of youths that the educational, social and political systems do not take care of their welfare and developments sufficiently and utilize their energy resources fully for national development. Motivating youths, instilling in them a sense of volunteering service, enhancing self-confidence, self-esteem and self-identity and developing like skills among youths constitute and enable to achieve national development. Education is required to develop multi-skills among youths to face and overcome the challenges in this competitive life.

Activities of the Youth Red Cross:

- Conduction of State Level YRC Camp
- Observation of important Days such as Independence day, Republic Day etc
- Oath Taking Ceremony
- Organization of Blood Donation Camps
- Promotion of health and hygiene.
- Service to others such as First Aid and Home Nursing.
- National Integration.
- World friendliness.
- Relief work during emergencies like floods, fire, earthquake and other natural calamities.
- Cancer Awareness Camp
- Eradication of social evils such as Drug De-addiction, HIV/ AIDS awareness, Female Foeticide, Dowry, Illiteracy etc.
- Organization of Free Medical Health Check-Up Camp
- Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation movement.
- Protection of environment to combat climatic changes and energy conservation.
- Promotion of Eye & Organ donation.
- Youth Leadership Training Camp
- Waste Management Programme
- Workshop On Disaster Management
- Organize short duration special service programmes/camps time to time or involvements of volunteers in social activities

Analysis of the Activities of YRC Cell:

The Youth Red Cross, the youngest wing of Indian Red Cross Society, Haryana State Branch is working in all colleges of Haryana. As the name implies, the youth power, when committed to the service in Indian Red Cross Society, can attain spectacular achievements. The Youth Red Cross has a Counsellor nominated by the Principal who promotes Youth Red Cross activities endeavours to create in students a genuine enthusiasm and thus students are trained and encouraged to implement the activities of Youth

Red Cross. The students of the Colleges/Universities/Institutions join the Youth Red Cross voluntarily. Though no hard and fast rules are laid down regarding Youth Red Cross activities. This cell is always involved in overall growth of the students, institution in turn leads to the growth of Society. A number of activities are identified here which are pursued by the cell as a continuous practice. These activities are mentioned in the table-1[2-4]

<i>Year of the Commencement of the Activities</i>	<i>Name of the Activity</i>	<i>No of Youths (Volunteers)</i>	<i>No. of Participants</i>	<i>Contribution made by YRC</i>
2015	Formation of YRC Unit	150	150	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Blood Donation Camp	26		Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Organization of YRC Camps	14	14	YRC Counsellors upliftment
2016	Blood Donation Camp(3 Times)	125	442	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Organization of YRC Camps(District an State Level)	71	71	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Celebration of 20th National Youth Festival	7	7	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Observation of important Days such as Independence day, Republic Day etc	247	247	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Cancer Awareness Camp	20	200	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Formation of YRC Unit	200	200	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Braille Reading and Writing Competitions	20	185	YRC Counsellors upliftment
2017	Blood Donation Camp(Conducted 2 times)	78	310	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society

	Organization of YRC Camps(District State Level & National)	37	37	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Formation of YRC Unit	150	150	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Observation of important Days such as Independence day, Republic Day etc	75	75	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	One week Palliative Care Program For Cancer Patients	60	47	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
2018	Blood Donation Camp(Conducted 3 times)	110	550	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Organization of YRC Camps(District State Level & National)	154	154	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Formation of YRC Unit	200	200	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Cancer Awareness Programme	42	212	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Home Nursing & First Aid	50	60	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Waste Management Programs	70	148	Awareness of Public regarding segregation of waste Survey regarding types of waste Regular follow

2019	Blood Donation Camp(Conducted 2 times)	45	430 Units of Blood Collected	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Organization of YRC Camps(District State Level & National)	59	59	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	First Aid and Home Nursing Training Camp	75	75	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Camp organized for the social Cause	127+50*(KhojkipurVillage)+36(ApnaGhar at Ambala)=213	450	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Health and Legal Aid camp for senior citizens	115	547	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	Formation of YRC Unit	360	360	YRC Counsellors upliftment
2020	Blood Donation Camp	40	70 Units of Blood Collected	Contribution to the noble cause for the Society
	First Aid Training Camp	70	80	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Awareness Camp For Youth And Road Safety	43	67	YRC Counsellors upliftment
	Formation of YRC Unit	350	350	YRC Counsellors upliftment

Table-1: Data Analysis for the activities done by YRC Unit of Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala Cantt

The number of activities done by the YRC unit since the formation of cell shows its contribution for the overall enhancement in the moral and human values in students leading the growth of the institute and society. The bar chart in figure-1 shows that YRC unit of Sanatan Dharma College is doing a lot and

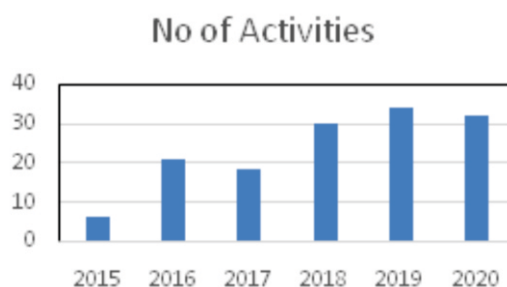


Figure-1 Analysis of the number of Activities done by unit

graph of the involvement in the various activities is increasing day by day.

Further Scopes of the improvements

Although YRC Unit of the College has already achieved many mile stones but there is always a scope of improvements and more contribution that may be added for the growth of the YRC Unit at the state and National Level. Few activities are suggested as given below:

1. Promotion of health and hygiene.
2. Service to others such as First Aid and Home Nursing.
3. National Integration.
4. World friendliness.
5. Relief work during emergencies like floods, fire, earthquake and other natural calamities.
6. Eradication of social evils such as Drug De-addiction, HIV/ AIDS awareness, Female Foeticide, Dowry, Illiteracy etc.
7. Promotion of Voluntary Blood Donation movement.
8. Protection of environment to combat climatic changes and energy conservation.
9. Promotion of Eye & Organ donation.

Conclusion: Youth Red Cross activities have immense potential to form habits and humanity in students but also plays an important role in the social as well as institutional growth. Pointing such significant activities of a particular institute where YRC is an active and structured body and continuously involved in the overall growth of student, society and institute as well. This Unit is working for the specific targets and objectives in its true sense.

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