

GOVERNOR'S SECRETARIAT

MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG

Press Communiqué

Shillong, December 03, 2025 : The Hon'ble Governor of Meghalaya and President of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), Meghalaya State Branch, chaired the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Society at Durbar Hall, Lok Bhavan, today.

The meeting was also graced by Shri Shanbor Shullai, Minister of Arts and Culture, Government of Meghalaya and Shri Wailadmiki Shylla, Minister of Health and family Welfare, Government of Meghalaya who was inducted as the Vice-President of the Red Cross Society Meghalaya State Branch. Officials from Red Cross and State Government including Shri River O Wahlang, IFS (Rtd.), Chairman IRCS, Meghalaya State Branch, Shri H.C.Choudhary, Principal Secretary to the Governor, General Secretary, IRCS and other dignified persons were also present.

In his address, the Hon'ble Governor expressed immense pride in the humanitarian service undertaken by the IRCS Meghalaya State Branch and commended its role in building a resilient and caring society. He stated that being part of a global movement rooted in compassion, neutrality, and voluntary service is both a privilege and a responsibility.

The Hon'ble Governor highlighted the important contributions of the Society over the past year, particularly in the areas of disaster response, first-aid training, blood donation drives, healthcare outreach, and awareness programmes across rural and remote areas. He applauded the swift mobilisation of relief efforts during floods, landslides, and other emergencies, which has saved and supported countless lives.

Acknowledging the significant partnerships between the Red Cross, state authorities, and other agencies, the Hon'ble Governor noted that such collaboration has enhanced the reach and impact of humanitarian interventions in Meghalaya.

The Hon'ble Governor also expressed concern over the rising challenges of drug abuse and teenage pregnancy along with Health Disasters like HIV AIDS, TB and Cancer specially among young people in the North Eastern region. He stressed that Red Cross along with

educational institutions must remain proactive and vigilant in guiding students towards healthy choices, strong moral foundations and responsible behaviour. Referring to the rapidly evolving global challenges such as climate change, pandemics, and socio-economic disparities, the Hon'ble Governor emphasized the increasing relevance of the Red Cross movement. He encouraged the organisation to continue its efforts towards innovation, capacity-building, and community resilience.

The Hon'ble Governor extended heartfelt appreciation to every volunteer, member, and supporter of the Red Cross Society in Meghalaya for their dedicated service. He reiterated the State Branch's commitment to upholding the seven fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement—humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity, and universality.

The AGM also reviewed the activities and achievements of the past year and discussed strategies to strengthen future humanitarian actions in the State.

The Hon'ble Governor concluded by encouraging the Society to persist in its noble mission of bringing hope, healing, and support to vulnerable communities across Meghalaya.