

Mission Blood Collection

MARCH – JUNE 2020

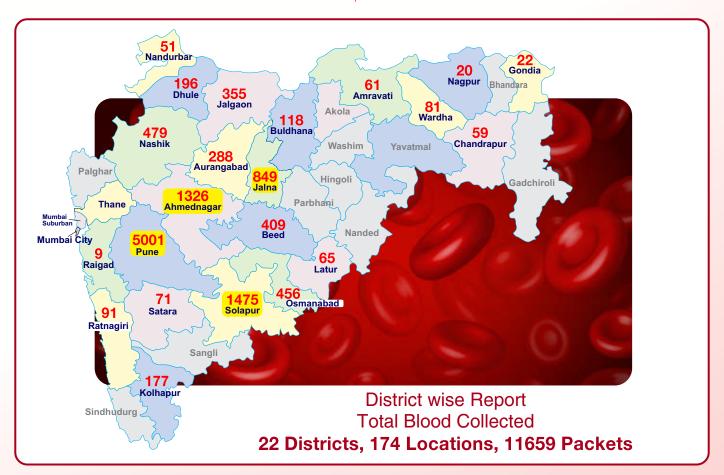


'Mission Blood Collection' during the Covid 19 Outbreak









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About Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana

Established in the year 1985, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana (BJS) has been in the forefront of addressing national concerns in the areas of Disaster Response, Social Development and Educational Initiatives. Having its head office in Pune, BJS is a non-political, non-profit, professionally managed Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with a nationwide footprint working towards the benefit of all.

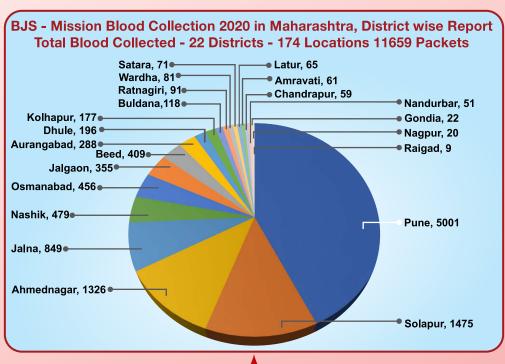
BJS works in progressional steps to achieve optimum and lasting impact - identifying issues, researching the needs, developing solutions based on practical experiences, implementing them sizable pilot projects to validate scalability, after analyzing the pilot results, and taking the modules countrywide roll-out and implementation.

The foundation of Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana is the Volunteers' Network that is built very meticulously since day one. BJS has a nation-wide network of volunteers actively carrying out BJS responsibilities with relentless commitment. This volunteers' network is the real strength of the organization. Having such a committed network till grass-root level serving for the social cause, BJS demonstrated the power of executing projects or many seemingly uphill tasks with speed and scale.





Touching millions through our work.







The Concept of "Mission Blood Collection"

Identifying the need for excess bloodstock during this pandemic, for routine casualties as well as for growing number of corona patients, Shri Shantilal Muttha, Founder of BJS, decided to initiate the project "Mission Blood Collection", to support many efforts of the government of India to increase the volume of blood collection amidst the growing threat of the pandemic.

Soon after, BJS voluntarily stepped forward to fill the gap and support the governmental efforts by initiating a state-wide blood donation drive, with the help of our deeply-rooted, active network of 5000+ volunteers in Maharashtra. BJS instinctively launched the "Blood Collection" mission on March 25, 2020.

The Need for "Blood Collection"

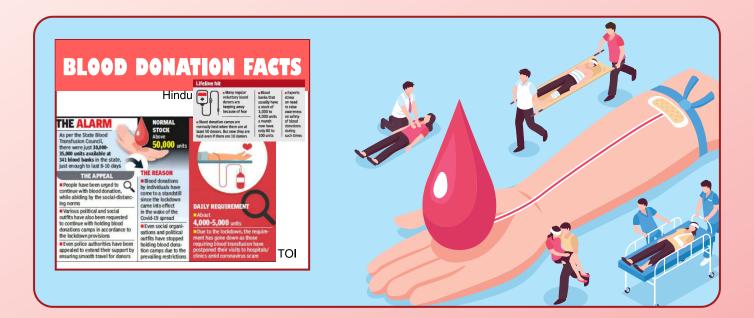
We are living in unprecedented times, where the country has to now deal with a deadly pandemic like COVID-19, causing difficulties in providing necessary medical care that may arise due to shortage of blood.

The various challenges arisen due to the COVID-19 outbreak in Maharashtra have been hampering voluntary blood donation activities since March 20, causing scarcity of blood in several blood banks. The availability of limited stock of blood is mounting concerns for blood banks and health authorities.

Maharashtra's daily need for blood accounts for 4500-5000 units each day to treat critically ill patients, emergency surgeries, accident cases, and patients with blood diseases. However, there has been a significant impact on blood availability due to reduced blood donation. Low donor turnout owing to fears surrounding corona virus, social distancing, lockdown, and restrictions on blood donation camps have all contributed to the shortfall.

As per WHO, blood donation by 1% population is generally the minimum to meet a nation's most basic need for blood. However, India's blood shortage and inconsistency remains a larger issue to deal with and is particularly worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recently, WHO has issued an indication stating there's a need for preparation of an immediate action plan to mitigate the potential blood shortage, during and after COVID-19.





The Willing Support of Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (MCCIA)

The MCCIA's PPCR Department willingly came forward to support the BJS led 'Mission Blood Collection' by extending their generous support. On April 4, 2020, PPCR decided to boost the BJS Blood Collection Mission by offering financial assistance, enabling us to progress on a larger scale, faster and smoother.

HEARTFELT THANKS

 ${\mathfrak W}$ e herewith extend our gratitude to all the members of

PPCR and Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries & Agriculture

for your generous support and encouragement during this crucial time.

It is with your help that we could contribute to making available enough blood for the blood banks

during the difficult times of pandemic.

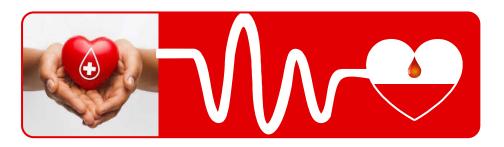
Your support has not only has helped

reach a wider community

but also put a smile on many faces

who would rejoice the good health after transfusion.

Once again, thank you for all the support and cooperation in making this mission a grand success.





Implementation of "Mission Blood Collection"

Commitment

Bharatiya Jain Sanghatana and it's volunteers pledged to strictly adhere to all the directives and guidelines issued by State Blood Transfusion Council (SBTC) and the Government of India, to ensure the safety of blood donors as well as medical practitioners, in order to obtain the best possible blood collection.

Discussions and Meetings

To initiate, BJS District President and senior office bearers put focussed efforts in coordinating meetings and successfully concluding discussions with blood bank authorities, healthcare authorities, and law enforcement authorities in their respective districts. Their sustained efforts helped us in arranging blood donation camps in almost all the districts of Maharashtra.

Selection of Venues for Blood Donation Camps

Selection and finalization of the venue for blood camps was perhaps the most difficult of tasks in this whole mission. BJS office bearers took rigourous efforts in coordinating with various schools, halls, open space owners, temple trustees and other space owners requesting them to facilitate the space for this noble campaign. Upon providing satisfactory answers to all the questions such as the safety issues, costs, etc, the places were allowed for use by the owners.

The venues were thoughtfully selected considering various parameters such as cleanliness, hygiene, ventilation, ease of conveyance for citizens & doctors, area in size, and those places that allowed to maintain social distancing.

Training & Guidance

All the BJS volunteers were provided necessary training, guidance and instructions regarding conducting blood donation camps and procedures for receiving financial assistance from PPCR, via phonecalls&Whatsapp messages. All the doctors

and other paramedical staff involved were also trained on maintaingn the safety protocols as laid down by the government.

Awareness and Appeal

Upon finalizing the dates and venues, an appeal, via phone and WhatsApp was made to all the local NGOs, social workers, and various institutions inviting them to support the camps and encourage citizens to come forward and donate blood.

A mobile number was shared for the support within the area to help interested donors to participate by taking a prior appointment.

The Uphill Task of Encouraging Blood Donors

It was a big challenge to encourage and motivate citizens to come forward for blood donation during the growing threat of a pandemic and moreover the strict lockdown. Fears and concerns regarding contracting the virus made it all the more difficult for us to motivate the donors. However, our volunteers worked relentlessly to spread awareness to motivate donors and remove the fears by speaking to local leaders, self-help groups and other local groups of the society. Soon, their efforts paid off with a large number of blood donors starting to visit the camps.

♦ MIS

The BJS head office set in place a Management Information System to ensure that the PPCR funds are immediately transferred to all the respective BJS branches that organized blood donation camps and according to their count of blood packets collected.

Adhering to Social Distancing Norms

All those who enquired and registered for blood donation over the phone and WhatsApp were called for donation in a group of 4-5 people at a time, and at an interval of 30 minutes in order to be able to maintain social distancing.

As per the directives issued by the Government of India, regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, BJS volunteers strictly adhered to the social distancing norms, during all the blood donation camps held in all districts of Maharashtra.



"No single case of contraction or any casualty had been reported from any of the blood camps held across Maharashtra."

The Routine Practice of Sanitization and Fumigation

Any person visiting the camp for blood donation had to strictly undergo hand sanitization. Our volunteers ensured a sufficient quantity of sanitizers were available at the venue, as per the approved standards of quality.

After each donation, the couch was fumigated for safety purpose for the next donor. Even after completion of the camp, the place was well fumigated for the safe after-use.







♦ Adherence to Protocols for Collection of Blood

Each donor was asked a certain set of questions before undergoing blood donation. Only upon satisfactory answers, the donors were approved to donate.

Some of the questions considering the current COVID-19 pandemic included – travel history of past two months, COVID-19 symptoms, any blood disorders and other general questions and checking of temperatures using Infra Red Thermomters.

Only subject to meeting the requirements the donor was allowed to donate blood.

Necessary safety precautions and standard medical practices were followed for every blood collection center.

Certificate of Contribution from Blood Banks

At the end of each camp, BJS volunteers collected a certificate of contribution from the respective blood bank mentioning the count of blood packets, collected through the particular camp, for official reasons, authenticity and records purpose. The photographs of the certificates were then sent to BJS Head Office via WhatsApp.







































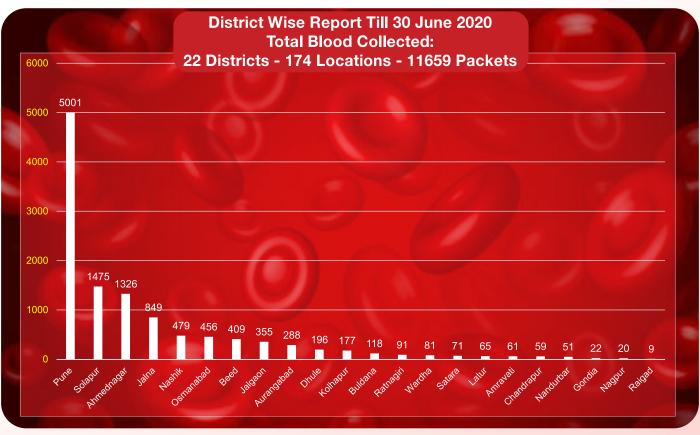
The Outcome of Mission Blood Collection

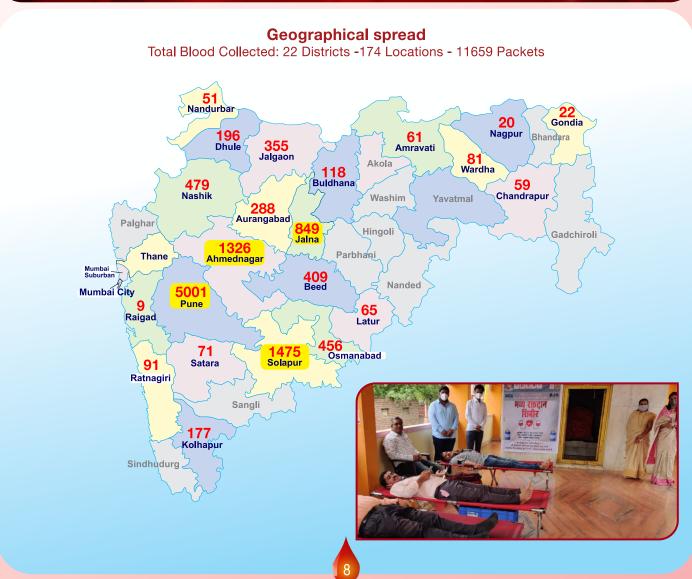
Despite several challenges put forth by the sudden lockdown and prevailing COVID-19 threat, BJS volunteers stood strong and successfully conducted 174 blood donation camps in 22 districts between March 25 to June 30, 2020. All the efforts resulted in a collection of total 11,659 blood packets.

Summary
District-wise Count of Blood Packets Collected
Date: 25th March to 30th June 2020

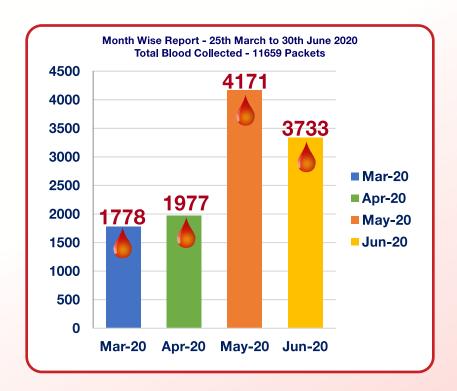
Districtwise Blood Donation Camps				
SN	District	Count		
1	Pune	5001		
2	Solapur	1475		
3	Ahmednagar	1326		
4	Jalna	849		
5	Nashik	479		
6	Osmanabad	456		
7	Beed	409		
8	Jalgaon	355		
9	Aurangabad	288		
10	Dhule	196		
11	Kolhapur	177		
12	Buldana	118		
13	Ratnagiri	91		
14	Wardha	81		
15	Satara	71		
16	Latur	65		
17	Amravati	61		
18	Chandrapur	59		
19	Nandurbar	51		
20	Gondia	22		
21	Nagpur	20		
22	Raigad	9		
		11659		

























In the very first month, i.e., at the end of March, we collected a total of 1,778 blood packets. With slight progress in April with 1,977, we recorded a steep increment in blood collection with 4,171 packets in the month of May 20. In June, we collected 3,733 blood packets. Despite the lockdown, a total of 11,264 Blood Packets were collected.

Some of the top districts include Pune with a maximum blood collection of 5,001 packets, followed by Solapur – 1,475, Ahmednagar – 1,326, Jalna – 849, Nashik – 479, Osmanabad – 456.

Even when some of the cities were struggling to cope with rising COVID-19 cases, our volunteers ensured the blood donation camps are conducted safely and without any hassles.







Temporary Slowdown and Resumption

Due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 pandemic, the government permitted only critical surgeries as a precautionary measure to avoid further spread of the contagion. Moreover, the lockdown curbed the movement of traffic, reducing the number of accident cases. Thus, to avoid wastage of collected valuable blood that remained unused for a long time, the blood camps were purposefully slowed down by BJS during 1st May to 15th May 2020.

In the middle of May, the blood donation camps restarted in full swing. The demand for blood began to grew on a daily basis. Either the previous stock of blood was exhausted or had reached the expiry date. The relaxation in lockdown too resumed the clinical treatments, pending surgeries and other blood-related treatments. Increasing traffic on road began to show more accidental cases.









BJS Response to Disaster



1993 - Latur Earthquake

Relief operations and educational rehabilitation of 1200 affected children from Latur to BJS Wagholi Educational Rehabilitation Centre (WERC), Pune for 11 years.



1996 - Jabalpur Earthquake

Educational rehabilitation of affected Children.



1997 – Educational Rehabilitation of Children from tribal belts of Maharashtra Ongoing educational rehabilitation of children from tribal belts since 1997.



2001 - Gujarat Earthquake

Relief operations and construction of 368 semi-permanent schools in 90 days saving the academic year of 1,20,000 children.



2004 - Tsunami

Andaman & Nicobar Islands – BJS constructed 34 Primary Health Centres-Sub centres and 11 schools catering to all 37 islands within one year.



2005 - Jammu & Kashmir Earthquake

BJS in partnership with Central Government, State Government, and NDMA provided 870 shelters to 15,000 people in record time of 1 month and additionally, took up an extraordinary challenge of bringing 500 children from Kashmir to WERC for their immediate educational rehabilitation.



2008 - Bihar Floods

BJS under took the responsibility of medical care and daily food for 1,50,000 people for 180 days.



2013 - Maharashtra Drought-Free Movement

BJS initiated the Maharashtra Drought-Free Movement in Beed district by desilting 117 water bodies in 1 month and excavating 20 lakh cubic meters of silt for use on 5000 acres of farm land to make it fertile.



2015–Educational Rehabilitation of children of farmers who committed suicide Ongoing educational rehabilitation at BJS WERC of 600 children from Maharashtra of farmers who committed suicide.



2015 - Nepal Earthquake

Provided health and medical care through camps and set up orthopaedic hospital food camps for their staff, patients and relatives.



2014 - 2015 - 2016 Maharashtra Drought

BJS distributed water through tankers in remote villages and worked on naala deepening and widening in Beed, Latur and Osmanabad districts.



2017 - Maharashtra Drought-Free Movement

Supported 350 villages through 500 earthmovers for watershed management.



2018 Maharashtra Drought-Free Movement -

Supported 1,500 villages across 75 talukas with 1,650 earthmovers for watershed management work.



2018 - 2019 - 2020 Sujalam Suphalam -

BJS has worked in 2,700 villages in 27 districts across Maharashtra and Karnataka. BJS successfully created 9,497 crore liters of water storage capacity.











