

চ বি জা আর্কাইভজ
FOR THE PAST-COMFORT
- 839 -
FOR THE PRESENT-OCCUPATION
FOR THE FUTURE-NATIONHOOD

BANGLADESH VOLUNTEER SERVICE CORPS

The Corps has been formed by refugees themselves and is now in action in over 160 camps in West Bengal, Tripura, Assam and Meghalaya.

It is organised by prominent citizens and leaders from Bangladesh. Themselves refugees, they are dedicated to the task of building peace for the future, reconstructing life out of the ashes of the appalling events which began in March 1971 and still continue to drive out peaceful citizens from their homeland by the million.



The despondency and bitterness generated in some ten million people, their dependence on the benevolence of others for their livelihood, even for a meal or a blanket, and the experience of living in cramped and squalid conditions without a home, combine to de-humanise those who have already suffered enough.

Ten million people who have come to India for fear of their lives now take stock of the future : India cannot provide them with work or land, so they **must** go back, but it will be with the indelible memory of looting, arson, rapine, abduction, murder and other indescribable horrors ; on return to their homeland their search will continue—too often in vain—for lost wives, daughters, mothers, sons, husbands... Some are already having to adjust themselves to accept their own children conceived in rape.

There will be many thousands of problems concerning the recovery of lands and property.

Only firm discipline, determined self-help, and a united purpose in reconstructing the torn country will avert yet another bloodbath.

This is the ultimate aim of the BVSC, to be achieved through co-ordinated social development work in the refugee camps.



In the camps the BVSC is active in many ways—

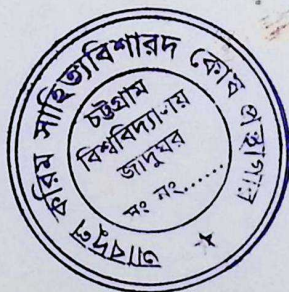
- helping the camp authorities to maintain discipline and to keep morale high ;
- running schools for the children ;
- distributing supplementary protein foods to children and the sick ;
- helping to keep the camps clean and hygienic ;
- starting craft-classes and cottage industries for men and women ;
- keeping people occupied in various ways ;
- fostering unity and giving training for the maintenance of law and order, responsible citizenship, and peace in the future ;
- running cultural and educational programmes ;
- visiting all the huts and tents regularly to comfort and advise those who are sick or in any need.

BVSC is dedicated to the rebuilding of healthy community life where all the circumstances – apart from the indomitable human spirit – are ranged against it.

BVSC NEEDS MONEY FOR :

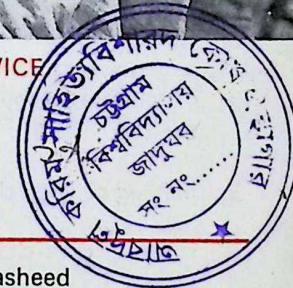
1. ALLOWANCES to refugee workers (the allowances can only be very small).
2. MATERIALS FOR SCHOOLS, craft-classes and small-scale industries.
3. SUPPLEMENTARY PROTEIN RATIONS for children and other special cases.
4. SHELTER MATERIALS, BLANKETS, AND CLOTH, where these have not been provided by Government or other organisations.
5. MEDICAL SUPPLIES for additional dispensaries and field hospitals.
6. RADIOS AND LOUDSPEAKER EQUIPMENT for each camp.
7. PREPARATION OF EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, publications, and educational radio programmes.
8. FOOD AND MEDICINES for supply centres in areas of Bangladesh where there is a proven need for relief.
9. WORK PROJECTS in such areas, for destitute labourers to prevent them from swelling the numbers of the refugees further.
10. CAMPS FOR SPECIAL TRAINING in camp duties and civil administration.

Charitable organisations and all agencies and individuals concerned with peace and the establishment of human rights in this sub-continent are urged to give generously and regularly for the support of BVSC.



BANGLADESH
VOLUNTEER
SERVICE
CORPS

c/o UNITED RELIEF SERVICE
16, SUDDER STREET
CALCUTTA-16
Phone : 23-2904



Executive Director Mr. Mamoon-al-Rasheed
Chairman Mr. Rahmat Ali
Advisers Conveners of United Relief Service
and others.

Please send remittances by Bank Transfer to
National and Grindlays Bank Ltd.

শ্রোত্র Calcutta-16

for BANGLADESH VOLUNTEER SERVICE CORPS
A/c. No. 453518.
with a separate intimation to the Executive Director.

Photos : BVSC

Published on behalf of BVSC by the United Relief Service, at 16, Sudder Street, Calcutta-1 and printed by Studio Beevash, 45, Free School Street, Calcutta-16.