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## Mourners provided with emergent health cover by PRCs through First Aid Posts in AJK on Youm-e-Ashura:

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First Aid Posts:

MIRPUR (AJK): July 18: In a dedicated effort to ensure the health and safety of mourners during the sacred occasion of Youm-e-Ashura, the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) AJK State Branch Wednesday established First Aid Posts in various parts of Azad Jammu Kashmir including across the districts of Mirpur, Muzaffarabad, Neelum and Kotli, official sources said.

The initiative was aimed to provide immediate medical assistance to participants and manage any emergency situations effectively, Assma Siddique, Spokesperson of local Chapter of PRCS AJK, told reporters here on Thursday.

“The PRCS deployed specialized First Aid Emergency Responders Teams at multiple strategic locations within the districts. These teams were well-equipped and trained to handle various medical emergencies that might arise during the processions”, she said adding that their primary focus was to offer on-the-spot first aid to mourners and facilitate the swift transportation of those with serious injuries to nearby hospitals.

The Spokesperson continued as saying that over the course of the event, more than 800 mourners provided with immediate first aid across the four districts. The types of injuries treated ranged from minor cuts and bruises to more severe conditions such as dehydration and fainting spells. For the 100 individuals who sustained serious injuries, PRCS ambulances were on standby to transport them promptly to the nearest hospitals, ensuring they received the necessary medical care without any delays.

The First Aid Posts were equipped with essential medical supplies, including bandages, antiseptics, pain relief medications, and hydration solutions. The PRCS ambulances were stocked with advanced life-saving equipment to handle critical emergencies during transport, she said.

Highlighting the input of the first aid project on the eve of the sanctified day of Youm-e-Ashur, Assma said that in district Muzaffarabad 380 mourners were provided with immediate First Aid by emergency response team and 42 were transported to Combine Military Hospitals (CMH). In District Neelum 100, Kotli 80, Mirpur 80, and Rawalakot 200 mourners were provided with immediate medical assistance and First Aid.

“In order to respond effectively the PRCS AJK deployed 20 First Aid Emergency Responders in district Muzaffarabad and 10 Emergency Responders in other three districts. In addition, two ambulances were deployed along the route of processions in Muzaffarabad”, she said adding “however in district Mirpur, Kotli, Rawalakot and Neelum 1 ambulance in each district was deployed”.

Meanwhile Secretary Pakistan Red Crescent Society AJK Branch, MS Gulzar Fatima, here Thursday expressed her gratitude to the volunteers and emergency responders for their dedication and swift action. “Our teams worked tirelessly to provide essential medical aid and support to the mourners during Youm-e-Ashura. Their efforts ensured that many lives were protected and cared for during this significant event,” Fatima added