



## PRESS RELEASE

**Bhubaneswar 23/03/2020**

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19 briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha in light of prevention of COVID-19. Smt. Anu Garg, Principal Secretary, WCD & Mission Shakti was also present.

- He informed that State Government had earlier notified lock down in the territorial jurisdiction of 5 revenue districts Khurda, Cuttack, Ganjam, Kendrapara, Angul and the municipal jurisdiction of Puri, Rourkela (including RSP township) Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Balasore, Jajpur, Jajpur Road and Bhadrak. Now, in partial modification lock down is extended to nine more districts of Puri, Nayagarh, Jagatsinghpur, Dhenkanal, and entire jurisdiction of Jajpur, Bhadrak, Balasore, Sambalpur and Jharsuguda districts from 7 AM of 24th March till 9PM of 29th March.
- Intra-state Bus movement is suspended until further order with effect from 11AM on 24/03/2020.
- City Bus services in all the Urban Local Bodies in the entire state shall be suspended until further order from the midnight of 23/03/2020.
- In all 6,798 Gram Panchayats, 7276 Temporary Medical Camps have been identified with provision of all basic facilities to meet any emergent situation.
- One designated officer has been declared as Nodal Officer In each GP for the Temporary Medical Camp.
- Service providers have been identified for supply of all essential materials like food, bed, bed-sheets etc. in case of necessity.
- So also, all CHCs & PHCs have been ordered to remain in readiness with all basic facilities like drinking water, toilet, electricity and all sanitary measures for which, the BDOs have been authorized to spend Rs. 10.00 lakh for CHC and Rs. 5.00 lakh for PHC.
- The Members of the PRI Institutions will sensitize the people of their respective areas regarding consequences of "COVID-19" in the light of Government advisory on 7 items.

- The ST/SC Development Department will complete distribution of pre-Matric Scholarship in advance in all the hostels located in the locked down areas earlier by 6PM on 25th March.
- The parents/guardians and/or representatives shall take their wards from the hostels to completely vacate them by 6.00PM of 25th March, 2020.
- The parents/guardians and/or their representatives will transport their wards by private transports with a certificate provided by the Headmaster/Teacher to the effect that the vehicle is being used to transport the children to their homes and such transport will come under exempted category.
- One person, who has returned recently from Uzbekistan, has been found to be violating COVID-19 Government quarantine guidelines. Based on the report of empowered authority, and preliminary enquiry by police, finding a prima facie case, Dhanupali Police has registered a case against the defaulter under section 188/271 IPC, today at Dhanupali PS Sambalpur. The identity of person has been withheld to protect his privacy.
- Closure of Anganwadi Centres(AWCs) is extended for a period of one month i.e., from 1st to 30th April,2020.
- Take Home Ration(THR), in form of chhatua, ladoos etc, for the month, will be provided to children(6 months-3 years) and pregnant & nursing women, in their households, by Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) /Helpers(AWHs)
- Dry ration, in lieu of morning snacks/ Hot Cooked Meals(HCMs) for the month, will be provided to pre-school (3-6 years),at their households, by AWWs/AWHs.
- Eggs, as per entitlement, are to be distributed to such beneficiaries, on a weekly basis, at household level.
- Members of chhatua producing SHGs and AWWs/AWHs are to maintain standards of hygiene and protocols for social distancing.
- As on 12 noon today, 85 samples were sent for test and reports of all the samples have been obtained. All found negative.
- Health of 02 identified patients' remains stable.
- It is reported that 56 persons had contact with the patient. Communication has been made with 53 persons while effort is on to communicate rest 03 persons.
- 09 nos of monitoring teams are working for the purpose.
- 3667 persons have been registered through 104 Helpline.

- 35 persons are in Hospital Isolation.
- Government of Odisha has notified that all non-essential Central Government Offices, Central Public Undertakings, Banks, Insurances etc will operate with upto 10% of their staff strength.
- Government of Odisha has notified that in the interest of proper enforcement of the Home Quarantine a form will be affixed on the residence of quarantine person in the interest of public health.
- The District Collectors are authorised to adopt home quarantine/isolation measures for persons returning from places outside the state.
- Govt. of Odisha has notified that Critical Departments will now function with up to 50% of the staff strength identified by the Secretary of the Department.
- The Departments classified as partially critical will function with officers and staff up to 10% of the staff strength.
- The Departments classified as Non-critical, the officers and staff shall not attend office. However they will be available on phone and if necessary they shall be called to the office.

Surya Mishra  
Sucheta Priyadarshini  
Information Officer