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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 02/08/2020,

Dr. Saurav Garg, Covid Observer, Cuttack District and Principal Secretary, Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment Department and Smt. Ananya Das, Commissioner, Cuttack Municipal Corporation briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik commended Odisha Mining Corporation for starting its own Covid Care Homes at 4 locations i.e. Bhubaneswar, Daitari, South Kaliapani & Gandhamardan to protect their employees and workers during COVID-19. Extending Home Isolation facilities, these CCHs will accommodate COVID-19 suspect/positive cases, further strengthening Odisha's fight against the pandemic.
- With unmatched facilitation service and infrastructure, Odisha has attracted investments worth around ₹ 20,979 Cr., in spite of the global COVID-19 pandemic slowing down economies all over the world. These investments will help in rebooting the economy and generating thousands of jobs across the State.
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Odisha has witnessed a positive growth of State GST collection. The State collected 13% more GST this July in comparison to the same month of the previous financial year.
- State Government has issued guidelines for private hospitals, nursing homes & labs intending to start COVID-19 testing by Rapid Antigen & RT-PCR method. These institutions can now start testing after mandatory registration.
- Dr. Saurav Garg, Covid Observer, Cuttack District highlighted important steps taken in Cuttack district to contain COVID-19.
 - As of now, Cuttack district has total of 2279 positive cases out of which 978 are from CMC while 1301 cases are from rest of the district. There are 490 active cases in CMC area and 386 cases in Rural Cuttack. Cumulative number of samples tested in the district till date is 35634.
 - Out of 267 Covid warriors who had been found positive, 71 remain under treatment and 196 have recovered.

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- Maximum positive cases in the last week were from Athagarh and Nischintakoili blocks. The increase is due to intensified testing and rigorous contact tracing of previously detected positive cases. A number of Covid warriors from Nischintakoili Block were detected positive this week. The block office was closed, sanitized and staff home quarantined. The positive cases are gradually recovering.
 - As on date, out of 64 Cluster TMCs, 47 are occupied. Currently, a total of 564 people are staying there while 437 have completed their quarantine and discharged. For suspect cases (symptomatic and un-tested), 373 Covid Care Homes are operational with as many as 3890 beds.
 - The Covid Care Centre at DRIEMS/Tangi is operating with a bed capacity of 300+. Work is underway to increase the number to 500. The same is expected to be completed this week. Also another 100 bedded Covid Care Centre at Badamba is expected to be completed this week. A Covid Health Centre with 150 beds is already operational at GIMSAR/Athagarh. Total bed capacity in Rural Cuttack is currently 450 and expected to cross 750 this week. All these are in addition to the infrastructure within Cuttack Municipal Corporation. Private institutions are being encouraged to set up their own Covid Care Centres or Covid Care Homes.
 - Under the isolate, trace and test protocol, 1828 Covid Management Committees are playing an active role in monitoring the disease status in the district. In Urban areas, 113 Ward Level Committees perform the same role.
 - 13 Block level Testing Teams are being stationed for this purpose. They will use both Rapid Antigen and conventional testing methods to increase the testing numbers.
 - The District is stressing on strict adherence to Covid prevention protocol in Government offices and establishments. BDOs as Covid Monitors are made personally responsible to ensure compliance. Training of all Covid Management Committee members is complete. The goal is to make them completely self-sufficient in testing, tracing and transportation of positive cases.
 - Identification of Covid volunteers to help in Covid Care Home management, preferably from among those who have recovered, as also the people willing to take part in plasma donation drive is complete.
- Smt. Ananya Das, Commissioner, CMC while analyzing Covid update of CMC area, said that CMC has declared Old Rausapatna and Behera Sahi (Malgodown) as containment zones. As on today 188 new positive cases have been found in these containment zones. Sample collection, active surveillance and household screening are going on.

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- Private Labs which are registered under the Odisha Clinical Establishment Act can do Antigen Testing according to ICMR guidelines. NABL accredited labs can now do RT-PCR testing according to ICMR guidelines.
- In Collaboration with SCB Mental Health Institute, NIMHANS and UNDP, Webinar is organized twice a week to interact with Covid positive persons staying in different CCCs and DCHs in CMC area. Feedback is being taken from inmates regarding their concern, taboos and other issues related to their mental well being.
- As per direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister, persons who have successfully completed institutional quarantine are being given incentive of Rs.2000/- each. A sum of Rs. 114,10,77,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- As of now, 6703 Covid Care Homes are operational in 6,798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 66,973 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services.
- As of now, 1466 number of Cluster level TMCs have been completed with 70,845 beds in the State.
- From 1st August morning to 2nd August morning, 10 no of cases have been registered by the Police in the state for violation of different regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19. Out of these 7 cases are for violation of lock down, 2 cases for violation of Home Quarantine and 1 case is related to other issues. 15 persons have been arrested so far.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 1st August, 5,43,319 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 34,913.
- 21,273 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 197.
- No of active cases are 13,404.
- 13,404 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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Information Officer

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