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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 12/08/2020,

Sri Asit Trapathy, Chief Secretary briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik, reviewing Covid situation in Khurda, Cuttack, Jajpur and Sundargarh districts today, observed that in a span of three weeks, we could establish 5 Plasma Therapy Units in the State, due to effort of the administration and doctors and all connected Medical professionals of those hospitals. He noted that in order to enhance the testing during the coming weeks, Collectors are advised to lead the programme to conduct tests at Sub-Divisional hospitals and Community Health Centres. The concept of Plasma Donation must be popularised at all levels.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that considering global experiences as well as experiences from different States, our Government has allowed home isolation as the preferred mode, both in urban and rural areas. Home isolation must be promoted as a good practice, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister urged the public representatives and members of Panchayatiraj institutions to lead an appealing and convincing IEC campaign to prevent stigmatisation of the Covid positive persons in the community.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that every life is precious for his Government and we should work towards saving more lives. Odisha is one of the few States in the country in providing universal care for Covid patients completely from testing to treatment to food, transport and accommodation etc.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik, today on the occasion of International Youth Day, said that investment in youth is an investment in future. 'Let us celebrate the infinite energy, enthusiasm and passion of young generation and channelize them so that they become torchbearers of positive change in society, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister paid humble tributes to eminent scientist, father of India's space programme, Padma Bhushan & Padma Vibhushan Vikram Sarabhai. His life's work laid foundation of glorious institutions like ISRO &

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IIM, Ahmedabad and opened new frontiers for India's space exploration, he added.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister conveyed best compliments to the successful students of +2 Science Examination. Besides, he praised all the students who appeared the examination. Wishing bright future of the students, Hon'ble Chief Minister hoped that they shall continue to work hard with March-ahead zeal and sincerity, irrespective of the result.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik presided over an important meeting of State Cabinet held today afternoon in Lokseba Bhawan. Chief Secretary Sri Asit Tripathy briefed the press on the decisions taken in the Cabinet meeting.
 - State Government has decided to extend 'Nirmal' Scheme to strengthen ancillary services at public health facilities with an estimated Budget of Rs.199815.46 Lakh for the period of 5 years covering 1864 health institutions. The objective of the scheme is to provide better ambiance to the patients and their attendants at public health facilities, to minimise hospital acquired infections, to improve patients' satisfaction. The scheme shall also include the Medical Colleges and Hospitals, AYUSH Colleges and Hospitals, Nursing Schools and Colleges up to PHC level.
 - State Health Assurance Society (SHAS) has taken over Biju Krushak Kalyan Yojana (BKKY) and Odisha State Treatment Fund under Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana (BSKY), for management of claims of empanelled private hospitals. SHAS shall also undertake IEC activities and provide toll-free helpline services.
 - The State Government has approved Gangadhar Meher Lift Canal System to provide assured irrigation to the chronically drought affected areas of Bijepur. In order to fulfil the assurance of Hon'ble Chief Minister to the people of Bijepur, State Cabinet approved tender cost of Rs.1138.63 Crore of this project to provide irrigation facility to 25,600 hectares of agricultural land in Bijepur, Sohela, Barpali Blocks of Baragarh district and Dunguripali Block of Subarnpur district.
 - In view of the extraordinary situation arising out of Corona Virus Pandemic, the State Government has decided to amend the Court-fees Act, 1870 in its application to the State of Odisha to provide payment of Court-fee and for refund of Court-fee through electronic mode (e-payment), in addition to the prevailing system of payment. The litigants and other Stakeholders shall be able to access the Judicial process in the current situation.
 - State Government has approved the proposal for promulgation of an Ordinance for the amendment of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. After this amendment, the Act shall be applicable to every establishment in which 50 or more workmen are employed or were

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employed on any day of the preceding twelve months as contract labour and to every contractor who employs or who employed on any day of the preceding twelve months 50 or more workmen. This amendment shall create a business friendly, conducive environment and more employment opportunities.

- The Weekend Shut down imposed in the districts of Ganjam, Khordha, Gajapati & Cuttack and Rourkela Municipal Corporation is relaxed on 15th August, 2020 up to 11AM to allow the citizens to unfurl National Flag at their premises subject to condition that not more than ten persons shall be congregated at any place and all safety protocols such as social distancing, wearing of masks, proper sanitization etc shall be duly maintained. Special Relief Commissioner has issued order to this effect.
- Result of +2 Science Examination conducted by Council of Higher Secondary Education, Odisha is published today. Out of 97,377 students appeared, 68,374 students have passed the examination. 70.21% of students have passed the exam. 25,339, 24,121 and 18,260 students have passed in First, Second and Third Division respectively. Pass percentage of Boys and the Girls have been 68.04 and 72.7 respectively.
- 7 more Rapid Antigen COVID-19 testing centres at various UCHC/UPHC shall be functional from 12th August 2020 in Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation area. Citizens are requested to approach their nearest centres for testing which shall be completely free of cost.
- 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. 121,29,43,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- From 11th August to 12th August morning, 4 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 which 1 case is related to violation of Lock Down and 3 cases are related to other issues. 25 persons have been arrested.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 11th August, 7,24,354 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 50,672.
- 36,479 persons have already recovered/ discharged. (Today's Recovery-1673)
- No. of Death case 305.
- No of active cases are 13,835.
- 15,508 persons are in Hospital isolation.

Pathani Rout
Information Officer

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