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## PRESS RELEASE

**Bhubaneswar 14/08/2020,**

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik, through a Video Conference today, inaugurated 2 Branches of State Bank of India in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack along with 28 District Sales Hubs in 28 districts. He advised to extend loans on zero percent interest to more and more Women Self Help Groups under Mission Shakti in rural areas in order to strengthen their remarkable role in financial inclusiveness. Similarly, he emphasised upon opening of more branches of the Bank in inaccessible areas of the State.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciated the gesture of the families of Priyankarani Patra, Suchitra Das and Rajalaxmi Das who pledged the organs of their loved ones to help other humans to get a new lease of life. Praying God's blessings for them, Hon'ble Chief Minister said that such donation is the ultimate gift and it shall inspire others to help human life.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister conveyed best wishes for the success of a new initiative of Odisha Tourism Development Corporation (OTDC) 'Ama Ghara and Ama Handisala' for worldwide popularisation of Odia foods and drinks. Odia cuisine has unique identity in the World, he added. The Direct telecast of this programme shall be aired through DD-Odia at 1.30PM on every Saturday and Sunday.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed happiness that all 57 babies born to mothers infected by Corona virus at Covid Hospitals of Ganjam district are healthy with no symptoms of Covid.
- Chief Secretary Sri Asit Tripathy, presiding over a high level meeting through digital mode from Lokseba Bhawan, directed to focus on process reengineering of the excavation and transportation of minor minerals in the State through adoption of technology. He asked Revenue & Disaster Management Department to develop i-4MS software for online monitoring of the minor minerals along the lines of i-3MS portal of Steel & Mines department and to strengthen Directorate of Minor Minerals with necessary manpower and technology support. The minor mineral has the potential of adding Rs.2000 cr per annum to State's own revenue.

**"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"**

- Independence Day will be celebrated in all schools of the State on 15<sup>th</sup> August, although schools have been closed till 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2020. No students shall be asked to attend the school to participate in the celebration. The Headmaster and teachers shall attend flag hosting ceremony following Covid guidelines. The president and members of School Management Committee (SMC) may be invited to attend the celebration. The congregation should not exceed 10 persons. School & Mass Education Department has issued a guideline to this effect which is applicable to all Government Schools, Aided Schools, Private Schools, Madrasas, Sanskrit Tolls, DIETs and other Training Institutes under the Department.
- Virtual Tour of Odisha State Tribal Museum has been taken up by ST & SC Development Department, to enable audience to visualize the exclusive artefacts and unique aspects of Tribal Museum being at home. On every Sunday visitors can access the face-book and twitter pages @scstrti, @scstdev for such purpose. Virtual tour will continue for 14 weeks which has started from 2<sup>nd</sup> August.
- 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. 122,74,91,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- From 13th August to 14th 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 3 cases are related to violation of Lock Down and 1 case is related to other issues. 19 persons have been arrested.

### **Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 13th August, 8,07,826 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 54,630.
- 39,205 persons have already recovered/ discharged. (Today's Recovery-1305)
- No of active cases are 15,047.
- 16,352 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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**Information Officer**

**"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"**