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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 16/09/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik today, through a Video Conference reviewed Covid management in the State with Senior officers and Collectors and appreciated the efforts of Health Functionaries and Covid Warriors in this regard. He expressed satisfaction that more than 1.25 Lakh persons have recovered from Covid while 1 Lakh have recovered in the last 5 weeks itself.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that as per the feedback received about enforcement activities throughout the State, strict adherence of Covid protocol in Bhubaneswar-Cuttack Commissionerate area is not encouraging. He directed DG, Police to look into this and do the needful as being done throughout the State.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the Collectors to scale up MGNREGS and livelihood activities like never before to closely monitor these activities. Emphasizing on the importance of pumping more funds to rural households with economy slowing down, Hon'ble Chief Minister said to support MSME and other industrial activities to reach pre-Covid level.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister further said that the interventions earlier announced by him as Covid livelihood package in Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Horticulture, Soil Conservation, Forestry and Agriculture sector should be followed up as a top priority.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that while the last quarter Economic growth of the country is minus 23%, people must not be allowed to be affected by this. He also directed to closely follow the credit facilities to farmers, Mission Shakti-Self help Groups and weavers, saying that this is the only way to protect rural Odisha particularly poor people from the impact of economic slowdown.
- Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare, Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner, Special Relief Commissioner-cum-ACS, Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Family Welfare attended the meeting. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister (5T) coordinated it.

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- Hon'ble Chief Minister conveyed heartfelt best wishes to all on the occasion of auspicious Viswakarma Puja. He hoped that present difficult situation shall pass away soon and life of everybody shall be happy and prosperous by the blessings of Lord Viswakarma.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked ICICI Bank for deploying a mobile ATM in the State to facilitate banking services at doorsteps of people. It will be stationed at different places as required to provide services like card/card-less cash withdrawals, funds transfer and mobile recharges, he added.
- Chief Secretary Sri Asit Tripathy said that Government has not banned movement of patients to Cuttack and Bhubaneswar. He said, "Government has created advanced Covid hospital facilities in the twin City for people of the entire State. Government is only regulating to ensure that the patients travel safe and with proper medical advice arrangements and oxygen support etc". Further, Sri Tripathy said that carelessness about these matters in past has affected the patients seriously. Referral of the patients with proper medical support shall be helpful in further management of the disease at referral points and shall save their life.
- Additional Chief Secretary Sri Pradeepta Kumar Mohapatra said that there is no ban in referring the Covid patients from different districts to the Special Covid Hospitals at Cuttack and Bhubaneswar for critical care. Sri Mohapatra clarified the procedure for taking proper precautions at the time of sending the patients to referral hospitals at Cuttack and Bhubaneswar.
- TCS has set up a 50 bedded COVID Care Centre near Infocity to accommodate its employees and dependents with COVID-19. Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) along with officials visited the facility and appreciated this gesture of a corporate for contributing to health infrastructure in this challenging time.
- 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. 133,95,88,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- From 15th September to 16th September morning, 05 cases have been registered by the Police in the state for violation of different regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19.

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Health Update

- Odisha has touched the highest single day recovery of Covid patients with the discharge of 4121 patients today.
- Up to midnight of 15th September, 25,67,777 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 1,62,920.
- 1,29,859 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 656.
- No of active cases are 32,352.
- 36,473 persons are in Hospital isolation.

Pathani Rout
Information Officer

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