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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 18/08/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik today, through a Video Conference, reviewed Covid situation in the State and directed to adopt location specific strategy for the districts namely Khordha, Cuttack, Sundargarh and Rayagada in order to reduce positivity rate within a week.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed happiness over the fact that State has crossed one million COVID-19 test milestone and testing capacity of 50,000 samples daily. He also directed to smoothly manage the test kit supply chain. He thanked everyone who worked tirelessly to scale up testing facilities in short time and ramp up testing expeditiously to intensify our fight against the pandemic and save precious lives. He further said that Odisha became the leading State in the Country with 1096 Covid tests per million per day, among the large States.
- Describing the training of more than 50 Lakh people on Covid management a big success, Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked the Panchayatiraj representatives, members of Self help Groups and Covid Committees along with others who are involved sincerely in Covid management activities.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that as of now 5 Plasma Therapy Units are operational in the State and this Therapy has been proved very effective in treatment of serious Covid patients. He also directed to set up a Plasma Bank at Saheed Laxman Nayak Medical College & Hospital, Koraput within coming week.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasised on extensive Home Isolation as there are more asymptomatic patients in the State and advised the PRIs and Covid Care Committees to render necessary assistance for the purpose along with special campaign.
- Chief Secretary Sri Asit Tripathy said that a Multi Disciplinary Technical Team has been constituted by Directorate of Medical Education and Training involving the Professors from 7 Medical Colleges with objective to bring less fatality rate in the State. ACS, Health & Family Welfare Department Sri P.K. Mohapatra, SRC-cum-ACS Sri P. K. Jena, Principal Secretary, Home

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"

Sri Sanjeev Chopra, Principal Secretary, Finance, Sri A.K. Meena and Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister (5T) Sri V. K. Pandian along with District Covid Observers participated in the meeting.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciated Odisha Fire Service personnel and Home Guards for displaying exemplary professionalism and commitment to duty by saving as many as 45 people including children, marooned in the flood water of Saberi River in Malkangiri. He said that the quick action of these personnel to save lives is praiseworthy.
- Hon'ble Minister, Revenue and Disaster Management and Special Relief Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary made aerial survey of the flood affected areas of Malkangiri district. They reviewed the situation in a high level meeting with senior officers held after the aerial survey.
- Incessant rain in the district left 933 villages affected, 321 houses damaged and crop loss in 1971 Hectares of agricultural land. District Administration is directed to submit damage report within 7 days. Assistance shall be provided to the affected people within 48 hours.
- 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. 124,30,87,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- From 17th August to 18th August morning, 11 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 9 cases are related to violation of Lock Down and 2 cases are related to other issues. 23 persons have been arrested.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 17th August, 10,09,454 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 64,533.
- 45,314 persons have already recovered/ discharged. (Today's Recovery-1535)
- No. of Death case 362.
- No of active cases are 18,804.
- 20,339 persons are in Hospital isolation.

Pathani Rout
Information Officer

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