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## PRESS RELEASE

**Bhubaneswar 21/08/2020,**

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik said today, on the occasion of World Senior Citizens Day that the wisdom and experience of Senior Citizens enrich society. 'Let us celebrate these invaluable gifts and ensure that our elders get all the love, affection and empathy to make our society inclusive', he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister while laying foundation stone through Video Conferencing for the establishment of a Maternal and Child Health Hospital at Jagatsinghpur today, said that this health institution shall have an important role in health services. Rs. 16.28 Crore shall be spent for the Hospital with 100 beds while Rs. 2.29 Crore shall be spent to have 10 bedded ICU facility at the DHH, Jagatsinghpur, Hon'ble Chief Minister added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister, through Video Conferencing, inaugurated a high level bridge constructed on Hazipur Sankhari Sahi Road over Biluakhai river in Jagatsinghpur. The 1187 metre bridge will reduce distance between the District headquarter and Bhubaneswar, connect NH-55 with Baishimouza village to all weather road. Rs. 61.42 Crore has been spent for the construction of bridge and this shall help the growth of connectivity, he said.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister while expressing satisfaction over state's effective containment measures and expeditious ramping up of testing said that Odisha has managed to keep COVID-19 positivity rate at 6% compared to the national average at 8.69%. He further said that Odisha is among the six States with lowest positivity rate in the country in fighting against the pandemic.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed happiness that all the Twitter handles of all Government Departments and all District Collectors are verified now, taking forward 5T Charter of Mo Sarkar. This will further strengthen digital governance, feedback based public service delivery and grievances redressal, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister stated that Odisha has emerged as second leading state in the country by conducting 1265 tests per million per day, compared to national average of 580 as per Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. He said that Odisha has been consistently ramping up tests for identification and treatment of COVID-19 positive cases.

**"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"**

- Chief Secretary Sri Asit Tripathy, while taking a district wise review of Covid pandemic with Covid Observers and Collectors directed them to identify exact cause of the spike in Covid positive cases and to roll out their area specific strategy to contain it. He advised the Collectors to keep on updating their approaches with changing situation.
  - While emphasising on a robust home isolation mechanism, Chief Secretary directed that the Covid hospitals should be kept free for treating the patients requiring critical care. Development Commissioner-cum- Additional Chief Secretary Sri Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, Additional Chief Secretary Health and Family Welfare Sri Pradepta Kumar Mohapatra, Additional Chief Secretary and Special Relief Commissioner Sri Pradeep Kumar Jena participated in the review.
  - The Collectors of Rayagada, Sundargarh, Cuttack, Khordha along with Municipal Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation presented updated situation with strategies being followed in their respective areas. Necessary expert advices were given to sharpen their strategies.
- 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. 126,50,19,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- From 20th August to 21st August morning, 2 no of cases have been registered by the Police in the state for violation of different regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19. All these cases are related to violation of lock down. 20 persons have been arrested.

### **Health Update**

- With the recovery of 1927 Covid patients today, Odisha crosses the mile stone of over 50,000 recovered cases.
- Up to midnight of 20th August, 11, 72,426 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 72,718.
- 50,503 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 390.
- No of active cases are 21,772.
- 23,699 persons are in Hospital isolation.

**Pathani Rout**  
**Information Officer**

**"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"**