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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 30/07/2020,

Smt. Shalini Pandit, Mission Director, NHM, Odisha briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik extended heartfelt best wishes to all the successful students who have passed High School Certificate Examination. He also appreciated all the students who appeared the exam. Wishing bright future for all, Hon'ble Chief Minister hoped that they shall continue to work hard with self confidence irrespective of the result and marks secured.
- Responding positively to Hon'ble Chief Minister's appeal, a number of recovered COVID-19 patients are donating plasma. This Therapy is yielding encouraging results.
- Smt. Shalini Pandit, Mission Director, NHM highlighted various measures undertaken to fight COVID-19. She said that so far 28 persons have donated Plasma. Out of 33 Covid patients who have been given Plasma Therapy in the State, 8 have already recovered while others are recovering fast. Plasma Banks are operational in SCB Medical College, Cuttack and Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar and another one in IGH, Rourkela is going to be functional shortly.
 - Due to sincere and timely action of Government, Covid testing has crossed 5 Lakh milestone today. The role of Covid Warriors like Laboratory Assistants, Health Workers, ASHAs and Anganwadi Workers and others who are engaged in collection of samples and massive testing is praiseworthy.
 - COVID-19 testing was first started at RMRC, Bhubaneswar and there after the number of testing centres have been increased. As of now, COVID-19 testing is undertaken in 54 Laboratories managed by both Government and Private Health Institutions. Similarly, True-NAT, RT-PCR, Antigen and CB-NAAT testing are carried on in different District Headquarter Hospitals.
 - State Government has given paramount importance on Covid testing. State is now poised to ramp up its testing capacity up to 20,000 per day. Covid

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infection can be successfully contained if more and more infected people are identified. Government hopes that more people shall come forward voluntarily for Covid testing.

- Keeping in view the requirement, 1000 additional beds have been arranged in Ganjam, Bhubaneswar and Khurda in last 7 days. Similarly, State has enough stock of medicine and Oxygen cylinders with necessary beds.
 - Testing of around 1500-2000 samples is conducted per day in Ganjam district. The number of infected persons has come down in last 3-4 days.
 - Analysis of COVID-19 situation in last few days indicates that about 64% of people below 40 and 7% of people above 60 are prone to infection. Most of the positives have been infected due to contact through social gatherings, marriages, cremations etc. People have been advised to avoid crowd and to adhere to Covid protocols like wearing of masks, hand hygiene and maintaining social distance.
- Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology (VSSUT), Burla (Sambalpur) has published the results of its B. Tech and B. Arch final semester online examination today. It is the first Government University of the state to complete all the final semester examinations of its UG and PG courses in online mode and declared the results in record time.
- More than 98% of its B. Tech and B. Arch students successfully appeared the online final exam and have been able to complete their degree course.
 - The results of the M. Tech, M. Sc and Integrated M. Sc shall also be declared shortly, as the project paper of the students are under evaluation.
- A girl student of SCB Medical College & Hospital, Cuttack who has recovered from COVID-19 donated Plasma with a dedicated spirit of Covid Warrior. She is the first lady Plasma Donor of the State.
- As part of the awareness drive by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Principal Secretary, WCD & Mission Shakti and COVID Observer, Bhubaneswar along with officers, Sachetaks & team visited Biseswari Slum and interacted with the slum people & ward level functionaries. Massive sensitization on Covid protocol was undertaken.
- 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. 110,88,12,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- As of now, 6641 Covid Care Homes are operational in 6,798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 66,944 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services.

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- As of now, 1454 number of Cluster level TMCs have been completed with 70,182 beds in the State.
- From 29th July morning to 30th July morning, 21 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 these 17 cases are for violation of lock down, 1 case for violation of Home Quarantine and 3 cases are for other related issues. 17 persons have been arrested so far.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 29th July, 5,00,238 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 30,378.
- 19,745 persons have already recovered/ discharged. (Recovered today-807)
- No. of Death case 169.
- No of active cases are 10,428.
- 11,238 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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Information Officer

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