PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar02/05/2020,

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19, Shri Nikunja Bihari Dhal, Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Information & Public Relations Department, Sri Manoj Kumar Mishra, Commissioner, Rail Coordination briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, through a Video Conference held today, has discussed with Hon'ble Chief Minister, Karnataka Sri B.S. Yediyurappa and Hon'ble Chief Minister, Andhra Pradesh Sri Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy regarding the return of Odias stranded in both the States. Hon'ble Union Minister, Petroleum and Steel Sri Dharmendra Pradhan also participated in the discussion and emphasised upon safe return. Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked both the Chief Ministers for taking care of Odias stranded there during lockdown period. Hon'ble Chief Minister also sought their cooperation for smooth return of Odias, intending to come to Odisha.

- Hon'ble Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh stated during the discussion that their State Governments have already started taking many steps on the matter and those who wish, can stay in their States and continue to work. However both the Chief Ministers have assured that all cooperation will be provided to those who intend to return to their own State.

- It has come to the notice that some hospitals in private sectors are hesitating to provide critical services, such as dialysis, blood transfusion, chemo therapy and institutional deliveries to their regular patients, either on account of fear of contracting COVID-19 or keeping their Hospitals/Clinics closed. It is also noticed that many places the Hospitals/Clinics are insisting on a COVID-19 test before providing services which is not acceptable. Keeping this in view, Department of Health & Family Welfare has issued an order in this regard in the line of Guideline given by Union Health Ministry to continue treatment of critical diseases.

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"
7261 nos of Temporary Medical Centres have been completed in 6798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total number of 1,87,395 beds have been readied to provide COVID-19 health services in rural areas.

Today, 3,39,450 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 5410 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 114 ULBs 40,746 persons have been provided with food.

From 1st May morning to 2nd May 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 of which 19 no. of cases for violation of lock down, 1 case for violation of Home Quarantine and 1 case related to other issues. 58 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

**Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 1st May, 36593 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 157.
- 57 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1.
- No of active cases are 99.
- 199 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer