COVID-19 PR No-92

PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 13/06/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, today, through a Video Conference discussed with Sri Lakshmi Niwas Mittal, Chairman, ArcelorMittal Group from London regarding industrial investment in Odisha.

- Sri Mittal thanked Hon'ble Chief Minister for his leadership in managing COVID-19 pandemic in extraordinary manner. He also appreciated Hon'ble Chief Minister for his effort in extending cooperation to industrial houses and said that transparency maintained in leasing of Sagasahi and Thakurani Mines in the State auctioned in favour of his company has created world class benchmark.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister suggested Sri Mittal for value addition within Odisha to Odisha's minerals so that it will create more job opportunity and help boost Odisha's economy. He also assured all possible cooperation in the matter.

- ArcelorMittal Group will invest Rs. 2000 Crore in the first phase as part of their expansion plan, by enhancing the capacity of Pellet plant at Paradeep to 12 MPTA from 6MPTA and of benefication plant at Dabuna(Keonjhar) to 16 MPTA from 5MPTA.

- In further leveraging of technology during COVID-19 pandemic, School & Mass Education Department has introduced completion of admission formalities at Government run Schools through phone calls and whatsapp. It will ensure that parents and children do not have to visit the premises of schools.

- During Night Curfew and weekend Shut Down, Dhabas beside National/State Highways have been permitted to open for takeaways only. Similarly, procurement of paddy and delivery of rice, procurement of ground nut and pulses is permitted during weekend Shut Down. Special Relief Commissioner has issued order in this regard.

- Procurement of paddy (Rabi Crop) has crossed the targeted 10 Lakh MT. So far, more than 11,86,000 MT of Rabi paddy have been procured. The paddy procurement will continue till 30th of June.

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"
• 2,57,891 numbers of farmers have registered their name for paddy procurement (Rabi Crop) this year. It is 20% more than that of last year's farmers registration.

• More than Rs.22 Crore worth of pulses and oil seeds have been procured from farmers under price support system through various Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS). The procurement is going on.

• More than 17,000 farmers have registered their name for sale of pulses and oil seeds this year. 8816 numbers of farmers had registered their name last year for the purpose.

➢ Odia brothers and sisters are returning to Odisha every day since 3rd May. 13,370 Odia people have returned to Odisha today. So far 5,38,937 Odias have returned to Odisha.

➢ 16,818 Temporary Medical Centres/Camps have been readied in 6798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 7,62,381 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services in rural areas.

➢ From 12th June morning to 13th June morning, 7 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 4 cases are for violation of lock down, 1 for violation of Home Quarantine and 2 cases for other issues related to COVID-19. 23 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

**Health Update**

➢ Up to midnight of 12th June, 1,96,456 samples have been tested.
➢ Number of Positive Cases stands 3,723.
➢ 2,594 persons have already recovered/discharged.
➢ No. of Death case 10.
➢ No of active cases are 1116.
➢ 1504 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"