PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 14/05/2020,

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19, Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Information & Public Relations Department and Padmashree Dr. Ajay Parida, Director, Institute of Life Science, Bhubaneswar briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- As per direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, to ramp up COVID-19 testing capacity upto 15000 per day, steps are being taken to start testing facility in Bolangir, Koraput and Baripada Medical College & Hospital. It has been decided in COVID-19 Inter-ministerial meeting held today through a Video Conference.

- On the direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, the State Government through District Administration facilitated movement of 9287 guest workers from Odisha for their return to home States. They were primarily from West Bengal (1385), Chhattisgarh(1477), Bihar(1036), Jharkhand (2424), Rajasthan (620), Uttar Pradesh(530), Madhya Pradesh (340) and Telengana (322). Khurda District tops the list in arranging the return of guest workers (1696) followed by Bolangir(912), Cuttack(636), Kalahandi(616), Puri(609), Balasore (485), Rayagada (423) and Malkangiri (384). Water bottles, masks and food packets were distributed to the guest workers.

- On direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, quarantine centres have been prepared in all Panchayats as a remarkable containment measure against COVID-19. In each quarantine centre, the inmates are provided with daily necessary items, balance diet, regular health check up facility. Yoga and exercise add to the physical and mental health of the inmates.

- State Government is helping migrant workers by making arrangement for their transportation from border to border.

- Institute of Life Sciences (ILS), Bhubaneswar, leading research institute of eastern India has tested 13,121 samples for COVID-19. The institute has

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"
targeted to ramp up the testing in the coming days. The scientists in ILS are now working on various higher research studies on COVID-19.

- Odia brothers and sisters are returning to Odisha every day since 3rd May. 11,487 Odia people have returned to Odisha today. So far 1,00,030 Odias have returned to Odisha. Returnees are coming by train/bus and other vehicles.

- 14,888 Temporary Medical Centres/Camps have been readied in 6798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 6,00,856 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services in rural areas.

- Today, 3,21,177 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 4734 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 114 ULBs 35,832 persons have been provided with food.

- From 13th May morning to 14th May morning, 13 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 10 no. of cases for violation of lock down and 3 case for violation of Home Quarantine. 48 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

**Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 13th May, 77,150 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 624.
- 158 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 3.
- No of active cases are 463.
- 594 persons are in hospital isolation.
- During last 24 hours, 86 nos. of COVID-19 positive cases have been detected which are from various quarantine centers and containment zones. It has only been possible because of strict adherence to quarantine protocol.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"