PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 16/05/2020,

Sri Pradeepa Kumar Mohapatra, Additional Chief Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department and Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Information & Public Relations Department, 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, State Government is providing adequate service and care like own people to the guest workers stranded in Odisha during lock down. Arrangements such as accommodation, health check up, fooding and bus to transport them to their nearest border point have been ensured.

- Keeping in view possible Cyclonic situation, Health & Family Welfare Department has taken preparedness measures. Collectors have been directed to shift the Temporary Medical Centres/ Camps situated within 3 KMs from the seashore in the coastal districts of Balasore, Bhadrak, Kendrapada and Jagatsinghpur for safe accommodation of migrant workers. The hospitals in these districts have adequate stock of fuel, generator, medicines, anti-venom and bleaching powder etc. Special medical teams have been constituted to oversee the situation.

- Keeping in view the future of the students due to closure of schools during COVID-19 extraordinary situation, all students studying in Odisha State Government Schools under School & Mass Education Department, in Classes-I to VIII in the academic year 2019-20 are promoted to the next Class. This has been stated in a notification issued by the Department of School & Mass Education.

- Students of Class-IX in all Odia Medium Schools under School & Mass Education Department for 2019-20 shall be promoted to Class-X considering their marks secured in the subjects in which annual examination has already been conducted. For papers for which examination has not been conducted, marks secured in Half Yearly examination shall be taken into consideration. In case a student has not appeared in Half Yearly examination on any genuine ground, average percentage of marks secured in all Unit

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"
Tests shall be taken into consideration for their promotion. Department of School & Mass Education has issued notification in this regard.

- Students of Class-XI of all the Higher Secondary Schools affiliated to Council of Higher Secondary Education, will be promoted to Class-XII considering their marks obtained in the Half Yearly Examination/Unit Tests conducted by Higher Secondary Schools. If any student has not appeared in any of these examinations for some genuine reason, they may be given chance for re-test which will be conducted after reopening of schools. Department of School & Mass Education has issued notification in this regard.

- The Home Quarantine period has been extended from 14 days to 28 days by State Government. Home quarantine for 28 days is compulsory for persons returning from abroad in flights or from other States by Train or by other means. SOP for monitoring Home Quarantine in urban areas has been issued in this regard.

1. Persons having separate rooms and bath room/toilet can stay in Home Quarantine. Along with the returnee, the entire family have to be quarantine for this specified period. A quarantine sticker will be pasted in front of the house. The neighbours will also be intimated. Neighbours will inform the Local Ward Officer/Police if the person concerned does not adhere to the quarantine protocol.

2. Surveillance team shall have a close watch on the quarantine family. In case the quarantine family is having difficulty in getting supply of the essentials, the neighbours shall assist them. The quarantined family can also obtain essentials with online orders.

- Odia brothers and sisters are returning to Odisha every day since 3rd May. 17,855 Odia people have returned to Odisha today. So far 1,33,245 Odias have returned to Odisha. Returnees are coming by train/bus and other vehicles.

- 15,043 Temporary Medical Centres/Camps have been readied in 6798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 6,66,915 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services in rural areas.

- Today, 3,27,458 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 4731 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 114 ULBs 30,293 persons have been provided with food.

- From 15th May morning to 16th May morning, 14 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 9 no. of cases for violation of

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"
lock down, 3 cases for violation of Home Quarantine and 2 cases for rumour mongering. 55 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

**Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 15th May, 86,140 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 737.
- 196 persons have already recovered/discharged.
- No. of Death case 3.
- No of active cases are 538.
- 718 persons are in hospital isolation.
- During last 24 hours, 65 nos. of COVID-19 positive cases have been detected out of which 62 numbers are from various quarantine centers and 3 from Home Quarantine.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"