



COVID-19 PR No-37

**04.30PM**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Bhubaneswar 18/04/2020,**

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

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik has announced a scheme of Rs. 100 crores to provide livelihood to economically weaker section living in 114 Municipal areas of the State to combat COVID-19 situation. This labour intensive scheme named as 'Urban Wage Employment Initiative' will cover 4.5 lakh families in urban areas. This will create livelihood for the poor and daily wage labourers living in the urban areas. It will start from the month of April and continue till September this year. This scheme shall be implemented with the support and participation of members of Mission Shakti. The wages of the beneficiaries shall be directly transferred to their Bank Accounts every week.
- As per orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik exclusive COVID-19 Hospitals are being made functional in the State on a wartime footing basis. In this connection, Sri Asit Tripathy, Chief Secretary & Sri V. K. Pandian, Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister visited Bargarh, Bolangir, Subarnapur and Kandhamal districts today and reviewed the readiness and management of COVID-19 Hospitals. They also reviewed the agricultural operations in these districts.
- Approval for COVID-19 sample testing has been accorded to VIMSAR, Burla today. With this, COVID-19 sample testing facilities are available in 3 Medical Colleges, 4 Government Health Institutions and 1 Private Hospital so far.
- Testing in Bhubaneswar has been intensified. The testing is being done on the basis of vulnerability list as prescribed by ICMR and Health & Family

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Welfare Department, Government of Odisha. Persons with travel history, contacts of COVID-19 patients, Health & Sanitation Workers and persons with Influenza like illness and SARI (Severe Acute Respiratory Illness) shall be tested on priority. Besides, random test will be conducted in different clusters. Accordingly samples are being collected from persons identified with the help of different RWAs (Resident Welfare Associations), Puja Committees, Ward Officers, ANM and Anganwadi Workers.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik has appreciated the District Administration of Puri and Sundargarh for initiating doorstep delivery of text books for the students of Class-I to Class-VIII with target of completing it by 25th of April during the extended Lock Down period.
- Lock Down period declared earlier has been extended from 30th April to the midnight of 3rd May. Necessary order in this regard has been issued by the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management.
- Food and accommodation along with health facilities have been provided through 2583 camps for around 78,000 'Guest Workers'. These workers are from various states of the country. Any complaint received through Shramik Sahayata Call Centre-18003456703 is being addressed promptly.
- Today, 3,41,127 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 5460 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 114 ULBs 39,117 persons have been provided with food.
- From 17th April morning to 18th April morning, 73 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 69 no. of cases for violation of lock down, 1 case for violation of 'Home Quarantine' and 3 cases have been registered for other related issues. 67 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

### **Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 17th April, 8619 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 61.
- 24 persons have already been recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1.
- No of active cases are 36.
- 103 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra  
Information Officer

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