



COVID-19 PR No-39

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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 21/04/2020,

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19, 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.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, in a significant decision taken today has announced that State Government with Convergence with Government of India will ensure that Rs. 50 lakh is given for any Health Personnel (Private and Public) who lose their precious life in the fight against COVID-19.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik said that the war against COVID-19 is being fought by our doctors and Health Care professionals in the front line, assisted by a huge army of support services. We have a rich tradition of honouring our brave hearts who fight for the country and acknowledge their supreme sacrifice. In the same spirit we propose to recognise and honour the valiant work being done by our COVID warriors.
- In case of death of Doctors and Health Professional while on duty, the State will treat them as martyrs and provide State funeral with State honours. A detail scheme of Awards will be instituted recognising their unparalleled sacrifice. These awards will be given on National Days.
- The families of concerned Government Doctors and Health Professionals will continue to receive full salary till date of retirement.
- Misbehaviour to Doctors and Health personnel will be taken seriously. For any such act action under appropriate Criminal Sections will be taken against the persons including invoking the provisions of the National Security Act. This will be considered as an act against the State.
- As on 20th April, 30 exclusive COVID-19 Hospitals are operational in the State. 309 Doctors, 768 Nurses and 338 Paramedics are working in 3 shifts in these hospitals. Besides, 526 Group-D people are engaged in these hospitals.

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- 3 Rapid Response Teams (RRT) have been sent to Balasore, Bhadrak and Jajpur Districts to oversee containment measures in these Districts. These teams are headed by Director, Health Services, Director, Public Health and Director, Family Welfare respectively.
- Today Hon'ble Chief Minister has extended best wishes to all Civil Servants on the occasion of Civil Services Day. He said that our civil servants are working tirelessly against COVID-19 pandemic. The dedication and commitment of the 'Steel Frame of India' during this crisis is commendable.
- Government of Odisha cleared 6 '**Invest in Odisha**' proposals of Rs. 9100 Crore which will generate more than 6525 jobs. The approved projects are spread across steel, cement, chemical, metal and metal downstream, textile & apparels and logistic and infrastructure.
- The Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment has started a website: ***odihortmarketing.nic.in*** dedicated to the farmers of the State to facilitate easy and timely marketing of Horticultural products like fruits, vegetables, flowers and spices etc. The District level Officers of Horticulture Department will provide data on the saleable products of their districts, so that interested traders can contact the farmers. A list of around 1500 businessmen/traders is available with the website.
- Women and Child Development and Mission Shakti Department with UNICEF has released 'Ghare Ghare Arunima' a calendar based fun filled list of activities to engage and stimulate 16,13,775 Anganwadi children(3-6 years) across 72,587 AWCs of the State in view of closure of Anganwadi Centres (AWC) due to COVID-19 pandemic. This will strengthen the psychological wellbeing of children and will be implemented in support of their parents and grandparents.
- 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, 3,29,882 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 5042 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 113 ULBs 42,119 persons have been provided with food.
- From 20th April morning to 21st April morning, 43 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 41 no. of cases for violation of

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lock down, 1 case for violation of Home Quarantine and 1 case for rumour mongering. 61 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

- Till date 81 cases have been registered in the state for rumour mongering.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 20th April, 11748 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 79.
- 29 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1.
- No of active cases are 49.
- 147 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

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