



COVID-19 PR No-41

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## PRESS RELEASE

**Bhubaneswar 23/04/2020,**

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19, Sri Sanjay Kumar Singh, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Information & Public Relations Department and Dr. Padmaja Mishra, Vice-Chancellor, Rama Devi Women's University briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- On the occasion of World Book Day, Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik has expressed that it is an occasion to celebrate the transformational power of reading to beat the feelings of isolation during this COVID-19 pandemic. 'Books help us broaden our knowledge, stimulate our mind and give wings to our imagination and also help us understand cultures and people', he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik has also given some advice to the young children of the State through a message. He has advised them to fight COVID-19 unitedly, remain cautious, wash their hands, feel themselves happy and help the parents. He has advised them to learn a new lesson every week.
- Today, making a visit to Koraput, Nabarangpur & Malkangiri Districts, Development Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary Sri Suresh Chandra Mahapatra and Secretary to Chief Minister (5T) Sri V K Pandian reviewed the progress of the Covid-19 Hospitals in these districts and other preparedness relating to combating the pandemic. They also interacted with District level officials and reviewed various issues including the resumption of Agriculture & Livelihood Activities and Law & Order situation.
- An exclusive COVID-19 Hospital has been operationalised in Jharsuguda to treat patients in the Western region and to strengthen fight against COVID-19. The Hospital has 110 beds with 10 ICU beds. It has been funded by District Mineral Fund and Vedanta Ltd. Hi-tech Medical College and Jharsuguda DHH will manage the Hospital. With this, the number of COVID-19 Hospitals in the State has come to 32 and total number of beds has increased to 5276.

**"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"**

- Keeping in view the recent spike in detection of positive cases in the districts of Jajpur, Bhadrak and Balasore, State Government has directed 3 Senior Administrators to make an on-site visit and review COVID-19 related management system in these districts.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik appreciated the Banking Correspondents for reaching out to remote villages to provide banking services under Odisha Livelihoods Mission during COVID-19 Lock Down. Their efforts, help in ensuring uninterrupted banking and livelihood services in the State.
- In view of the COVID-19 situation in the State, 6th meeting of High level Inter-Ministerial Group on COVID-19 was held today through video conferencing. Hon'ble Minister, Finance chaired the meeting.
- During Lock Down, 'Mo Pratibha', an online initiative of Women & Child Development and Mission Shakti Department, Sports & Youth Services Department in collaboration with UNICEF continues to hold its sway among the kids and adolescents of the state in the age group of 5-18 yrs by engaging them in creative activities. In its third week, 800 odd entries have been received from all across the state taking the cumulative tally close to 9000. Prizes for the week have been announced today.
- Food and accommodation along with health facilities have been provided through 2586 camps for around 86,000 '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, 3,53,933 destitute and helpless persons have been provided with food in 5547 Gram Panchayats. Similarly, in 113 ULBs 41,330 persons have been provided with food.
- From 22nd April morning to 23rd April morning, 58 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 50 no. of cases for violation of lock down and 8 cases for other issues. 88 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.
- Till date 81 cases have been registered in the state for rumour mongering.

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## **Health Update**

- Up to midnight of 22th April, 15984 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 89.
- 33 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1.
- No of active cases are 55.
- 146 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra  
Information Officer

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