



COVID-19 PR No-102

PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 23/06/2020,

- Hon'ble President Sri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi and Hon'ble Governor, Odisha Prof. Ganeshi Lal expressed their best wishes to the people of Odisha on the occasion of Ratha Jatra at Puri. They wished peace, prosperity, happiness and good health of people of Odisha by the blessings of Lord Jagannath.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik extended his heartfelt greetings and best wishes on the auspicious occasion of Ratha Jatra (Car Festival) of Lord Jagannath. Let the entire world be free from COVID-19, he prayed, at the same time wishing happiness, prosperity and welfare of the people of Odisha.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked Honourable Supreme Court for giving permission to hold Ratha Jatra in Puri and Government of India for the cooperation for the same. Hon'ble Chief Minister said that Government of Odisha and Shree Jagannath Temple Administration have made all arrangement including chariot preparation and rituals. He also thanked servitors for their cooperation.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister offered his prayer when the wheels of Nandighosh, the chariot of Lord Jagannath started moving today. He said that the bewitching scene of the Jeus on the Chariots make the hearts thrilled with reverence. This difficult time shall go away and welfare of the people will prevail. Not a leaf moves without HIS will, Hon'ble Chief Minister observed.
- World famous Ratha Jatra (Car Festival) of Lord Jagannath at Puri has been observed, with strict adherence to COVID-19 protocol. Taladhwaja, the chariot of Lord Balabhadra was drawn on Badadanda and reached Gundicha Temple at 3.50 PM today. Similarly, Devadalana, the Chariot of Devi Subhadra and Nandighosh, Chariot of Lord Jagannath reached Gundicha Temple at 4.10 PM and 5.10 PM respectively. Entire observance was well planned, coordinated, disciplined and the rituals were performed with meticulous care.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that focus of the world will be on Odisha as Ratha Jatra is being held amidst COVID-19 pandemic. Hon'ble Chief Minister stressed that all need to be careful about public health while following tradition. He requested people of Puri to follow COVID-19 guidelines and ensure safety of their families.

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"

- Hon'ble Chief Minister released special Ratha Jatra issue of 'Utkal Prasanga' and 'Odisha Review', Monthly Odia and English Journal published by Information & Public Relations Department at Lok Seva Bhawan today.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister directed Hon'ble Minister, Panchayatiraj & Drinking Water, Law, Hon'ble Minister Health & Family Welfare, Hon'ble Minister School & Mass Education and Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Planning Board to Camp at Puri till Niladri Bijie for monitoring and supervision of Ratha Jatra related preparation and activities. Apart from this, Chief Secretary, Development Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary, DG, Police personally supervised the entire event.
- No passenger train and private or Public buses other than those carrying personnel on Government Duty/Police and vehicles on emergency services shall be allowed entry into the jurisdiction of Puri district during the period till 2PM of 24th June 2020. Special Relief Commissioner has issued an order to this effect.
- From 22th June morning to 23th June morning, 6 no of cases have been registered by the Police in the state for violation of different regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19 out of which 4 cases are for violation of lock down and 2 cases related to other issues. 15 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 22th June, 2,31,356 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 5470.
- 3988 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 17.
- No of active cases are 1458.
- 1583 people are under Hospital Isolation.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"