



COVID-19 PR No-14

04.30PM

PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 26/03/2020,

Sri Subroto Bagchi, Chief Spokesperson of Govt. of Odisha on COVID-19 briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha in light of prevention of COVID-19.

- Following Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik's direction to provide state-of-the-art facilities to COVID-19 patients, the State Government has signed two tripartite agreements with SUM and KIIMS Medical Colleges today at Lok Seva Bhawan today to set up 2 state level hospitals in Bhubaneswar. OMC and MCL will provide the CSR Funding for the purpose and both the hospitals with about 1000 beds will be functional in a fortnight.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister has appealed to all the Chief Ministers of the country to assist all persons or group of persons from Odisha who are stranded in their state with basic food, accommodation and security etc. Odisha will bear the cost of their safekeeping.
- He has also assured that all persons in need from other states stranded in Odisha shall be assisted and cost shall be met from Chief Minister's Relief Fund. Direction has been issued in this regard to all Collectors.
- In view of the COVID-19, a Control Room (0674-2392115, 9438915986) shall function in the Home Department round the clock to monitor issues with regard to the implementation of lock down. Issues pertaining to Odias elsewhere in the country can also be raised with the Control Room.
- For smooth movement of all goods vehicle on National Highways and roads in Odisha, a Helpline has been opened with phone no 0674-2620200 which will be opened from 8AM to 10PM every day. Drivers and operators can approach the helpline for guidance for remedial action.
- 404 no. of cases have been registered in the state for different violations of regulations and guidelines related to COVID-19 during last 48 hours. Out of these 380 cases for violation of lock down, 10 cases for violation

of 'Home Quarantine' and 14 cases on other issues related to COVID-19 have been registered.

- Keeping in view the role and responsibility of the newspapers, Government has included newspapers and the distribution as essential services and thus the vehicles carrying the newsprints and newspapers are allowed to ply without any obstruction. Newspaper sale counters will operate from 7AM to 8AM and hawkers are allowed to move to the lifting point and for distribution of the newspapers between 4AM to 7AM. They are advised to maintain social distancing and hand washing strictly. Information and Public Relations Department has issued advisory in this regard.
- Veterinary Services have been included in the list of essential services. District Fisheries Officers, Chief District Veterinary Officers and Urban Local Bodies are authorised to issue vehicle pass for personnel involved in supply of milk, meat, egg, fish, livestock feed etc.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister had made an appeal to the people of Odisha to take a pledge 'Mo Jeevan' for their security and their family's as well as to abide by the 'lock down' rules sincerely. In response to this request, 10 lakh people have taken this pledge and 3 lakh people out of them have sent the video of pledge taking to Hon'ble Chief Minister through Social Media. While extending thanks to these people, Hon'ble Chief Minister has also wished more people to take the pledge.

Health Update

- As on 12 noon today, 164 samples were sent for COVID-19 examination and reports of all samples have been obtained. No new positive case found. Thus positive case stands at 2.
- Health of 2 identified patients is asymptomatic and stable. They are taking normal diet supplied by respective hospitals.
- It is reported that 55 persons had come in contact with the COVID-19 patients. All have been contacted.
- 100 nos of monitoring teams are working for the purpose across the State, including 10 teams in Bhubaneswar.
- 4249 persons have been registered through 104 Helpline and portal.
- 34 persons are in Hospital Isolation.

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Information Officer