



COVID-19 PR No-77

PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 29/05/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik has appealed to all Odia people world-wide to sing Bande Utkal Janani at 5.30PM on 30.05.2020 as a gesture of appreciation of COVID-19 Warriors and to respect their sacrifice. The event must be observed by all Government offices by maintaining appropriate social distancing. All Departments must also activate their field organisations to actively participate. An order has been issued by General Administration and Public Grievance Department in this regard.
- In order to facilitate investment, generation of employment and to counter the hardship caused to MSMEs due to COVID-19 pandemic by way of creating a more conducive and business-friendly atmosphere while keeping in mind the welfare of workers, the State Government has made some amendments in the Factories Act 1948.
 - The threshold for factories is increased to 50 with or without the aid of power from existing 10 (with power) and 20 (without power) respectively. The provisions of the Factories Act shall remain intact for factories with hazardous manufacturing processes.
 - The overtime limit is increased from 75 hours to 115 hours per quarter.
 - Engagement of women workers is allowed, with consent, between 7PM to 6AM in factories subject to condition that adequate safety, welfare and security measures and safeguards as prescribed are taken by the factories concerned.
 - Reduction has been made in the number of days for which a worker has to work in a factory for allowing him leave with wages in the subsequent year from existing 240 days to 180 days.
- In order to attract investment and to create employment generation with a focus on labour welfare and to mitigate the hardship faced by MSME Industries due to COVID-19 pandemic situation, the State Government has brought an amendment in the Industrial Disputes Act 1947 to increase the threshold from 100 to 300.

"STAY HOME, STAY SAFE"

- In order to give better price to the producer through contract farming, State Government through an amendment in Odisha Agricultural Produce Markets Act, 1956 has included Contract Farming in it. It is targeted to provide profit to the producers in the State through Contract Farming in COVID-19 situation.
- In order to give an immediate benefit to the farmers during COVID-19, State Government has brought an amendment in Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017. With this state level single market shall be created. It will also remove geographical restriction on sale of agricultural produce and allow producers to sell their produce anywhere within the State.
- 16,644 Temporary Medical Centres/Camps have been readied in 6798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 7,38,621 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services in rural areas.
- From 28th May morning to 29th May morning, 7 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 5 cases are for violation of lock down, 1 case for Home Quarantine and 1 case related to other issues. 24 persons have been arrested by police for different violations.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 28th May, 1,43,570 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 1723.
- 977 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 7.
- No. of active cases is 737.
- 1088 persons are in hospital isolation.

Surya Mishra
Information Officer

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