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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 21/07/2020,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik today reviewed the COVID-19 situation in Khordha and Cuttack district through a Video Conference. He announced an assistance of Rs. 30 Crore (Rs. 15 Crore for each district) for Cuttack and Khordha district from Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF) to intensify the fight against COVID-19. He also appealed all the corporate and community organisations to set up Covid Care Homes and Covid Care Centres to join the fight against COVID-19.
 - Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciated the teams of Covid Warriors in both Khordha and Cuttack district for achieving higher recovery rates. He said that more than one lakh people have returned back from outside the State in the two districts of Khordha and Cuttack. In spite of the large influx of migrants, the situation is under control with recovery rate of 70% in Khordha and 71% in Cuttack, which is much above the National average of 63%.
 - Government has sanctioned Rs 20.64 Crore from Chief Minister Relief Fund for running of new dedicated Covid hospitals and Covid Care Centres for next three months in Khordha and Cuttack districts.
 - To strengthen Health Care facilities for COVID-19, 150-bed (including 30 ICU beds) Dedicated Covid Hospital by Aditya-Ashwini Hospital and another in Nilachal Hospital with 141 beds (including 15 ICU beds) will be operational this week.
 - Special focus shall be on the slum areas to contain the spread of the virus. The Slum committees have been working well. BMC will appreciate and incentivise the good work done by the slum committees.
 - The health infrastructure in Cuttack district is being expanded to take care of the increasing number of cases. 925 additional beds in Covid hospitals and Covid Care Centres are being readied in Cuttack district.
 - It has been emphasised to give special focus on the congested areas in Cuttack city through active involvement of Puja committees and Sahi Committees.
 - Training and information centre on Covid-19 at SCB Medical College shall be operational very soon.
 - The retirement age in case of Medical Officers of OHMS cadre as well as the Allopathic Insurance Medical Officers under L & ESI Department is enhanced from 62 to 65 years.

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik congratulated Sri Udayanath Bisoyi, a nonagenarian from Chakunda village of Sorada Block in Ganjam district on successfully winning the battle against COVID-19. His win will inspire others to stay strong as Odisha fights this pandemic, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister, keeping in view the effect of COVID-19 spike, lock down and shut down on the livelihood of poor people, announced to provide 5 Kg of rice per head and 1 Kg of Dal per family for 5 months (July -November) to the beneficiaries under State Food Security Scheme (SFSS) who are excluded from the benefits of National Food Security Assistance.
- Plasma Therapy is inaugurated today in Ganjam district for treatment of critical Covid patients. 3 Covid patients are under treatment through Plasma Therapy in Tata Covid Hospital at Sitalapalli. Convalescent Plasma Units collected previously have been preserved in the Blood Bank of MKCG Medical College.
- Odisha Fire Service personnel and Home guards shall undertake area disinfection drive at 35 Covid Hospitals, 22 Covid Testing Centres and 16 Covid Care Centres of the State. This shall be a regular feature.
- A Control Room has been operationalised by Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation to intensify contact tracing drive. Once identified, a Covid positive is included in the information system of the Control Room and thus contact tracing is carried on. Prime objective of the contact tracing is to provide possible counselling, care and support. The contact tracing desk is managed by Senior officers and supported by a team of Doctors for surveillance.
- Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation has appealed the citizens to cooperate the teams deployed for community surveillance by giving information on positive cases to strengthen Covid containment measures.
- The Sachetak volunteers are intensifying sensitization drive among the citizens to follow COVID-19 guidelines for the safety of all. During the drive, thermal screening of the citizens was also carried out in Ward No-41 today.
- As per direction of Hon'ble Chief Minister, persons who have successfully completed institutional quarantine are being given incentive of Rs.2000/- each. A sum of Rs. 97,01,84,000/- has been paid so far. This amount is given from Chief Minister's Relief Fund.
- As of now, 6560 Covid Care Homes are operational in 6,798 Gram Panchayats of the State. In all these Centres, total no. of 65,479 beds have been arranged to provide COVID-19 health services.
- As of now, 1346 number of Cluster level TMCs have been completed with 61,860 beds in the State.
- From 20th July morning to 21th July morning, 20 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 15 cases are for violation of lock down, 1 case for violation of Home Quarantine and 4 cases are related to other issues. 32 persons have been arrested so far.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 20th July, 4,01,644 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 18,757.
- > 13,309 persons have already recovered/ discharged. (Recovered today-400)
- No. of Death case 103.
- No of active cases are 5,314.
- > 5,714 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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