



News ID-IPR/COVID-19(Eng)/134/24-7-2020

PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 25/07/2020,

Smt. Anu Garg, Covid Observer, Bhubaneswar and Principal Secretary, Women & Child Development and Mission Shakti and Sri Prem Chandra Chaudhary, Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation briefed the Press about steps taken by Government of Odisha for prevention of COVID-19.

- Hon'ble Governor Prof. Ganeshi Lal appealed to all COVID-19 recovered persons to donate plasma which will be a great humanitarian as well as spiritual service in the time of pandemic.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik appreciated the dedication and devotion to duty of Aska Police who have ensured lockdown enforcement and implementation of COVID-19 guidelines despite a number of personnel getting infected with COVID-19.
- Amidst COVID-19 pandemic, the State Level Single Window Clearance Authority has approved four investment proposals in metal and metal downstream sector worth ₹2172.92Cr which can generate employment for 1122 people and give further boost to Make In Odisha initiative.
- Plasma Banks shall start functioning at MKCG, Berhampur & Capital Hospital, Bhubaneswar next month and one more will come up at IGH Rourkela. First plasma bank is already functional at SCB MCH, Cuttack while Plasma Therapy has already begun in Bhubaneswar, Cuttack & Berhampur.
- Another 70 bedded Covid Care Centre has become functional at Koraput. With this, total bed strength of CCCs at Koraput has raised to 340. Besides, there is another Covid Hospital with 150 beds.
- Smt. Anu Garg, Covid Observer, Bhubaneswar said that Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation has taken different measures for containment of COVID-19.
 - As of today, 1828 Covid positive are identified in Bhubaneswar town. Out of these, 952 persons are recovered while 863 are active and under treatment.

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- About 1000 Covid testing per day was undertaken in Bhubaneswar town previously. It is targeted to enhance the number to 1400 and appropriate action has been taken from today to ensure it.
 - 15 Rapid Response Teams have been formed to identify infected patients where as 9 teams were working previously.
 - A Sachetak App is operational for Bhubaneswar town. Around 10,500 people have downloaded the App and it has proved to be very useful to the patients suffering from critical diseases. Besides, more information relating to Covid situation in Bhubaneswar, people's opinion and Government's guideline are available on the App. Detail on the App can be available through telephone no-1929.
 - Ward Sachetak Committees are working efficiently to fight COVID-19 in all 67 Wards of BMC. Around 20/25 volunteers are involved in each Sachetak Committee.
 - Slum Committees have been formed to contain Covid in slum areas. Active surveillance is being carried out there. Home quarantine is not allowed in slum areas. The slums where more number of positive cases found, are being declared Containment Zone.
 - All the major activities such as testing, community involvement, slum management, remedial arrangement, data collection and enforcement measures have been intensified to contain COVID-19.
 - BMC has taken step to provide counselling on psycho-social issues. Psychologists have been assigned for the purpose. 1929 Helpline of BMC can be contacted to facilitate such service.
- Sri Prem Chandra Chaudhary, Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation said that a total number of 3321 beds with 85 ICU beds are available at various Covid treatment facilities in Bhubaneswar. This includes 6 Covid Care Homes with 870 beds, Dedicated Covid Health Centre at Patia with 60 beds, Covid Care Centres at HITECH Hospital with 500 beds and SIDBI with 40 beds, Dedicated Covid Hospital at KIIMS with 500 beds and 45 ICUs and at SUM Hospital with 500 beds and 25 ICU beds. Covid facilities near Bhubaneswar for rural areas have also 826 beds. With these facilities, arrangements have been made for additional 1500 beds with cooperation of different Hospitals, Health Institutions, Industrial Houses, MLA LAD Funds and Residential Welfare Associations.
- Primarily suspected cases are shifted to Covid Care Homes. Asymptomatic Covid positives have been advised for Home isolation. People having no such facility can stay in Covid Care Homes.

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- General public have been requested to strictly follow Lock down regulations, avoid gatherings and wearing of masks. They have also been advised to contact Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, if any Covid like symptom develops.
- Government has taken the responsibility of disposal of the dead body of the COVID-19 suspect/confirmed cases for which it has earlier sanctioned Rs. 7500/- per deceased towards expenditure for disposal of the same. Religious sentiment of the people and religious belief of different sects shall be respected. Family members may be allowed to perform the last rites according to their religion/faith without touching the body. Special Relief Commissioner has issued detail guideline to this effect.
- From 24th July morning to 25th July morning, 26 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 25 cases are for violation of lock down and 1 case is related to other issues. 36 persons have been arrested so far.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 24th July, 4,46,311 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 24,013.
- 15,928 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
(Today's Recovery-728)
- No. of Death case 130.
- No of active cases are 7,921.
- 8,650 persons are in Hospital isolation.

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Information Officer

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