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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 02/01/2021,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik, while speaking in the Foundation Stone laying ceremony of IIM, Sambalpur today through a video conference, expressed happiness that Odisha continues its dominance in education sector and has emerged as the Education Hub of the eastern India. He said that Odisha has a tradition of educational excellence since ancient times and historically, Odisha has been at the forefront of education and research. He further said that Education in Odisha is witnessing a rapid transformation.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that with the establishment of IIM, IIT, NISER, IISER, AIIMS, NLU and many other Institutions of National Importance, Odisha is emerging as a leading research hub of the nation. He said that Government of Odisha accords highest priority for development of Human Resources. The “Skilled in Odisha” has already become an international brand, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister further said that our focus is to train our youth in the latest technology and technical know-how, and to make them market ready as per the demands of Industry 4.0. He also expressed happiness that IIM, Sambalpur has been aspiring to be the leading Entrepreneurial Hub in the State and has entered into an MoU with the Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises with emphasis on nurturing the entrepreneurial talent of the local weavers and agro-based businesses and to incubate Start-Ups in these areas.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister today through virtual mode, inaugurated new District Museum at Boudh on the occasion of 27th Foundation Day of the district. He said that the Museum established in the iconic heritage building of old Collectorate will be instrumental for preservation and propagation of art and culture of the district.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 18 projects worth Rs. 44.60 Crore which included 3 Milk Chilling Plant, construction and widening of different

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roads and development of Park. He sought cooperation of the people for the development of the district.

- Hon'ble Minister, Rural Development, Labour and ESI Sri Susant Singh, Hon'ble Minister, Tourism, Odia Language, Literature and Culture Sri Jyotiprakash Panigrahi, Hon'ble MP, Kandhamal, Sri Achyuta Samanta, Hon'ble MLA, Boudh, Sri Pradip Kumar Amat, Hon'ble MLA, Kantamal, Sri Mahidhar Rana, Chief Secretary Sri Suresh Chandra Mohapatra, Development Commissioner, Sri P.K. Jena attended the programme while Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister(5-T) Sri V.K. Pandian coordinated.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated Serum Institute, India as the Covishield vaccine manufactured by it has been recommended for emergency use authorisation in India. He hoped that this will be a game changer as Odisha is prepared.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that to ensure swift immunisation across the State after the arrival of the COVID-19 vaccine, Odisha will start dry run for vaccination in all 30 districts from today. The State has put in place the necessary infrastructure and human resource for this process, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister paid humble tributes to Sangeet Sudhakar Balakrushna Das on his Birth Anniversary. His immense contribution towards popularising Odia songs along with in the field of Odissi research will be remembered for ever, Hon'ble Chief Minister said.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed happiness over the news of Air services by Fly Spice Jet from Veer Surendra Sai Airport, Jharsuguda to Mumbai and Bengaluru. He hoped that this will play a significant role in widening the smooth movement and communication of the people of the State and in economic development.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 1st January, 70,00,844 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 3,30,117.
- 3,25,733 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1880.
- No of active cases are 2,451.
- 2,451 persons are in Hospital isolation.

Pathani Rout
Information Officer

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