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PRESS RELEASE

Bhubaneswar 20/02/2021,

- Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Naveen Patnaik attending the Niti Ayog Meeting thorough a Video Conference, spoke about the demands of the State relating to Railways, Banking, Telecom, central fund, inclusion of important languages in the 8th schedule etc. He also reflected on some of the concerns that affect us as a country today and the role of NITI Aayog in dealing with them.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that we have to take along neglected regions and vulnerable populations for which committed and targeted action is needed if the country has to really move forward. Hallmark of a mature democracy is that once elected, Governments are meant to work for people, beyond party lines, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that a critical look is needed to re-evaluate the examination pattern for the prestigious exams like UPSC, NEET, JEE etc. Hon'ble Chief Minister said that we should not have exams that focus on equality and attracting merit as opposed to exam patterns that are heavily dependent on highly paid coaching classes.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that COVID-19 was a challenge for the world and India showed with its unified response what is possible. The same unified response and inclusive approach should be adopted for all major challenges facing the country in the true spirit of cooperative federalism, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister on Social Justice Day, restated our pledge to promote rights, fairness and equality for everyone and remove barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability to build a just and inclusive society.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed grief over the sad demise of eminent Gandhian freedom fighter Kedarnath Jena. Hon'ble Chief Minister condoled the bereaved family and wished the soul rest in peace.

"WEAR MASK, STAY SAFE"

- Hon'ble Chief Minister congratulated Health and Family Welfare Department on successfully administering 5 lakh doses of COVID 19 vaccines. Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of all those involved in the vaccination process and thanked healthcare and frontline workers for their participation.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that women from minority community of Derabis area of Kendrapara district have been self employed through Mission Shakti and have created their own identity. Their produces have gained popularity in the State as well as abroad, he added.
- Hon'ble Chief Minister said that Angul Municipality has started Micro Enterprise in Sanitation & Health (MESH) Programme to transform urban sanitation and livelihood condition in Angul. This initiative will also empower marginalised communities by ensuring their participation, he added.

Health Update

- Up to midnight of 19th February, 81,47,058 samples have been tested.
- Number of Positive Cases stands 3,36,578.
- 3,33,880 persons have already recovered/ discharged.
- No. of Death case 1914.
- No of active cases are 631.
- 631 persons are in Hospital isolation.

Pathani Rout
Information Officer

"WEAR MASK, STAY SAFE"