



**Raipur : Shops in the state will open six days a week with proper measures and precautions : Mr. Bhupesh I**

**Chief Minister chairs high-level meeting to deliberate upon prevention of COVID-19 infection and for resumption of economic activities**

**Television and radio sets to be provided in quarantine centers for entertainment**

**Service of Psychologists to be taken for counseling of people in quarantine centers**

**Providing employment to the migrant labourers is the top-priority : Ration cards and MNREGA job cards to be issued as well**

**List of skilled and semi-skilled labourers to be provided, no relaxation for industries in red zones and containment areas**

**Tehsildar authorized to give permission for organizing wedding functions**

**Restriction on malls, cinema halls, political meetings, social programmes to continues**

Raipur, 27



In the high-level meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mr. Bhupesh Baghel at his residence today, post-lockdown measures to prevent COVID-19 and strategy economic activities in the state were discussed in detail. The meeting was attended by all the ministers and senior officials of the state government. In the meeting, opportunities for migrant labourers and relief measures for various sections of society were discussed in detail. Keeping in view the problems arising, Tehsildars authorized to give permission for organizing wedding functions. The process of permission has been made simpler and easier. No relaxation will be provided in red containment areas. As per Government of India's guidelines, restriction on malls, cinema halls, political meetings, social events will remain effective as before.

In the meeting, it was decided that the shops will be allowed to open six days a week, and taking precautions including physical distancing will remain compulsory. Opening shops six days a week will help in preventing crowding at one place. Resumption of commercial-economic activities will also help in reviving economy and employment. In the meeting, the idea of restarting maximum number of industries in the state was deliberated upon. Post-lockdown, 1371 factories in the state have been functioning again. Nearly one lakh three thousand labourers have returned to work in these factories.

In the meeting, Chief Minister Mr. Baghel gave instructions to arrange for televisions, radio sets etc for entertainment of migrant labourers in quarantine centers. He also directed to take services of psychologists for counseling of labourers. Chief Minister gave instructions to conduct yoga and other motivational activities in quarantine centers with the help of NGOs. Mr. Baghel suggested the officials concerned to organize stress-buster routine. Chief Minister said in the meeting that it is important to address ration and employment related problems of labourers returning to the state. For this, ration cards and MNREGA job cards should be issued to them as soon as possible. Skilled and semi-skilled labourers should be prepared and provided to the local industries. This will help labourers to get regular employment and the industries will get the manpower required.

Best possible steps have been taken in Chhattisgarh to control COVID-19 infection, to provide relief during lockdown and to bring back life to normalcy, said Chief Minister. The departments have worked with better coordination to help the people in need. Government-administration has worked diligently for better management in cities and to create awareness about the disease in rural areas as well, said Chief Minister. He added that funds required for COVID-19 test, treatment and prevention be provided by Health Department with priority.

It was informed in the meeting that till date two lakh 12 thousand migrant labourers have been brought back to the state. Till date, 53 shramik special trains have arrived and 10 more are proposed. District Collectors have been sanctioned Rs 18 crore 28 lakh from State Disaster Relief Fund and Rs 4 crore by State Government for helping the stranded in other states. Rs 66 lakh 73 thousand were transferred into the bank accounts of migrant labourers in various states. Health Department was also provided Rs 10 crore from State Disaster Relief Fund.

The meeting was attended by Agriculture Minister Mr. Ravindra Choubey, Home Minister Mr. Tamradhwaj Sahu, Health Minister Mr. TS Singhdeo, Forest Minister Mr. Mohammad Akbar, Cooperatives Minister Mr. Preamsingh Tekam, Food Minister Mr. Amarjeet Singh Bhagat, Women and Child Development Minister Mrs. Bhendiya, Labour Minister Dr Shivkumar Dahariya, Revenue Minister Mr. Jaisingh Agrawal, Industry Minister Mr. Kawasi Lakhma, PHE Minister Guru Rudra Kumar, Secretary Mr. RP Mandal, Additional Chief Secretary Mr. Subrat Sahu, Health Secretary Mrs. Niharika Barik Singh, Food Secretary Dr Kamalpreet Singh, Social Welfare Department Secretary Mr. Prasanna R, Chief Minister Secretariat Deputy Secretary Ms Saumya Chaurasiya and other senior officials.

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