Thiruvananthapuram, April 25: Kerala Chief Minister, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan today informed that Shri Rajiv Gauba IAS, Cabinet Secretary has appreciated the efforts of the State Government in taking up the cause of the Pravasi Malayalees and chalking out a concrete plan for their return and rehabilitation, once they are back in Kerala. The Cabinet Secretary has commended that Kerala’s plans for the Pravasis can be a role model for other states to follow and implement.

The Cabinet Secretary expressed this view today during a video conference meeting with the Chief Secretaries of the States. The Centre is satisfied with the interventions of the State Government in handling the Covid situation.

Shri Tom Jose IAS Chief Secretary of Kerala had presented in detail the steps being planned by the State Government in bringing back the non-resident Keralites, once the restrictions on international flights to India are revoked, and also the action to be taken once they are back in Kerala. Harsh Vardhan Shringla IFS, Foreign Secretary has informed the Chief Secretary that fruitful interventions would be done in this regard by the Central Government.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister said that the State Government is expecting a financial assistance package from the Centre. “The State is going through a financial crisis and we have reiterated our demand during today’s VC meeting. We are expecting a comprehensive package for the State as well as sector-specific packages. We would also repeat the same on Monday during the VC meeting of the Prime Minister with the State Chief Ministers. We hope they would consider our request favourably.”

The CM also announced that non-resident Keralites and students in other states can register on the NORKA website if they wish to come back to Kerala after the lockdown period, as per the guidelines of the Central Government. “This would give us an idea of how many people are there, who plans to return to the State and we would be able to prepare accordingly. We understand the Central Government is working on bringing back the non-resident Indians from abroad. We will work out a plan for the students in other States also.”

Kerala Covid-19 Tracker
Seven recoveries & Seven new cases, total 116 patients under treatment

Thiruvananthapuram, April 25: Seven new cases of Covid-19 were reported in Kerala today - three each from Kottayam and Kollam districts, and one in Kannur district. Chief Minister, Shri Pinarayi Vijayan informed that one patient in Kollam district is a healthcare worker. Two have returned from Sharjah while one has come from Maharashtra. Three have got from primary contact.

Meanwhile, seven patients under treatment for Coronavirus infection have tested negative today. Two each in Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod districts and one from Wayanad districts are those who recovered.

The total number of confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Kerala is 457 and 116 patients are under treatment in different districts with 338 patients having recovered. Kannur district has the maximum number of 55 patients followed by 15 in Kasargod district and 11 in Kozhikode districts. There are no positive cases currently in Wayanad, Thrissur and Alappuzha districts.

21,044 persons are under observation across the State with 20,580 persons under surveillance at their homes and 464 under isolation at hospitals. 132 people were admitted to hospitals today.

22, 360 samples have so far been sent for testing and the results of 21,475 samples have come negative with no infection.

The Chief Minister informed that an 84-year old Coronavirus patient who was in a serious condition at the Kozhikode Medical College has recovered well. “It’s an achievement for our health care system that such an aged person with multiple complications including liver disease could be saved.”

The CM also announced that cancer surgery has restarted at the Regional Cancer Centre (RCC) at Thiruvananthapuram and all cancer patients scheduled for surgery would be mandatorily tested for Covid-19 before the surgery. This would ensure that both patients and the medical staff are protected. These tests would be done at the adjacent Thiruvananthapuram Medical College till the Coronavirus lab at RCC gets approval from ICMR.

Minister of Health & Social Justice, Smt K K Shailaja; Revenue Minister, Shri E Chandrasekharan, and Chief Secretary, Shri Tom Jose IAS were also present during the briefing.

End
date
25-04-2020