DISTRICT TASK FORCE FOR NCOVID 19 SET UP IN WEST SIKKIM

Information & Public Relations Department

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Gyalshing, 18th March, 2020 (IPR): Keeping in mind the global situation and the NCOVID 19 infections, the West District Administration held a preparatory meeting for setting up of District Task Force to tackle the pandemic NCOVID19 at the Conference Hall, Rabdentse, West Sikkim. Chaired by Shri. Karma R. Bonpo, DC West along with Shri. PVG Satish, ASP West and Shri. Karma L. Lepcha, ADC West the meeting was called to tackle and limit the outbreak of the COVID19 in the district with all possible measures and to chalk out the possible preventive measures. The District Collector West informed that the situation in the world has worsened and hence it is the duty of every individual to treat this as a personal responsibility and try their best to follow instructions laid down by the WHO and the Indian Government. He mentioned that the containment of the outbreak is nearly impossible however, with following up of proper instructions the number of infections and cases can be minimized. He urged every officials to take the matter seriously and with utmost sincerity in dealing with the following of instructions. He appealed during the meeting that the participation of the public is the main foundation in minimizing the outbreak. He informed that inter-district and intra-district travels need to be minimized, social gathering and departmental meeting need to be averted and postponed, all tourists’ spots need to be closed for tourists. Gathering of more than 25 people needs to be averted and monitoring of citizens travelling from other states needs to be done. The Transportation Department need to sensitize the taxi drivers about taking preventive steps and sanitize their vehicles frequently. Similarly, other departments need to work in close coordination amongst themselves as this is a situation which concerns all. He also informed that non-essential services like Voter IDs; Aadhar Cards; Ration cards would be stopped in order to reduce public gathering as a preventive measures. He also mentioned that public and tourists’ spots need to be closed for tourists in order to keep themselves safe. He urged them to follow the directives chalked by the District Administration in order to save themselves and others from the COVID19 virus. He also asked all to retrospect the case studies of other countries and learn from their mistakes and follow Health Advisories issues for public interest. He informed that the District Level Task Force would have two isolation facilities, one at the Aayush Hospital, Kyongsa, Gyalshing for the Gyalshing-Yuksam areas and the other at SICB for Soreng Subdivision and would be equipped with adequate required facilities. Similarly, the Government Guest Houses and other infrastructures located at various positions would be used as quarantine zones in the district. He also informed that manpower required to tackle any grave situations would be trained and deputed as per requirement. He also informed that the problem is concerning the public’s safety the role of an individual is vital and all should participate actively by maintaining social distancing and practicing good hygiene. Further, the DC West asserted that no Government vehicles are to leave the district without informing the DC and prior permission. He also informed that Officers should be stationed at the district to tackle the outbreak. He also mentioned that since the pandemic is alarming the district needs to be ready for the worst case scenario and be prepared to tackle it. The District Control Room would soon be operational and all citizens who are travelling from other states and coming to West Sikkim will have to fill out Self Declaration Forms for contact tracing and surveillance of disease. He also urged the Police Department West Sikkim to maintain database for those people coming from outside Sikkim. The Health Department has been directed to work on the procurement plan for medicines, masks, ventilators and set up a 10 bedded ICU in the district for the Corona Victims. He also informed that illegal hoarding and selling of essential commodities at higher prices would be strictly dealt by the District Administration.
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