

PRESS NOTE Dtd. 18.05.2020

Assistance by Odisha Police for Transit of Migrant Labour through Odisha.

In present scenario migrant labour and their transport can be divided into four categories.

- Migrant labour coming from outside with Odisha as their final destination.
- 2. Migrant labour working in Odisha, belonging to other states, proposing to go back to their home state.
- 3. Migrant labour of other states, passing through Odisha, by vehicle, to reach their home state.
- 4. Migrant labour of other states, passing through Odisha on foot or by cycle, to reach their home state.

For the first two categories, Odisha has well laid down SOP and agency prescribed for implementing the same (Dist. Admn. & other Govt. agencies). For the third category, Border Check Points do the checking and, allow vehicles to pass through Odisha. It is in fourth category that some vacuum was felt and therefore need for compassionate intervention.

Accordingly CMO Odisha placed funds to Odisha Police from Chief Minister's Relief Fund to look after transport & food needs of this fourth category of migrant workers i.e. who are entering Odisha on foot to go to their home state like West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand and Bihar or even further. So, Odisha Police for last four days is providing buses from important Border Check Points like Sohela, Girisola, and Kerada to carry the migrants to the border points nearest to their destination state.

However before such buses were provided (from BCPs) some migrant labours had already left on foot. So all road side police stations has been alerted to assist such migrant labour and inform District Control Room who can co-ordinate with other districts and BCPs. The number and route of buses is dynamic, depending on demand. Buses are also being provided at intermediate points like Khordha, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Jajpur, Bhadrak etc.

Till 18.5.2020, 5.00 P.M. Odisha Police arranged 222 trips by bus to transport over eight thousand such migrant labours of other states using Odisha for transit only.

Odisha Police is also running kitchens to feed Migrant Labour of all types. Biggest such kitchen in Bhadrak is feeding four thousand people per day.

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