BEST HEALTH CARE FACILITIES AT COVID CARE CENTERS

Panaji, July 16, 2020

The State Government of Goa has initiated various steps to prevent and contain the spread of the deadly novel Corona Virus in the State. It has adopted several measures to create greater awareness amongst the masses on the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State Government has set up two Covid Care Centers, one each at Calangute Residency, Calangute and Sports Authority of India (SAI) Girls Hostel, Peddem, Mapusa in the jurisdiction of North Goa District. The Covid asymptomatic persons are accommodated in the Covid Care Centers where they are well looked after with various facilities. Arrangements have been made to provide food from well known restaurants / hotel. The meals are based on the diet plan suggested by the dietician at ESI Hospital, Margao. This has helped in the timely provision of meals to the persons accommodated in these Centers.

The housekeeping services are provided by designated agencies complying to prescribed standards. The security is provided by specialized agencies and Police. In addition to this, laundry services are being provided by engaging separate agencies for both the Covid Care Centers for disinfecting the used linen scientifically. Regular disinfection of the premises is being undertaken. Bio-medical waste is auto claved by PHC Candolim and thereafter sent to GMC. Regular garbage is timely cleared by the Calangute Village Panchayat and Mapusa Municipality. At Calangute Residency, every room has an intercom facility with a kettle also provided. A Manager with dedicated staff has been assigned to monitor the various facilities. Transport facility for testing and shifting is provided by GTDC buses by following prescribed norms. Regular visits by Medical Officers is undertaken everyday to check for temperature, pulse and oxygen saturation. Supplements like zinc, calcium, B-complex, vitamin C plus chavanprash is provided, besides the homeopathic dose of arsenic album and balloons for lung exercises.

At present, there are six Containment Zones in North Goa District to prevent spread of the pandemic, which are strictly monitored by the Rapid Response Team comprising of Deputy Collector, Mamlatdar, Police Inspector, Civil Supplies Inspector, Assistant Engineer PWD, Medical Officer and co-opted Panchayat members. These Containment Zones are properly barricaded and sealed. Police personnel are deployed in the Containment Zones for security purpose. The Medical Officers conduct screening of all those inhabitants residing the the Containment Zones every day. Those tested positive for corona virus are being shifted to the designated Covid Hospital / Covid Care Centre for treatment. The services of identified volunteers from sealed containment zone is being used to distribute essential commodities kit consisting of groceries, food grains, spices, onion, salt packets, tea powder, milk packets and other health care requirements to the residents in every containment Zone. These kits are prepared by the District Administration. The Directorate of Fire & Emergency Services sanitize these containment zones regularly to get rid of corona virus infection. A basic kit consisting of sanitizer, face mask, face shield, hand gloves and PPE are given to staff as a precaution. Moreover, wherever toilet facilities are absent, arrangements for mobile toilet facilities are made available in the Containment Zones.

The Government is endeavouring to provide the best health care facilities so that people detected with corona virus are properly treated. In order to supplement the efforts of the Government and to deal with the covid crisis, the people of Goa should extend their support and cooperation so as to yield the desired results in the fight against Covid-19 by being alert and extra cautious by maintaining social distancing especially in market areas & public places and following all other prescribed measures to protect oneself from the pandemic which has claimed thousands of lives across the globe. Any COVID -19 related symptoms of cough, fever, cold, breathlessness are to be promptly reported to the nearest PHC. Several COVID-19 positive cases have been successfully cured and there should be no discrimination against any such person.

DI/NB/PN/SGN/2020/211

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