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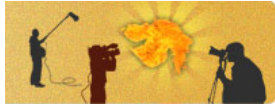
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Guj CM Shri vijaybhai Rupani decides to provide free 25,000 N-95 masks to private doctors

Adopting a considerate safety and health protective approach for the doctors who are providing their services in the private hospitals and clinics to the patients coming for the in treatment across Gujarat in the presently prevalent announced 21-day long nation-wide lockdown situation to fight against world-wide spreading pandemic of 'COVID-19', Chief Minister Mr. Vijaybhai Rupani today taken a vital decision to provide 'N-95' masks to them, Mr. Ashwini Kumar, secretary to the Chief Minister, briefed the media persons in Gandhinagar.

On the instructions of the Chief Minister, the state health department has made an adequate arrangement to protect the health of these private doctors for availing of their uninterrupted services to the citizens of Gujarat, Mr. Ashwini Kumar said and added that as per the guidelines of Mr. Rupani, for this purpose Gujarat Government has provided 25,000 pieces of N-95 mask, at free of cost, to Dr. Mona Desai, Gujarat President of the Indian Medical Association.

Giving details about the adequate arrangements made for the smooth and sufficient supply of essential commodities and day-to-day needs of the citizens of Gujarat on the 10th day, today, in the presently prevalent the lockdown situation, the secretary to Chief Minister further stated that on Friday, 47.44 lakh litres of milk was distributed. 101,182 quintals of vegetables, which included potatoes, tomatoes, onions and other green vegetables, along with 15,440 quintals of fruits had arrived in various vegetable markets across Gujarat. All the 72 vegetable markets of Gujarat are operational and also making retail selling of vegetables from these places.

For easy and sufficient supply of essential services and needs of the citizens of the state, as many as 225,000 passes were issued to individuals and small traders who were involved in providing such services, he said and added that two emergency helpline number services – State Control Helpline Number 1070 and District Helpline Number 1077 had received help calls 3256 and 14,417, respectively, so far, for providing essential services such as supply of milk, essential commodities, medical facilities and others.

The distribution of foodgrains for the month of April to 8-lakh Antyodaya and 58-LAKH PHH card holders, benefiting 66 lakh families of Gujarat, from 17,000 government approved ration shops has already been commenced from April 1st. As many as 31 lakh card holders had availed their benefits till 2pm, today and the figure is likely to cross 40 lakh by tonight, he added.

Thanking the beneficiaries for maintaining social distancing during the distributions of foodgrains, Mr. Ashwini Kumar further added that the state government is determined that for any reason, if any of the 66 lakh beneficiary families is left-out from availing their benefits than the distribution system would be extended for one or two more days for them.

He also expressed confidence that the state government's food and civil supply department will provide distributions of foodgrains without any difficulties in this testing time.

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