



ODISHA UPDATE

Guidelines to Ensure Safety and Security for ST & SC Students

The ST & SC Development Department, Govt of Odisha has issued strict guidelines for the safety and security of students in schools and hostels. There are 1,670 residential schools with over 4,700 hostels functioning under this Department. There are about 4,50,000 students studying in these schools, out of which about 60% are girls.

The aim of these guidelines is to create an enabling environment for students in schools and hostels and to protect them from any act of sexual harassment and abuse; to suggest measures for prevention, to sensitize the employees and educate students especially the girls through life skills.

In the guidelines, measures are prescribed for prevention and protection from sexual abuse, code of conduct and duties of staff, code of conduct for students, interaction between staff and students, environmental safeguards, recording the movement of boarders/visitors. Further the procedure for reporting and action taken by the different government functionaries are also outlined in the guidelines.

Further School and Hostel Monitoring Guidelines are also being issued by the Department. School Monitoring Report of D.W.Os, A.D.W.Os and D.I. along with their tour report will be submitted to ST & SC Development Department through e-mail.

Dr. Jyotirmati Samantray, Information Officer

Rajkishore Nayak Memorial Lectures

“Gandhism is relevant even today”: Shri Ramchandra Rahee

Gandhism is relevant in contemporary world scenario even today and Gandhi has become a worldwide school of thought, said Sri Ramachandra Rahee, Secretary of Gandhi Smarak Nidhi here. Shri Rahee was speaking on the subject “100 years of Gandhi’s return to India”, organised by Rajkishore Nayak National Foundation.

Delivering RKNMF Memorial Lecture on the subject Shri Rahee said that Gandhi had been to South Africa as a Barrister but returned India as Mahatma. His simplicity, way of life, experiment with



truth and doctrines of non-violence and non-cooperation have contributed greatly for the benefits of world order. He was not against so called science and technology but pleaded for the common man's efficiency and quality of work. He was a man of action and his principles based on tolerance and truth have become instruments of social engineering as well as nation building, said Sri Rahee.

Inaugurating the programme Padma Bibhusana Dr. Sitakant Mohapatra described Gandhi as one of the finest personalities who has influenced generations of this country. Shri Bhabani Charan Pattnaik, Ex. M.P and President of the Foundation presided over the programme while Shri Bhagaban Prakash, formerly adviser of Planning Commission and Adhyapak Biswaranjan also spoke on the occasion.

A book "Narad Bhakti Darshan" written by Smt Nirmal Prava Nayak was released by Shri Rahee. Shri Akshaya Mishra presented a brief review. Shri Parsuram Dwibedi, Secretary of the Foundation gave the welcome address and Shri Nilayakanta Mohapatra proposed vote of thanks.

Surya Mishra, Information Officer

State Government's initiatives to curb Jaundice in Sambalpur

Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik announced a package of Rs 100 crore for replacement and renovation of water supply distribution network, and several other measures, to contain jaundice in Sambalpur.

"Apart from announcing Rs.100 crore for water supply distribution network, Shri Patnaik has announced Rs.416 crore for a modern underground sewerage system. This apart, Rs.60 crore will be spent for renovation of three nullahs including Dhobjor, Haradjor and Tangna which drain the sewerage of the city to the Mahanadi river," said a senior official.

The state government will provide 500 PVC tank to provide safe drinking water and establish 50 community toilets in the view of jaundice situation in Sambalpur. A pumping station for the city has also been announced. During his brief visit to Sambalpur, Shri Patnaik informed that Veer Surendra Sai Medical College and Hospital, Burla would be upgraded as Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research from 1 January 2015. The Notification in the regard has also been issued.