



सत्यमेव जयते

## RAJ BHAVAN

### Press Note:

Andhra Pradesh Governor tells Vice Chancellors to launch mission-mode campaign on Covid-19

Vijayawada, April 20: Addressing the Vice Chancellors of all Universities in Andhra Pradesh on Covid-19 through a Webinar, Andhra Pradesh Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan said that they should take up awareness programmes on a mission mode basis in order to succeed in the fight against Covid-19 menace. Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan participated in the Webinar held through video conference from Raj Bhavan on Tuesday.

Governor Sri Harichandan said that because of the alarming Covid-19 situation prevailing in the country, Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi held review meetings with the Chief Ministers on April 8 and the Governors and Lt. Governors on April 14 during which the Prime Minister had stressed on the need for implementing the Five-fold strategy of 'testing, tracing, treatment, Covid-appropriate behaviour and vaccination' and also called for a united fight against the pandemic.

Governor Sri Harichandan said that the PM had also advised that a campaign should be taken up with active involvement of Universities and students to spread awareness about the Covid-appropriate behavior and all other precautions as required to prevent and control the Covid-19 pandemic with the support of civil society, prominent persons, religious leaders, public representatives etc.

The COVID-19 pandemic has posed a huge challenge to the Higher Education Institutions and the role of the Vice Chancellors becomes crucial in taking appropriate measures for safety of students and the staff without compromising on the academics, said the Governor. The Governor also said that institutions of higher education also have larger responsibility towards the public to create an environment of awareness among the population about protective and preventive aspects with active involvement of existing network of NCC and NSS cadre and to utilize their services. The Governor also stressed on the need to create awareness on maintaining physical fitness with regular practice of yoga and to use of Ayurvedic medicine, in consultation with the doctors.

Governor Sri Harichandan called upon the students to use the AP Red Cross Mobile app and take up a campaign for community surveillance throughout the State on war footing basis while also protecting themselves from the risk. He said students should first educate their parents, their neighbourhood on the importance of using mask, maintaining physical distance and frequent handwash and they visit at least five houses every day and take up community surveillance using the app and give the feedback. He further said 10 best performing colleges in each District and 3 best universities in the State will be suitably rewarded for their work. The Governor said students have the power to reach out to the society and create awareness among people on the precautions to be taken to prevent spread of the Covid-19 pandemic appealed to them to come forward and take up the fight against the menace.

Governor Sri Harichandan expressed the confidence that with vigorous campaign on a mission-mode basis by the Universities with the help of students, the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic can be won and history can be created by saving the entire humanity from the pandemic in the coming days. Governor Sri Harichandan said Andhra Pradesh government was second in the number of tests conducted during the first wave and the State is much ahead in terms of testing, tracing and treatment in the

country and all necessary measures have been taken by the government this time also. The Governor appealed to all sections of the society to extend full cooperation to the government in tackling spread of the pandemic.

Dr. A. Suresh, Minister for Education, speaking on the occasion said people should avoid the three 'Cs' - closed environment, crowded places and contact with others and the three 'Ts' testing, tracing and treatment should be adopted to effectively contain spread of the Covid-19 virus. Sri Satish Chandra, Special Chief Secretary, Education, Sri Mukesh Kumar Meena, Secretary to Governor and Prof. K. Hemachandra Reddy, Chairman, AP State Council of Higher Education have also attended the programme.