



सत्यमेव जयते

RAJ BHAVAN

Press Note:

Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan appeals to religious and spiritual heads to create awareness among people on Covid-19

Vijayawada, May 03: Andhra Pradesh Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan addressed heads of various religious and spiritual organizations in the State through a Webinar on creating awareness among the people on adherence to Covid-appropriate behavior taking precautions to curb spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, in a virtual mode from Raj Bhavan on Monday.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan said religion and faith have a unique place in the lives of people of the country and in the times of anxiety, faith can be a significant source of comfort and resilience to the society and said the religious and spiritual leaders can play a larger role in saving lives and mitigating spread of the disease. He said Covid-19 pandemic is threatening the entire humanity as the outbreak has posed an unprecedented challenge before the mankind.

The Governor also said as influential leaders of the society and the community, they can create awareness among people in the respective communities to adhere to the Covid-appropriate behavior such as wearing mask, maintaining social distance, washing hands frequently, keeping the surroundings clean etc. Governor Sri Harichandan urged upon the religious and spiritual leaders who participated in the Webinar to make a special appeal to their followers for strict adherence to the Covid precautions to protect themselves, their family members and the communities around them.

The Governor had urged upon the leaders to make it a part of their regular discourses to create awareness on the mandatory precautions to be taken to prevent spread of the corona virus and the need to stay at home, avoid unnecessary travel, celebration of festivals at home and to advise people to either postpone functions and events for the time being or to hold them with very limited number, duly following Covid guidelines, as per advise of authorities.

Governor Sri Harichandan also stressed on the urgent need for all eligible persons to get vaccinated as it offers best protection against the virus and early detection of positive cases followed by treatment under home isolation or at hospital can cure the disease and decrease the number of fatalities. The Governor appealed to the religious and spiritual leaders to take an active role in this humanitarian cause and advise the people to strictly follow the Covid-appropriate behavior to break the chain of the corona virus.

Participating in the Webinar, Sri A. Venugopala Deekshithulu of TTD said TTD is taking all precautions as per guidelines in prevention of spread of Covid and advising pilgrims on wearing mask, maintain social distance and hand sanitisers were kept at several places for the use of pilgrims. Speaking on the occasion Sri Tridandi China Jeeyar Swamy of Jeeyar Education Trust, said that the second wave of Covid-19 was unexpected and said following rules laid by the authorities strictly and maintaining social distance are important and said there is a need to instill confidence and strong will among Covid-19 patients that they can recover from the disease. He advised people to go for home cooked food and avoid taking outside food to stay healthy.

Sri T. Koteswara Rao of Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust, Puttaparti said that their Seva Dal members have been trained on Covid appropriate behavior in collaboration with UNICEF and they in turn launched SMS (Sanitation, Mask and Social distance) campaigns to create awareness among people. Participating in the Webinar Sri Paripoornananda Swamiji,

of Sri Peetham, Kakinada said Covid-19 is a challenge thrown at human beings by the cosmic energy as the virus has a peculiar behavior by mutating and attacking different organs of the human body. He said their Trust helped Covid patients recover from the disease by following AYUSH systems such as burning of cow dung, drinking hot water, steam inhalation, pranayama, avoiding cold items, exposure to sun etc. Sri Moulana Abdul Qadeer of All India Milli Council, Kurnool, Sri Mufti Yousuf Alli Sab, Imam, Milli Council of India, Sri Harmohinder Sahni, guru Prabandak Committee, Vijayawada, Sri Dilshah Singh Anand, Gurudwara Satsang, Visakkhapatnam, Kum. Srisisha Behan, Brahmakumaris, Vijayawada, Dr. T. George Cornelious, Bishop CSI All Saints Church, Vijayawada, Dr. T. Joseph Rajarao, Bishop, RCM Churches, Sri Hridayananda Maharaj, Ramakrishna Mutt, Vijayawada, Sri Thero, Buddhist Monk, Amaravathi Buddha Vihar and Sri Pannalal D. Jain, Jain Samaj, Vijayawada, have also participated in the Webinar and offered their help in creating awareness among the general public to fight against dreaded disease and help the authorities to put an end to the pandemic. The heads of religious and spiritual organizations who participated in the Webinar also offered their places of worship for use by the authorities as temporary Quarantine Centres for Covid patients.

Sri A. Shyam Prasad, Joint Secretary to Governor, coordinated the Webinar from Raj Bhavan.