



OSDMA

From

Pradeep Jena, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary &
Managing Director, OSDMA

To

All Collectors

Sub: Collaborating with NGOs for mitigating negative effects of COVID-19.

Madam/Sir,

Enclosing herewith a copy of the letter no. 59/CS dated 30.03.2020 of Chief Secretary addressed to Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, I am to say that Additional Chief Secretary, Rural Development -cum- Special Relief Commissioner and Managing Director, OSDMA has been declared as the State Nodal Officer to coordinate with the private sectors, NGOs and International Organization for response related activities arising out of COVID-19 pandemic. NGOs are an important stakeholder in management of disasters and to provide tangible assistance to the district administration at the time of emergency. State level NGO coordination meetings are being organized under the chairmanship of MD, OSDMA on alternate days through net based video conferencing. A mobile app is being prepared for registration of volunteers with the assistance of UNICEF, Field Office, Odisha. We need to encourage the reputed local NGOs to take up various activities including the few indicated below to support the efforts of government to help the people in need of assistance.

- (a) Public awareness generation on social distancing, personal hygiene and other preventive measures.
- (b) Assisting in management of quarantine facilities /GP level medical centres through supply of volunteers and other supports.
- (c) Tracking migrant workers coming from outside state or district and working with such people for registration with GPs, self quarantine, social distancing and removal of stigma/ostracisation if any.
- (d) Providing psycho social counseling to the distressed people and geriatric people.

- (e) Providing food, material assistance as well as financial assistance to the people in need.
- (f) Assisting GPs in identifying sick, indigent and PWDs etc who have no one to fall back upon and facilitation of home delivery of food to such people in association with women SHGs.
- (g) Helping elderly, physically and mentally challenged, persons with disability, women and others.
- (h) Also preparing a strategy to support the poor and marginalized in livelihood activities & income generation through short, medium and long term activities.

It has come to notice that the proactive and humanitarian efforts of some of the NGOs in certain districts have not been availed to the extent required. It may please be appreciated that there are many well-intentioned NGOs with clean track record of providing assistance to the distressed people as well as local administration in the time of crisis in the past.

With a view to harnessing the potential of the NGOs to support the cause of government, district level NGO coordination meeting may be convened immediately and they may be requested to take up different activities as per their expertise and resources under the active guidance of the Collector and District Administration. It is needless to reiterate that all precautionary measures like social distancing may be scrupulously practised by the volunteers of the local NGOs while extending their assistance to the people.

A proactive officer may be drafted by the Collector to look after NGO coordination activities in the district. The activities taken up by NGOs in the district may be monitored and daily situation report may please be sent to OSDMA for record.

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature in blue ink, followed by the date 31/03/2020 written in blue ink.

ACS-cum-Managing Director

CC: Copy forwarded to DC-cum-ACS for kind information.