

**Hon'ble Chief Minister's Speech  
in the Video Conference Meeting with  
Hon'ble Prime Minister**

**Good Morning**

**Hon'ble Prime Minister,  
Hon'ble Defence Minister,  
Hon'ble Home Minister and  
other Chief Ministers,**

At the outset I thank the Hon'ble Prime Minister for leading the nation in tackling the present COVID-19 Challenge. My Government has taken the following steps:-

- State Disaster Management Authority has conducted 11 meetings and I have issued various directions, as well as addressing the situation on a daily basis.
- Section 144 Cr.P.C. has been invoked statewide.
- Public Health and the Disaster Management Laws have been invoked.

- A Task Force headed by the Chief Secretary, including experts has been set up.
- 12 teams headed by senior IAS officers have been set up to implement and monitor all the activities related to COVID-19 challenge.
- Massive publicity campaign on social distancing & various do's and don'ts, launched.
- Interstate transport has been stopped, except for movement of goods.
- Availability of essential commodities for people during this lockdown period has been ensured.
- Around 2.10 lakh international passengers screened and 77,330 of them are under home quarantine for 28 days.
- A detailed micro plan for each district has been drawn to meet the health care needs of the old age people, ante-natal and post-natal mothers and infants, patients on chronic treatment like TB, HIV, Hypertension and Diabetes, patients needing dialysis and is being executed by mobile health teams in the districts.

- Massive cleaning and disinfection of all public places is being done by all Local Bodies.
- Health Department has identified 22,000 isolation beds, 5,934 ICU beds in Government and private sector so far.
- As on date 2,641 samples have been tested, 1,631 persons have been isolated.
- **As on date 234 COVID-19 positive cases have been confirmed in Tamil Nadu. These cases are identified, isolated or quarantined by the State on a war footing.**
- **Containment plan** is being executed in all districts and Corporations, wherever positive cases have been identified, so that the entire area is sanitized and sealed off to prevent further spread of COVID-19.
- Omanthurar Medical College Hospital, Chennai & Coimbatore ESI Medical College Hospital have been declared as dedicated COVID-19 hospitals. Apart from this, one hospital in each district has been identified and provided with treatment facilities for COVID-19.

- Every person under isolation is provided nutritious and immune boosting meal to combat the infection.
- Testing facilities have been expanded across the state. Presently the State has 11 Government facilities and 6 private labs for COVID-19 testing. This needs to be increased by having atleast one per district.
- 530 Doctors, 1,000 Staff Nurses and 1,508 Lab Technicians have been newly appointed.
- The protective gears for all field personnel namely masks, PPE kits, have been sourced from multiple agencies. We need your support.
- Self Help Groups across the state have been used for manufacturing masks and sanitizers.
- More than 45,000 volunteers have registered so far, which includes 1,100 doctors and 3,500 paramedical staff.
- An immediate relief package of 3,280 crore rupees was sanctioned by me to provide 1000 rupees per family along with free ration commodities of 15 Kg rice, 1 Kg dhal, 1 Kg sugar and 1 litre of oil for the month of April for Rice Card holders. All registered

street vendors are provided with an additional 1,000 rupees.

- A monthly allowance of 1,000 rupees for all unorganized sector labourers, construction workers, auto drivers, has been provided along with free ration commodities.
- Migrant labourers who were stranded in my State, are being taken care by the District Collectors by providing stay and free rations. 153 number of camps have been set up, housing 11,957 migrant workers, who are being provided with hot cooked food & medical facilities. I have also written to all Chief Ministers concerned, to provide all support to the Tamils who are stranded in their States.
- Old age homes are provided with free cooked nutritious meal. Shelterless persons are given shelter and free cooked nutritious meal.
- **“Amma Canteens”** are functioning across the State to provide meals at subsidized rate.
- An additional 2 days wages under MGNREGS has been provided to cover those rural house

holds, which are dependent on this employment for their livelihood.

**I WOULD LIKE TO PLACE THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS TO THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER FOR KIND CONSIDERATION.**

- Test kits supply should be increased.
- PPEs, N-95 Masks, and ventilators has to be provided in sufficient numbers for managing the COVID-19. I had requested 3,000 crore rupees among other requests for the above purchase.
- Tamil Nadu may be allocated 9,000 crore rupees, as requested earlier in my letter.
- As a one time measure, the fiscal deficit limits of 3% of GSDP may be relaxed for financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21.
- To meet out the additional expenditure arising due this pandemic, additional borrowing of 33% above the permitted level for fiscal year 2019-20, may be allowed for 2020-21.
- Grants due to States in 2020-21 may be released in advance. 50 per cent of the

Finance Commission grants to the Urban and Rural Local bodies can be released now. 50 per cent of the revenue deficit grant can be released now. The GST compensation amount due for the December- January 2019-20 can be released immediately.

- Grants under the National Health Mission can be released immediately.
- The Ways and Means limit of the States which was increased by 30% by RBI should be doubled. The Ways and Means advances availed in the fiscal year 2020-21 should be made interest free.

**Thank you,**

**Vanakkam.**

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