

Press Release:

BALCO steps in to fight Covid-19 in Korba

Korba, 16 Apr 2020 Balco's healthcare providers and security officials are leaving no stone unturned to fight the deadly COVID-19. Several measures are in place to keep the community safe.

A 100-bed isolation ward has been prepared and the best sanitisation practices are being followed. Sprinklers have been installed at the hospital to sanitize patients and medicines are being delivered at doorsteps to minimise movement. A special 24x7 help desk has been set up to disseminate information about the Novel Corona Virus.

Home isolation is being advocated for people with a history of travel and daily medical updates are being sent to the government. A dedicated ambulance service with PPE kits is on call. A generous supply of sanitizers, masks and PPE kits have been procured and distributed to the hospital staff. The hospital is being disinfected twice a day. Immuno-boosters such as Vitamin C are being made available for Balco employees.

Employees have been advised to work from home. Body temperatures of technical employees are being checked and they are working in shifts.

Balco Hospital is working as an extended arm of the government to screen the Korba region. It is also helping sanitise public buildings. Balco team has developed a sprinkler machine and in collaboration with Self Help Groups has made more than 10000 masks and protective gear. People coming in from neighbouring states are being screened at borders and, when needed, being sent to government quarantine centres. A daily report is being sent to the district collector and the CMO.

Mr. Abhijit Pati, CEO and Director, has reached out to all stakeholders asking about their well-being. Balco has provided support to police officers by distributing masks and sanitisers. In a letter Mr. Pati praised their selflessness and thorough work.

Over the past month residents are being sensitised through systematic campaigns and are being counselled. Pamphlets with information about the virus are being distributed and a vehicle for audio broadcasts has been deployed.

The plant's vehicle drivers were handed food packets. A similar initiative was organised for the marginalised communities hit by the unprecedented lockdown.

Balco's priority is the health of its employees and it has already reached out to 2,50,000 people in Korba and Kawardha and Mainpat mines.

Bharat Aluminium Company Limited (BALCO) is India's iconic aluminium producer. It is owned 49% by the Government of India and 51% by Vedanta Limited. Vedanta Limited is the world's 6th largest diversified natural resources company and the largest producer of aluminium in India. BALCO operates a 0.57 million tonne per annum aluminium smelter in Korba, Chhattisgarh. It is



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