



PRESIDENTIAL (COVID-19) TASK FORCE BULLETIN

COVID-19 | STATE OF EMERGENCY

Issue 39 | Tuesday, 26 May 2020

Day 54

IT'S ALL SYSTEMS GO - BACK TO SCHOOL ~ PS BASIC EDUCATION

Ministry of Basic Education preparations are at an advance stage to facilitate the re-opening of schools.

Giving a brief update on Monday, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Basic Education, Ms Bridget John assured the nation of the readiness of schools to re-open in compliance to the COVID-19 protocols.

She said the second lot of learners will be received on June 16, while completing classes being Form 5s, Form 3s and Standard 7s are expected on June 2, as the pupils of year 2020 gets back to the drawing board after two months at home due to

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CURRENT SITUATION IN NUMBERS

25/05/2020

Lab Tests Performed & resulted	17991
Negative Cases	17956
Positive Cases	35
Total Deaths	1
Recoveries	20
Active Cases	8

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

Tollfree: 0800 600 111 | Telephone: 369 8337 | E-mail: neoc@gov.bw

The NEOC is located on the 4th floor at the Ministry of Defence Justice and Security.

Each school will be provided with not less than five (5) thermometers

Safety Health and Environment have been identified, will be posted to schools by the end of the week and given induction

Additional teachers will be provided when there is need

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the country's unprecedented lockdown to manage the spread of the coronavirus.

She however noted that Pre-primary learners will report to schools on 4th August 2020, as part of the measures to protect them from the cold winter season that is upon us.

She said the decision follows advice by the Ministry of Health and Wellness and the need to prioritise health of younger ones.

"We urge parents to keep them at home for the cold winter to pass. We are doing this to ensure that our young ones are protected from the harsh

cold also knowing that some of these protocols of wearing a mask will be a challenge for them," she said. According to Ms John, teams have already been dispatched to regions to assess and inspect COVID-19 compliance in schools, which she said was at 81 percent.

She explained that profiling of schools across regions have also helped to identify schools that will continue to operate the normal way and those where shifting will be introduced.

Efforts have also been made to decongest hostels in boarding schools through the use of alternative space such as halls and common rooms that will be partitioned to adhere to COVID-19 protocols. As a precaution measure the government had taken a decision to halt all learning activities from the 20th of March 2020.

TRUCK MONITORING

23-24 MAY 2020

BORDER	Arrival	Departure
Tlokweng	150	38
Ramatlabama	126	42
Martin's Drift	62	54
Pioneer	22	14
Mamuno	46	33
Kazungula Road Border	0	12
Kazungula Ferry	0	42
Ngoma	2	0
Ramokgwebana	7	17
Mohembo	1	0
Sub Total	416	252
Total	668	

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases worldwide

5,463,392

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine
25/05/20

@ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine 25/05/20

COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

USA - 1,654,683	South Africa - 22,583	Mozambique - 209
UK - 262,541	Egypt - 17,967	Malawi - 101
Spain - 235,400	Zambia - 920	Angola - 69
Italy - 230,158	Ethiopia - 655	Zimbabwe - 56
France - 183,067	Madagascar - 542	Botswana - 35
China - 84,095	Eswatini - 256	Lesotho - 2

Botswana
COVID-19 Map

35

Greater Gaborone	15
Gaborone, Metsimothabe	
Lobatse	2
Molepolole	2
South East	6
Ramotswa, Otse	
Palapye	2
Chobe	6
North East	2
Siviya, Ramokgwebana	

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Calibration Of Infrared Thermometers Critical

~ BoMRA



Botswana Medicines Regulatory Authority (BoMRA) has called on customers and distributors of infrared thermometers to contact the Authority for registration of the devices and their calibration.

“BoMRA strongly advises customers and distributors of the products to contact the Authority for information on calibration of the devices locally by accredited entities and further ensure that calibration is done periodically,” said BoMRA’s Public Relations Officer Mr Israel Kgosidiile in an interview.

He told the Presidential Taskforce Bulletin that they have since embarked on targeted education to end users having realized an increase of people not in the pharmaceutical sector, although engaged in the supply and handling of medical devices such as infrared thermometers.

Mr Kgosidiile said ever since the government made it mandatory for businesses, schools, churches and workplaces to screen body temperatures, people have used this as a business opportunity as observed through adverts on social media platforms.

“The influx of advertisement and supply of thermometers is of concern because some of the products have no records of calibration at all and are likely to give false readings,” said Mr Kgosidiile.

BoMRA is responsible for the regulation of the supply of human and veterinary medicines, including cosmetics and medicinal devices and thermometers fall under the regulation of the Authority.

He indicated that the authenticity of some of the readings has already been questioned by the public who are using social media to express their misgivings.

Mr Kgosidiile cautioned that contravention of the Medicines and Related Substances Act (MRSA) attracted hefty penalties.

Nonetheless, he noted that the focus of the Authority is to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 and to ensure that all imported products used in the country conform to the set standards of quality and safety.

SKMTH - A Home of Hope

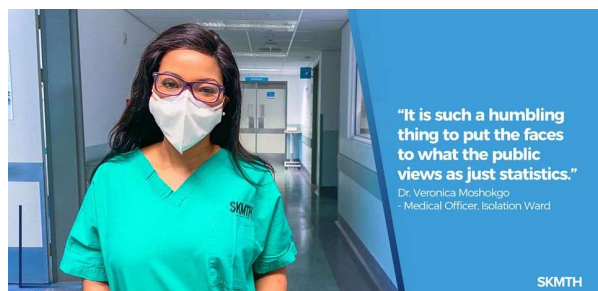


No effort has been spared to ensure that the Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital (SKMTH) provides the appropriate care for those affected and infected by COVID-19.

When COVID-19 was declared a world pandemic, and the country started to register its first suspected positive case, the hospital human resource remained optimistic about the systems within which they operate to offer the necessary services. For Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital, the journey started in February 2020, when a request was made for it to be an isolation centre for COVID-19 suspects. Subsequent to that, in March 2020, the hospital was required to also provide medical care for COVID-19 confirmed cases. In response to COVID-19, the hospital ensured provision of the



"The Fight against COVID-19 is a team effort. At Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital we embrace partnerships. Lets continue to partner together in this fight." - Dr Thato Moumakwa., Commissioning Manager, Sir Ketumile Masire Teaching Hospital.



"It is such a humbling thing to put the faces to what the public views as just statistics."
Dr. Veronica Moshokgo
- Medical Officer, Isolation Ward

SKMTH



"I feel really honored to be on the front lines during this time to serve the nation doing my duties."
-Dr. Oageng Ntsi
Internal Medicine Resident,
Isolation Wards

SKMTH

services through Intensive Care, Emergency Care, General Admission Services as well as the Out-Patient (Ambulatory) Clinic supported by functions such as Radiology, Laboratory, Pharmacy and others.

Provision of such services has been possible through partnership with provider institutions such as Princess Marina Hospital (PMH), Gaborone District Health Medical Team (DHMT), University of Botswana (UB), and the National Health Laboratory (NHL).

Because of the significant mental and social strain the provision of these services places on the frontline Health Care Workers, SKMTH decided to partner with the University of Botswana Psychology Department to open a Wellness Centre for all staff within the platform. This was to avail psychosocial support and screening services, an initiative which has been fully embraced and utilised by staff.

In the fight against the pandemic, the Hospital continues to urge all to remain positive and play part in order to prevent the spread of the COVID-19. "By no means are we out of the woods yet. We need to remain vigilant and continue to promote prevention."

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTRE

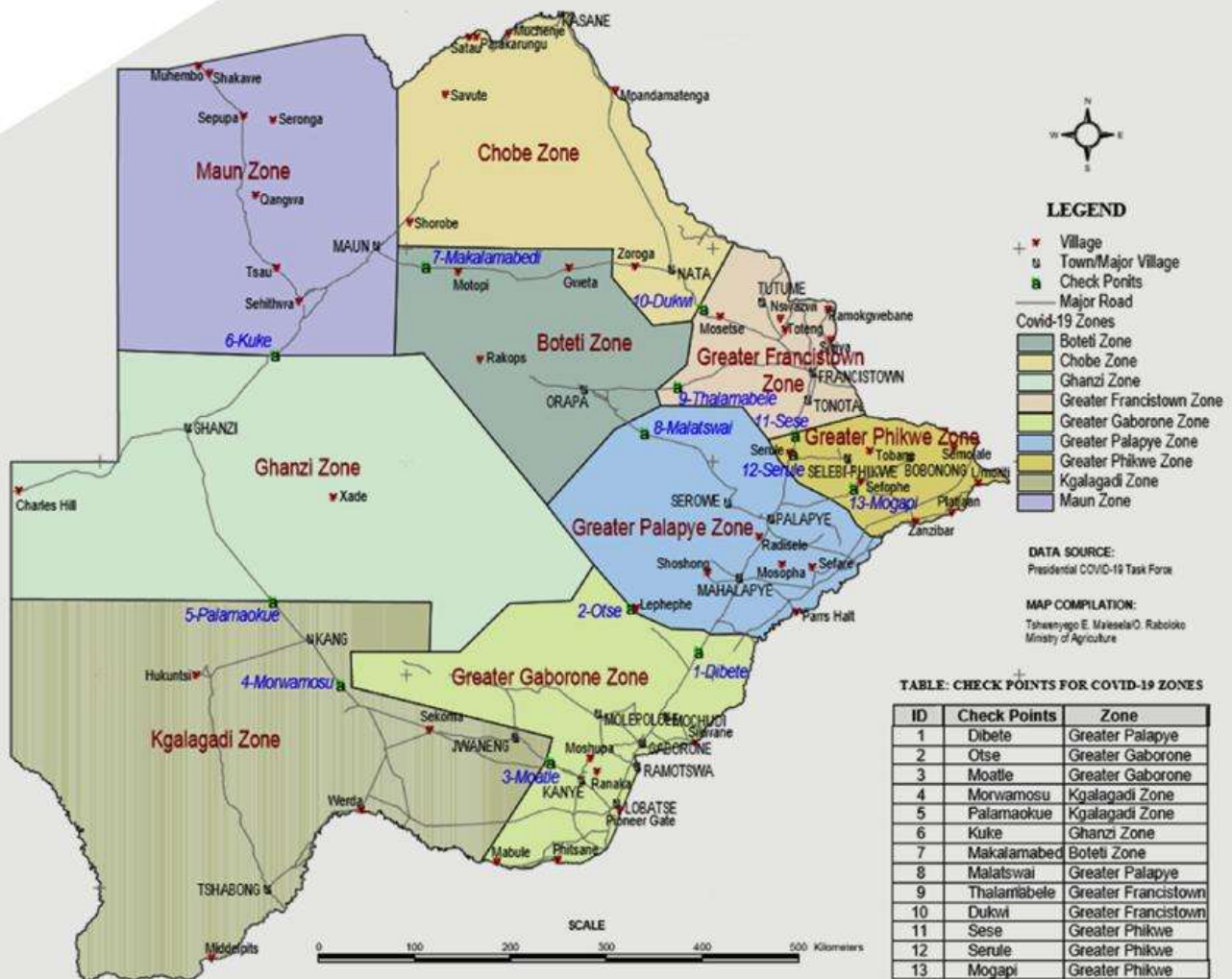
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Republic of Botswana

COVID-19 ZONAL MAP



KNOW YOUR ZONES

Extreme Social Distancing ended on Wednesday signaling the end of the three phases which were introduced to curb the spread of the virus in the country. The Presidential Task Force has developed a surveillance plan to monitor the disease. This resulted in the different zones to create cohorts for easier monitoring, easier tracing of contacts of positive cases and to avoid uncontrollable spread across the country.

The Inter-Zonal permit is therefore a requirement for people to travel from one zone to the other. Thirteen law enforcement check points have been designated across the country to monitor movements of people.

The nine (9) Covid -19 Zones are as follows;

1. Greater Gaborone zone
2. Greater Palapye zone
3. Greater Selibe Phikwe Zone
4. Greater Francistown
5. Boteti zone
6. Chobe zone
7. Maun zone
8. Gantsi zone
9. Kgalagadi zone

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Republic of Botswana

During this challenging time, our truck drivers put their lives on the line for us everyday to make sure we have our essential supplies.

They are us. We are them.



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