




SDA/Covid-19 secretariat/2021/1445

Date: 02/02/2021

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

The Dzongkhag COVID-19 Taskforce notifies the general public that the notification issued by National Task force vide **NC19TF/03/209** dated 31/01/2021 through Eastern C19 Taskforce as attached shall be implemented with immediate effect. However, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag being a high risk area, the timing for business closure and people's movement shall remain same at 8:00 PM and 9:00 PM respectively.

Therefore, your support and cooperation will be solicited.


(Tharchin Lhendup)
INCIDENT COMMANDER
Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag

Cc:

1. Hon'ble Chairman, ECTF, Dewathang, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag, for kind information.
2. Members, Dzongkhag COVID-19 Task Force, Samdrup Jongkhar for kind information
3. Dungpa, S/Choling & Jomotshangkha Dungkhag Administration, Samdrup Jongkhar for information
4. Superintendent of Police, RBP, Div. VIII, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag, for necessary action.
5. Gups, Gewog Administration, Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag, for information
6. Desuup Gojay, Camp Samdrup Jongkhar, for necessary action
10. Office file



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National Covid-19 Task Force



NC19TF/03/209

31st January 2021

Chairperson,
Regional COVID-19 Task Force,
Thimphu, Samdrup Jongkhar, Phuentsholing

Dashos,

The NC19TF upon the completion of the mass testing in Thimphu during the last four days approved the transitioning of Thimphu to Green Phase with effect from 1st February 2021. For the purpose of convenience of travellers, Thimphu and Paro will be considered as one functional unit. With the unlocking of Thimphu, Travel Guidelines (attached with the letter) approved on 21st December 2020 shall come into force and it is mandatory for all travellers to register in CPMS.

The following are the lists of activities that will be allowed during this phase in all the Dzongkhags and Thromdes.

A. Activities allowed

Sl No	Activities allowed and conditions	
A	Activities allowed	Conditions
1	Opening of schools and institutions	<p>a. Strict enforcement of health protocols (handwashing, physical distancing, face mask, Druk Trace app).</p> <p>b. Strict monitoring and submission of weekly report of students' health status to Dzongkhag Health Officer/reporting of symptomatic (Flu-like illness) through Health Facility Systems (HFS)</p> <p>c. Mandatory COVID-testing for any flu-like symptoms</p> <p>d. Random testing of 10% of students in a class/section and teachers at least once every week (schools in cities, district towns or satellite towns) for the next one month and review the frequency.</p> <p><i>Principal, Head of institution and DEO should ensure that 10% of the students in Thromde schools, Dzongkhag towns and satellite towns are tested every two weeks.</i></p>

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2	Inter-Dzongkhag movement	<p>a. Inter Dzongkhag travel will be allowed</p> <p>b. Outbound stranded travellers from Thimphu can travel beginning from 29th January 2021 after registration with 1010. However, all travellers can travel out of Thimphu from 1st February 2021 after registering in CPMS.</p> <p>c. Reintroduce travel guidelines issued vide letter No. NC19TF/03/147 dated 21st December 2020 on travels from high to high risk, high to low risk areas.</p> <p>d. Mandatory use of Druk Trace App, face mask, hand sanitizer in Buses & Taxis. Bus and Taxis can operate at full capacities</p> <p>e. With the resumption of transport services the earlier (prior to 2nd lockdown) health, safety and containment safety protocols should be implemented.</p> <p>f. Place a hand sanitizer with holding case/frame for minimum touch dispensing</p> <p>g. Make facemask available to all passenger at all times on payment</p> <p>h. Display DOs and DON'Ts inside a bus/taxi.</p> <p>i. Ensure use of CPMS by drivers and passengers at Checkpoints including travel via India</p> <p><i>All bus, truck and taxi drivers should test for COVID-19 every two weeks. RSTA / Traffic Police shall be responsible for conducting random inspection.</i></p>
3	Travel out of the country	<p>a. Bhutanese travelling out of the country must register with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
4	Salons/Barbers/ beauty parlours	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocols</p> <p>a. Mandatory change of masks by Barbers and beauticians after every third customer.</p> <p>b. Maintain proper ventilation</p> <p>c. Keep scissors, blade holders, shavers, comb, etc. dip alcohol based sanitizers</p> <p>d. Should move to appointment based service where feas.</p> <p>e. Barbers and beauticians shall undergo mandatory COVID-19 tests every two weeks. <i>MoEA/ relevant authorities in the Dzongkhags/ Thromdes should enforce and ensure compliance.</i></p>

5	Opening of Offices	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocols</p> <p>b. Every office shall identify a COVID-19 Focal Officer. RCSC shall issue office orders to this effect.</p> <p>c. The COVID-19 Focal Officers shall ensure the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Should maintain a list of officials/staff who have direct interface with customers.. ii. The officials/staff who have direct interface with clients must be tested every two weeks for COVID-19 iii. Ensure toilet hygiene (water and soap must be available at all times)
6	Opening of all shops and business activities:	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocols</p> <p>b. All shops and business activities shall close by 9:00PM</p> <p>c. Cooks/ chefs, waiters, and other employees working in the hotels and the eateries along the highway, bars shall undergo mandatory COVID-19 tests every two weeks.</p> <p>d. Shopkeepers shall undergo mandatory COVID-19 tests every two weeks. <i>MoEA and the relevant authorities in the Dzongkhags/ Thromdes shall enforce and ensure compliance through inspections.</i></p>
7	Opening of Factories, industries and construction activities	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocols</p>
8	Cremation	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocol</p> <p>b. Limit to close circles</p>
B. Activities allowed with Restrictions		
1	Religious activities	<p>a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocol</p> <p>b. Confined to family members</p> <p>c. At the individual household level</p>

2	Religious activities at community level based on risk assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prior approval by Dzongkhag/Thromde Task Forces. b. Strict enforcement of safety protocols (use of face mask, hand washing, cough etiquette, physical distance). c. Limit to a maximum of 25 persons
3	Workshops/ Conference/ Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Allow essential workshops/ seminar/ meetings only after two weeks of transitioning into Green phase b. Follow COVID-19 health safety protocols c. Limit to a maximum of 25 persons d. COVID-19 Focal Officer to maintain contact details of participants of meetings and workshops. e. Conference and group meetings for government agencies to be routed through DNP, MoF
4	Tshachu/ Menchu and pilgrimage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocol b. Toilet hygiene (water and soap should be available at all times)
5	Local sporting activities/events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocol b. Without spectators c. Tournaments to be allowed upon approval from Bhutan Olympic Committee d. No more than 10 players in Archery range
6	Any essential mass gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure compliance to COVID-19 Health, Safety and Containment Protocol b. Maintain toilet hygiene (water and soap should be available at all times) c. Limited to a maximum of 25 persons upon approval from Dzongkhag/Thromde Task Force

With the transitioning of Thimphu to Green Phase, inter-Dzongkhag travel doesn't require mandatory facility quarantine and COVID-19 tests. However, to enhance surveillance the Ministry of Health will set up mobile flu clinics at Menchuna and Chuzom for random collection of samples.

Similarly the NC19TF decided to heighten the surveillance of COVID-19 transmission amongst frontliner workers and high risk sections of the population like schools, hotels, eateries along the highways, public transport drivers etc.

The opening of entertainment centers such as karaoke, drayang, movie theaters and nightclubs, etc shall be reviewed at a later stage.

We would like to thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Please do not hesitate to contact us for clarification on the above issues.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



(Jigme Thinlye Namgyal)
Member Secretary

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Ministers, All Ministers for favour of kind information
2. Hon'ble Secretaries, All Ministries for kind information
3. Hon'ble Chief of Police, Royal Bhutan Police,
4. Dasho Dzungdags, Dzongkhag Administration, 20 Dzongkhags
5. Dasho Thrompons, All Thromdes,