

SAD NEWS

A 92-year-old Gozitan woman, who was positive for Covid-19, has died at the Gozo General Hospital. The woman had been suffering from a number of conditions, including those related to her kidneys, diabetes, heart problems, and others. Thus, she was one of the extremely vulnerable persons who, if they contracted Coronavirus, complications could ensue. Government sent its condolences to this family. The appeal that Malta is no different to other countries was re-iterated, and therefore each and every one of us should follow the health authorities' directives rigorously, chief amongst which is to leave our home only in case of urgent necessity, including the end of this Easter week.



A RECORD NUMBER OF TESTS

In the last 24 hours, a record number to swabs were carried out – 993 in all, on persons suspected of having Covid-19, with 6 resulting positive. Amongst these, there is a month-old infant, and a 63-year-old elderly person. All are in good condition. The infant resulted positive in Mater Dei, and it has been confirmed that no other infants are involved. Up till now, there are moreover no Covid-19 cases in St Vincent de Paul, or in any of the government elderly people's homes, which have been closed to visitors as a precaution. Although the number of 6 cases may seem small for a day's tally, this means very little. With a total of 299 Covid-19 cases in the country, Health authorities are forecasting that cases will increase further in the coming days. We must all do our part and follow the directives rolled out, so that Covid-19 cases do not spike, and thus the health system can cope with all Covid-19 patients in hospitals.



SOCIAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS

More than €1.1 million in social benefits that were announced by Government for employees affected by the Covid-19 transmission's impact have already been paid out. In all, nearly 6,000 applications for benefits were made. Amongst these are 4,449 applications for parents' benefit, 423 applications for benefits for disabled persons, 279 applications for benefits to those who were made redundant, and 169 applications for medical benefits. More than half of these applications have already been processed, and **more than 2,400 already paid out**. Payments are being made **every week**. Those whose application has not yet been processed will still be paid, **with arrears. 20,000 other persons have benefitted from free food distribution financed by government.**



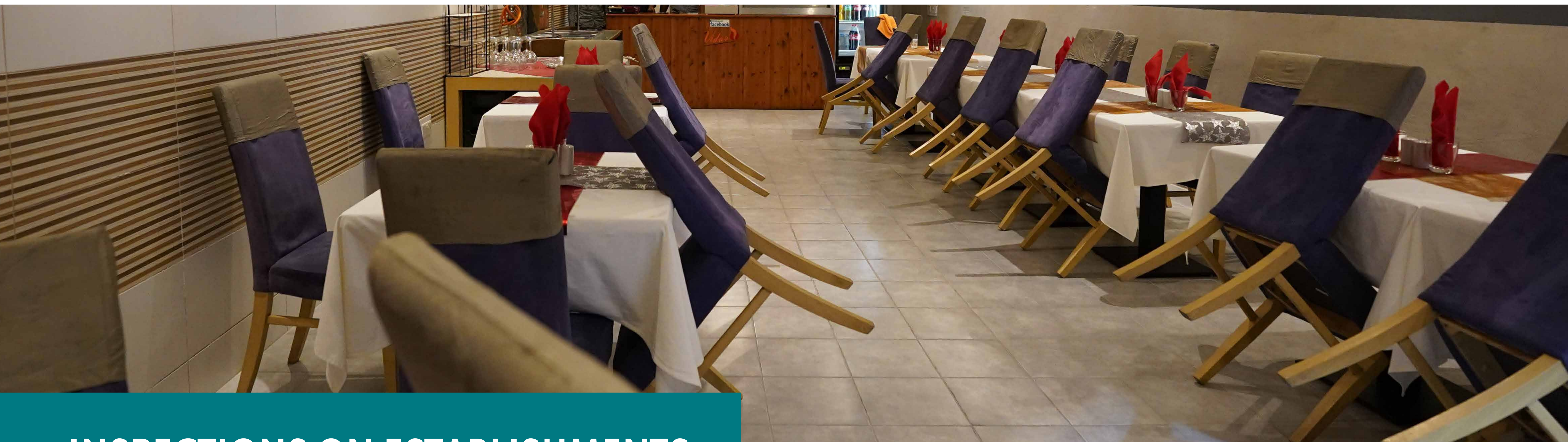
MEASURES FOR CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

130 officials of the Correctional Services Agency are now working, and living, for a week's consecutive work, at the Kordin Correctional Facility. They will be changed once a week. This measure is intended so that, at a time when Covid-19 cases have increased, **contact with the outside world will be decreased, with the Agency's employees being changed once a week instead of daily**. As a measure against the spread of the virus, **the facility has stopped visits by relatives to residents, although alternative communication means between residents and their relatives have been enacted.**



INSPECTIONS ON GATHERINGS AND THOSE QUARANTINED

4 persons were each fined €100 after they were found in groups of more than 3 during the continuous rounds Police are conducting to make sure no gatherings involving more than 3 persons take place in public places, as according to the legal notice issued by Government. In the meantime, **more than ten thousand inspections on those persons who had to observe obligatory quarantine have been conducted** from when inspections started. In the last 24 hours, **239 inspections have been conducted, and a person breaching obligatory quarantine was found**. The appeal remains for **each and every one of us to be responsible and co-operate with the directives rolled out by the authorities**.



INSPECTIONS ON ESTABLISHMENTS

Two snack bars, one in Żejtun, and the other in Hal Għaxaq, were caught open and serving clients, in breach of regulations to limit the spread of Covid-19. The owners were each fined €3000. In the last 24 hours, **more than 880 inspections on food and drinks establishments in the Maltese islands were carried out**, so that from when regulations were laid out, **more than 18,400 inspections have now been carried out**. Abuses are to be reported on **21692447**.



HELPLINES

- 111** – For those who **experience symptoms of COVID-19** or those who require further **information**
- 21411 411** – For those in **mandatory quarantine** who require food and medical provisions
- 2294 4511/2294 4504** – To report **breaches of regulations** regarding public health and Covid-19 to the Police
- 1770** – For those who need **mental help**
- 1772** – For those who are **feeling lonely**
- 2545 1111** – For **Mater Dei, Boffa Hospital, and Sir Anthony Mamo** healthcare workers
- 2364 5002** – For **Primary Health Care, Gozo General Hospital, and Mount Carmel** employees
- 1575** – For employees to ask about wages and employment conditions
- 1576** – For employers to ask about wages and employment conditions
- 153** – For those who require **information** about the measures of the **financial package** which are administered by the **Department of Social Security**
- 144** – For those who require **information** about the measures of the **financial package** which are administered by **Malta Enterprise**
- 2204 2200** – For Maltese residents who are **stranded in another country and wish to return to Malta**
- 2598 1000** – For those who have **queries about the educational sector**
- 2169 2447** – For **hoteliers and tourists** who have queries about the announced measures
- 2590 3030** – For elderly **people without means of assistance** who require medicine, ready meals, or food products (fruit and vegetables)
- 2546 9111** – For those who work in the gaming industry.