



WAQQAF IT-TIXRID TA'

COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS



FREED FROM THE VIRUS

The trend of there being **more recoveries from Covid-19 and a low number of new cases continued**. In the last 24 hours, **12 more persons recovered from the virus so that now the total of those recovered is 379**. After **944 tests** were carried out, there was **only one person who tested positive for the virus**, a resident at the Hal Far open centre. This means that active cases **have gone down to 85**. The health authorities wish to **reiterate that although the transmission rate of the virus is low, it is still in circulation and the spread can still reignite**. As such, it is important that **we remain disciplined and act with caution so that the success achieved through our sacrifices are not in vain**. From next Monday we should remember **to wear a face mask in every establishment we enter in**.



VACCINATION AGAINST COVID-19

If and when a vaccination against Covid-19 is produced, **the government will buy enough for the entire population so that it can be distributed for free**. As with the vaccination against influenza, the vaccination against Covid-19 will **first be given to healthcare workers**, then to **vulnerable persons**, and then to the **rest of the population**. Right now there is **research being undertaken on this vaccine**. It is not expected that this vaccine will be available before another 6 months and, more realistically, **it will most likely be on the market at the beginning of next year**.



BECAUSE WE STARTED OFF FROM A SOLID FOOTING

Just as the government launched the National Reform programme in the light of Covid-19, **the government confirmed that it is in a good position to launch an additional budget for 2020 because it started off from a strong economic footing.** From 2016 onwards, Malta **has had a surplus each year, debt burden was reduced, and one of the highest rates of economic growth and job creation rates.** This meant that the government **was in a position to launch one of the strongest financial packages in the EU, with a €2 billion investment to help families, businesses, and the self-employed** counter the effects of Covid-19. With these aid packages, **more than 80,000 jobs have so far been saved.**



HARDWORKING WORKERS

Our country's success also stems from **hardworking Maltese and Gozitan workers.** Both in the present and the future, their work is **crucial in transforming challenges into opportunities, just like the company Metallform did.** It exports medical equipment and its orders increased so much that it is **employing another 50 workers.** There are others like it. In the last few days, Prime Minister Robert Abela visited these workers to **deliver a message of courage and to give thanks to their sacrifice in the fight against Covid-19.** We can never forget workers in the health sector, disciplined corps, carers in homes for the elderly, and prison wardens who **continued with their work away from their families.** **One word: Thanks.**



INSPECTIONS

17 persons were fined €100 each during the continuous patrols that the Police are doing to ensure that there are no groups of more than 3 persons in public places, as per the legal notice issued by the government. **No one was found breaking obligatory quarantine during the 347 inspections carried out in the last 24 hours.** The appeal remains that everyone should remain **responsible and cooperate with the directives being issued by the authorities.**



VENTILATORS FOR THE GOZO GENERAL HOSPITAL

10 more ventilators arrived at the Gozo General Hospital as part of the strategy to strengthen intensive care facilities in case of the eventual admittance of patients sick with Covid-19. The ventilators are of the same make as those in the hospital's ITU and as such can be used **immediately by the nurses who are already trained in their use.** The first phase of the extension of the ITU has been completed, and from 6 beds **there are now 16 beds equipped with a ventilator. 15 more ventilators will arrive in the future.**



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 – Helpline for **emotional support and mental wellbeing**

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**

7974 7974 – For legal assistance in cases of **domestic violence**

2204 2200 – For Maltese residents who are **stranded in another country and wish to return to Malta**

2204 2800 – For **foreign** citizens **who wish to be repatriated**

80074313/79307307 – For those who have **difficulties regarding blood donation**

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.

for more information and updates visit www.covid19.gov.mt

