

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**

**INFORMATION TO THE PRESS**

**ALL SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED- MAJALIWA**

\*The Union celebrations are canceled

The Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said the directive to close the preschools, primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities will remain in force until the government issue another directive.

The Prime Minister also said that the President Dr John Pombe Magufuli has canceled the Union Celebrations to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2020, and the Workers Day of May 1<sup>st</sup>. This has been done to minimize crowds and reduce the spread of coronavirus.

The Prime Minister gave these announcements today (Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020) during the COVID19 national committee meeting. "To date there is a total of 53 COVID19 patients in the country with the additional of four cases from Dar es Salaam" He said.

He said that the government has not announced the opening of schools, colleges, sports and all unessential gatherings yet. So, all those places will remain closed and all students should continue to stay at their homes.

However, the Prime Minister said that the President has ordered to reallocate the Tshs 500 Million that were allocated for the Union Celebrations. The money now will be sent to the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar to be used to support the fight against COVID19 in Zanzibar.

The Prime Minister has also requested all partners to continue supporting the government in the fight against coronavirus by contributing the money through **Account Number: 9921159801** with the name **National Relief Fund Electronic**.

The Prime Minister has also said the precautions should continue to be offered to the public to allow people to protect themselves from coronavirus. If travel is unnecessary, people should continue to stay at home.

He said that the Regional and District Commissioners should continue to supervise provision of this education against coronavirus in particular Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar places with lots of cases. "It is important citizens of these places to be educated on how to protect themselves".

The Prime Minister has ordered all staff including doctors at the quarantine centers to be given protective gears in order to prevent infection from the disease.

He said all the contacts should be traced and followed up carefully. In tracing the contacts, leaders from village/street governments can be involved. He also said that all economic effects arising from the disease should continue to be analyzed.

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the government announced to close all the primary and secondary schools and colleges for 30 days Form six students who are supposed to start their finals on 4th May are instructed to wait for the Ministry's other arrangements in accordance with the spread of the virus.

When announcing this, the Prime Minister has insisted that big and all unnecessary gatherings have been canceled including sports activities, music festivals, political gatherings, graduations and all other social gatherings.

He asked the ministries to cancel all seminars, workshops, conferences and all meetings that involve members from countries with many cases. "Tanzanians with unnecessary travel plans to countries with many cases should cancel their trips" He insisted.

When describing other measures taken by the government to contain the spread of the disease, the Prime Minister said that the government has canceled all sports that bring lots of people together including the Vodacom Premier League (VPL), First Division League (FDL) and Second Division League (SDL) and all other types.

(The end)

**IT HAS BEEN RELEASED BY:**

**THE OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER,**

**P.O. BOX 980,**

**41193 – DODOMA,**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2020**