



REPUBLIC OF NAURU
Government Information Office

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE
by
His Excellency President Lionel Aingimea

Thursday, 14 May 2020

President Lionel Aingimea stated in his media briefing today that the 17 passengers in quarantine at the Meneñ hotel facility and the three medical staff that were involved in the freighter incident last weekend, have all been tested and cleared to leave quarantine. All their samples were sent to Australia to test for coronavirus – all results were returned negative.

The 18 Canstruct staff who are in quarantine in Anibare will also complete their 14 days and released from quarantine tomorrow.

The President said the hospital will determine over the weekend if they are able to commence coronavirus testing on island.

The public is reminded of the Coronavirus Taskforce practice drill which will take place this afternoon in Ijuw District from 4pm. The drill will last about an hour and the public is urged to treat the drill seriously and to follow orders and keep safe.

"This is an important emergency practice drill, to test our systems - police, health, emergency services and communications, and to identify any gaps that need improving."

The President reiterates that the public is to stay clear of Ijuw advising between 3.30pm and 5.30pm to allow the practice drill to proceed smoothly.

Keep informed of the practice drill status on text blast, The Government of the Republic of Nauru Facebook page and via Nauru Media.

Throughout the drill, there will be text blast messages, for: Risk Alert; Risk Stand Down; and Risk Resolved.

The President thanks the people of Ijuw for allowing the use of their district for this drill and asks Nauruans to stand together with the Taskforce as they work with the community to carry out this practice drill.

The Government's repeated requests to Fiji to allow a Nauru Airlines charter flight entry to repatriate Nauruan students, has unfortunately been declined by the Fiji Government. The President added that using our own aircraft would have been the cheaper option for Nauru.

The Nauru Government is now exploring other options to run the charter such as the use of Fiji Airways instead.

However, in light of recent developments in Fiji, the President said there are other issues that need to be addressed, such as the resumption of schools in Fiji in mid-June, and therefore the position of students to remain is being reviewed, although other Nauruans might still opt to return.

The President said a number of matters need to be looked at so the Government can make a completely informed decision on this Fiji charter issue.

The Government continues to work with stakeholders to keep Nauru coronavirus free.

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Issued by:

Nauru Government Information Office, Republic of NAURU

Ph: +(674) 557 3009 E: gjo.nauru@gmail.com / naurugovinfo@gmail.com / www.naurugov.nr