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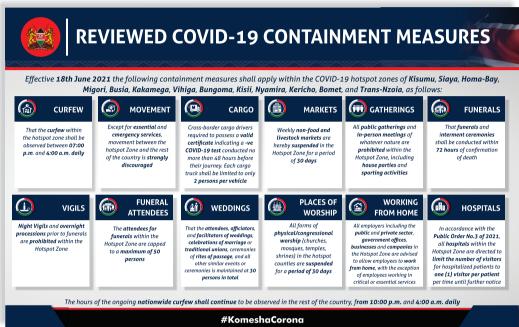
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NEW COVID-19 CONTAINMENT MEASURES

he counties of Kisumu, Siaya, Homa-Bay, Migori, Busia, Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma, Kisii, Nyamira, Kericho, Bomet, and Trans-Nzoia have been declared as COVID-19 hotspot zones.

This follows a worrying trend in the **average positivity rate of 21 percent** posted by the counties, which collectively account for 60 percent of the national caseload. Consequently, movement between the hotspot zone and the rest of the country except for essential and emergency services is strongly discouraged.

The curfew time within the affected counties has also been revised to start at **7 p.m.** until **4 a.m.** while all non-food and livestock markets will be suspended **for a period of 30 days**.



GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATORS TO DRIVE PEACE INITIATIVES

ll government administrators have been tasked to **steer civic** education at the grassroots and advance tolerance and political maturity ahead of the 2022 general elections. While addressing all Regional Commissioners and **County Commissioners** in Nairobi, Dr. Fred Matiang'i prescribed **sustained political** education through a multiagency approach in an effort to tame hate speech and negative ethnicity bred by political fanaticism.

"Time is here for us to sensitize our people that it is not good enough to have peaceful elections — it is good enough to have peaceful and meaningful

elections. We need to invest more of our energy in conversations," he said.

The Cabinet Secretary emphasized the conversations will be concentrated in cosmopolitan areas across the country.

He said,

"The development of our country is not going to be measured just by the number of projects we have completed — it will also be measured by the level of maturity we have acquired over the years. We have come so far, and we should have a different type of political environment during the upcoming general elections."

The administrators will now join the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) with the ultimate aim of minimizing the use of force and

support the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) in delivering peaceful, transparent, and verifiable elections.

PURSUING CRIMINALS WHO TORCHED CHIEF'S HOUSE IN KURESOI



he government won't relent on matters concerning intimidation of security officers and will act decisively against the culprits. Dr. Fred Matiang'i visited Chief Joseph Mwangi Kiiru of Temoyota Location, Kuresoi North, after his house was recently torched by some criminals.

He also pointed at the rising cases of **child defilement** and called for more collaboration from wananchi to enhance

security in the area.

"On matters concerning intimidation of our security officials and child defilement, the state will be the first complainant." he said.

The CS divulged that some of the prime suspects are already in police custody, and directed the security team in the area to mount a sustained operation and zero in on the remaining perpetrators within the shortest time possible.



PEACE INITIATIVES THROUGH BODA BODA OPERATIONS

he government, through the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), has stepped up engagement with boda boda operators with a view to mobilizing them to be peace and security ambassadors in the country. Ahead of next year's general elections, PS Dr. Karanja Kibicho has said the subsector can be a weak link to the stability of the country, particularly during the campaign period, owing to its vulnerability to political manipulation and incitement into violence.

The Authority has been running a progressive registration drive at the grassroots to develop an updated record of all the riders,

who are then integrated into the implementation of the Boda Boda Road Safety Programme in partnership with County Governments and the BodaBoda Association of Kenya (BAK).

NTSA is part of the Technical Committee on Boda Boda Safety, which also comprises officials from the Ministry's Headquarters, the National Police Service (NPS), and the National Youth Service (NYS). Based on provisional results from the team, some 134,695 boda boda riders have been registered from 34 counties, but the exercise will continue to ensure every operator is brought on board.

STRENGTHENING KENYA-INDIA BILATERAL TIES

enya and India are seeking to deepen their collaboration in peace and security initiatives, including the war against narcotics and prevention and countering violent extremism and terrorism.

Dr. (Eng.) Karanja Kibicho held a high-level ministerial round-table meeting with H.E. Dr. Subramanyan Jaishankar, India's Minister for External Affairs at Serena Hotel, Nairobi to discuss the limitless possibilities that would come out of stronger bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Over the years Kenya and India have enjoyed cordial relations that have broadened and deepened in all aspects of development cooperation. The multifaceted development partnership for the two countries is hinged on trade (textile industries) and health sector, among others. On behalf of the Kenyan government, the PS thanked the Government of India for the continued support in the war against the COVID-19 pandemic through donations of vaccines and treatment for Kenyans travelling to India for medical assistance.



INPUT FROM MAASAI ELDERS IN PEACE AND SECURITY MATTERS

Narok and Kajiado, led by Governor Joseph Ole
Lenku, held direct consultations with Dr. Fred Matiang'i seeking to forge more avenues for collaboration with the national government in fostering peaceful coexistence from the community level. The elders expressed a strong desire to lead their communities along the

government's peace pathways.

They also expressed a desire for more engagement in increasing the impact of development projects and programmes at the grassroots level.



CORNER



hen it comes to the war against illicit brews, we have our own signature tune mastered by the security teams on the ground. Our NGAOs team in Homabay County, in collaboration with police officers from Othoro Police Station, raided a brewing den concealed

along River Awach in Koluoch Kolal village, Kodumo East, Rachuonyo, and tipped over drums containing 1,000 litres of kangara and 70 litres of changaa pending the arrest of suspects. Once again, no relenting. Gratitude to wananchi for invaluable tip-offs to our officers.

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