



SDA/DC19TF-02/2020-2021/0684

5th January, 2021

Notification

Unlocking of Lockdown 2.0 Phase I Samtse Dzongkhag

In accordance with the directives of the Royal Government of Bhutan and the National COVID-19 Task Force (NC19TF), the Samtse Dzongkhag COVID 19TF is pleased to notify the general public that the Unlocking of Lockdown 2.0 Phase I under Samtse Dzongkhag shall come into effect from 6th January 2021 onwards. The conditions for the unlocking of the Dzongkhag are detailed as follows:

1. Movement

- i) People shall be allowed to move within the Dzongkhag on foot and the movement of vehicles shall be restricted to only utility vehicles and emergencies.
- ii) Inter-Dzongkhag movement shall not be allowed till further notice.
- iii) Public transport services (Taxi and buses), both within and outside the Dzongkhag shall not be allowed to operate.
- iv) Travel for medical emergencies and death shall be facilitated with RT-PCR test.
- v) Emergency and stranded passenger coming from Thimphu, Paro and Yellow Zones of Wangdiphodrang (Pelela), Punakha (Phenteykha), Haa (Esu & Katso Gewogs), Trongsa (Kyela), Bumthang (Domkhar and Chamkhar) and Dagana (Lhamoizongkha) will be allowed upon production of valid (72 hours) negative RT-PCR test certificate and must undergo mandatory 7 days Home Quarantine with strict monitoring by the respective Gewogs. Any changes in the list of zones shall be updated instantly and notified.
- vi) Emergency and stranded passenger coming from other Dzongkhags shall be allowed upon production of valid negative Antigen Test Certificate.
- vii) Any stranded or routine traveler moving out of the Dzongkhag to their respective destination after 6th January 2021 must undergo 7 days mandatory facility quarantine.
- viii) For record and management of information that will assist government and the Dzongkhag in contract tracing and surveillance, Inter-Gewog travelers must register with RBP check-posts at various points.

2. Business and Construction

- i) Businesses such as groceries, hardware, workshops, bakeries, garment, meat shops, liquor, electronics and tailor shops shall be allowed to operate till 7.00 PM.
- ii) Eateries and restaurants can operate however, only take-aways shall be allowed.
- iii) Barber shops and salons shall not be allowed to operate in this phase of unlocking.
- iv) Sunday vegetable markets shall not be allowed.



- v) Entertainment centers like Karaoke, Discotheques, Snookers, Video game parlors and Caroms shall not be allowed until further notice.
- vi) Informal businesses and street vendors shall not be allowed to operate.
- vii) All construction and manufacturing activities that can be operated in self-contained mode shall be allowed to operate following COVID-19 safety protocols.

3. Sports and Leisure

- i) All games and sports (Both indoor and outdoor) shall not be allowed in this phase of unlocking except for cycling.
- ii) Outdoor activities like picnicking, hiking, swimming and visiting spiritual sites are not allowed.

4. Schools, colleges and institutes

- i) All schools and institutes shall remain closed except for Samtse College of Education (Self-Containment Mode)
- ii) Institutions/Agencies/Offices providing essential services shall operate on shift/rotational system at 50% manpower capacity.


5. Public gathering

- i) All social events/gatherings including visiting Lhakangs and Mandhirs are not allowed in this phase of unlocking.
- ii) Cremation and funeral rites will be limited to close family circle to a maximum of 15 people only; and prior approval must be sought from the Dzongkhag Administration.
- iii) Post cremation rites/rituals shall be limited to immediate family members to a maximum 10 people; and prior approval must be sought from the Dzongkhag Administration.

Cautionary Note:

Wearing of facemasks, hand washing, maintaining physical distance and use of Druk Trace app/manual registration are mandatory, and non-compliance shall be dealt accordingly.

Self-contained mode: *It refers to an operation of an economic activity within a confined area that is carried out in a system where employees/workers/staffs do not move from the work place to the place of residence (outside), and are stationed within the particular work place.*


**INCIDENT COMMANDER
SAMTSE DZONGKHAG COVID-19 TASK FORCE**