

More than 1000 new cases of Covid-19 reported in Georgia over the weekend



Most of the cases are being reported in the region of Adjara

By NIKA GAMTSEMLIDZE

Over the weekend, more than 1000 new cases of Covid-19 were reported in Georgia, mostly in the Adjara region. On Saturday, the total cases reported was 471 rising on Sunday to a total of 554 cases across the country.

Of the infected patients in the country, 43 are critically ill, including 41 patients on ventilator.

According to the Ministry of Health of Adjara, there are more than 1000 people



In total, 50 people have died due to complications of Covid-19 in Georgia



Of the infected patients in the country, 43 are critically ill

at home in the region under the supervision of doctors. 9 medical institutions are involved in the management of patients infected with the virus in Adjara (Kovid Clinic, Fever Center). More than 600 beds are mobilized in the region, with 7 quarantine spaces allocated for positive patients.

The number of deaths due to the virus has increased significantly in Georgia, reaching 50. The total number of infected people is 8118, of whom, 4244 have already recovered.

For now, schools have been reopened for children from 1st to 6th grade. For everyone else, at this point, the education process continues online. As for the universities, the authorities are saying that they will be reopened on October 19th.

Politics

President Zourabichvili: 'Any negotiations can be held in Tbilisi'

President talked about the Karabakh conflict after the meeting of National Security Council

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Georgia and United Nations sign a cooperation pact for 2021-2025

The document was signed on October 2

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Economics

Economy Minister Turnava talks about the importance of blueberry exports for Georgia

Turnava attended special presentation of Efco Ltd

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President Zourabichvili: 'Any negotiations can be held in Tbilisi'



Zourabichvili says that the conflict should resolve as soon as possible

BY NIKA GAMTSEMLIDZE

After the meeting of the National Security Council, the President of Georgia made a statement on the ongoing conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

"As the President of Georgia, I would like to express my deepest condolences on behalf of the Georgian society for the sacrifice that followed the conflict between our two neighboring countries. I appeal to the presidents and authorities of our friends, our neighboring countries, to resume dialogue between them as soon as possible. I want to call



Gakharia also invited the parties for a dialogue in Tbilisi

on them to de-escalate and cease fire, which is the main common interest of the three countries to restore stability, and peace," said Salome Zourabichvili.

The President of Georgia also addressed the Minsk Group and its co-chairs, who, she said, have a special responsibility in this conflict. "We are ready for Tbilisi to be a place for negotiations. We are ready for everything that will be desirable for the parties," added president.

The President of Georgia also called on the European Union to pay due attention to all three countries in the region, which are involved in the Eastern Partnership program.

"I want to address the European Union. Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan are all members of the Eastern Partnership. If that means anything, which I'm sure it does, our regional stability and peace is in Europe's highest interest. Europe must use its force for peace and de-escalation," wrote the President of Georgia on her official Twitter account.

The Prime Minister of Georgia Giorgi Gakharia also offered a meeting between Armenia and

Azerbaijan in Tbilisi for a dialogue a few days ago. Gakharia stated that the further escalation of the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh will have a negative impact on the security of the entire region.

"Our common interest is to establish peace in the region as soon as possible. Georgia is ready to support this process in any way possible, including hosting a meeting of representatives of the parties in the conflict in Tbilisi," Gakharia said.

The military confrontation in Nagorno-Karabakh resumed on September 27th. Armenia and Azerbaijan again accuse each other of provocation, while self-proclaimed Karabakh blames Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev for the incident.

The international community is calling on the parties to cease fire and resume talks in vain. Turkey has a different position from other countries, blaming only Armenia for the incident and supporting Azerbaijan. In Armenia and Artsakh, they are claiming that the Turkish army is also involved in the fighting, which Azerbaijan and Turkey deny.

Georgia and United Nations sign a cooperation pact for 2021-2025

Weather

Monday, October 5

Day Showers
High: 17°C
Night Showers
Low: 13°C

Tuesday, October 6

Day Mostly Cloudy
High: 16°C
Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 10°C

able institutions, equal and inclusive access to quality services, human security and resilience, as well as the environment and climate change are the five priority areas outlined in the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework signed by the Government of Georgia and the United Nations today.

One red thread running through the entire document is the need to enhance human wellbeing, capabilities and social equality and to make a real difference in the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

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The five-year document is intended to ensure that the support by all the UN agencies is aligned to Georgia's national priorities

Georgia and the United Nations signed a Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for years 2021-2025. The document was signed by the sides on October 2, 2020.

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Economy Minister Turnava talks about the importance of blueberry exports for Georgia

BY NIKA GAMTSEMLIDZE

Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development Natia Turnava and First Deputy Minister of Environment and Agriculture Giorgi Khanishvili attended the presentation of the blueberry investment project of Efco Ltd.

In his welcoming speech, Giorgi Khanishvili spoke about the projects promoting the development of agriculture in the country and focused on the importance of the subcomponent of the financing of berry crops within the framework of the project Introduce the Future.

"Numbers are a good measure of efficiency. Today, blueberries are one of the leading products in terms of export potential. As you know, we are constantly working to diversify export markets. In 2019, 664 tons of blueberries were exported, which is an impressive figure," noted Khanishvili.

"The Partnership Fund has been supporting the development of blueberry culture in Georgia for many years," said Davit Saganelidze, Executive Director of the Partnership Fund, in his speech at the presentation of the Blueberry Plantation Project.

According to him, with the investment of the fund in Laituri, Ozurgeti district, a 127 hectare blueberry plantation was planted on the land, the largest production line in the region, equipped with modern technology, and a refrigeration plant was arranged. In addition, an



"The Partnership Fund has been supporting the development of blueberry culture in Georgia for many years," said Davit Saganelidze



Efco Ltd owns and manages a 32-hectare blueberry plantation in Laituri, Guria

international standard has been introduced and the enterprise has been awarded a number of quality certificates.

"It is noteworthy that the plantation was expanded in 2016 as a result of the investment of the Partnership Fund and became the largest blueberry plantation in the country. This summer, the blueberry plantation was bought by Efco Ltd. at a public auction, and I am glad that it is the Georgian multi-profile investment company Forsyth Investment Group, which aims to create one of the largest international blueberry agro companies in the region," added Saganelidze.

As Saganelidze noted, today Georgian blueberries already have the potential to occupy an important place not only in the Georgian but also in the international export market. He also added that Georgia has a chance of becoming one of the largest exporters of blueberries worldwide.

The Minister of Economy, Natia Turnava, said that the export of blueberries is a very important thing for Georgia. As she said, with the help of Partnership Fund, a total of 20 million GEL has been spent to help this market.

Efco Ltd owns and manages a 32-hectare blueberry plantation in Laituri, Guria. The company owns a total of 326 hectares of agricultural land, which the company plans to fully use in the next five years.

Georgia and United Nations sign a cooperation pact for 2021-2025



The UN will also support the Government in strengthening its regional cooperation in key strategic areas

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The five-year document (2021-2025) is intended to ensure that the support by all the UN agencies is aligned to Georgia's national priorities, to the country's aspirations and development goals.

The Prime Minister of Georgia thanked the UN Resident Coordinator for the Organization's steadfast partnership and commended the continued commitment of the United Nations to support national development priorities.

Speaking on behalf of the UN Country Team the UN Resident Coordinator Sabine Machl thanked the Government of Georgia for its continued support to the UN's work in Georgia.

Under this Cooperation Framework, the UN agencies will continue supporting Georgia in its efforts to "Build Forward Better" in the wake of the global Covid-19 crisis and to set more ambitious goals and make further steps to a greener, inclusive and more sustainable economy.

The UN will also support the Government in strengthening its regional cooperation in key strategic areas.

Particular attention will be

paid to building partnerships with civil society and the private sector, whose innovative potential will be useful to achieve the objectives of the Cooperation Framework.

This Cooperation Framework for 2021-2025 guides the entire programme cycle of collective UN support to Georgia to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Guided by several overarching principles - leave no one behind; a human rights-based approach; gender equality and women's empowerment; decentralisation; resilience; sustainability; and accountability, environmental protection and innovation - the Cooperation Framework seeks to give new impetus to Georgia-UN cooperation for the next five years.

The Cooperation Framework priorities have been defined and formulated in the process of multi-stakeholder consultations with representatives of UN agencies, state institutions, civil society and academia.

The Cooperation Framework will be governed by the Joint National-UN Steering Committee - co-chaired by the Prime Minister and the UN Resident Coordinator.