



Phelophepa rolls into Phoenix as Transnet boosts KZN's COVID-19 testing capacity

[Johannesburg, 18 May 2020] Transnet SOC Limited has added its clinic-on-wheels to KwaZulu-Natal's battle to contain the spread of the corona virus, thus increasing the provinces' testing capability.

The Phelophepa II train - which arrived in the province on Monday 18th May 2020 - will be stationed in Phoenix, a township northwest of central Durban, with an estimated 176 989 population. The train will be in KZN from 18 May until 24 July 2020, and will visit communities in Empangeni, Ulundi, Pietermaritzburg and Port Shepstone.

The deployment of the Phelophepa II train is part of an agreement between Transnet and the Department of Health in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape provinces to provide the health trains for screening and testing for Covid-19. Only screening and testing for COVID-19 will take place on-board the train.

The Phelophepa I train arrived in Stutterheim the Eastern Cape last week, and is expected to leave for the next station, Mount Ruth, later this week.

The Department of Health in both provinces will handle all activities associated with the screening and testing for COVID-19, and will be responsible for the welfare of the healthcare staff, administrative staff and all equipment required for screening.

Transnet will provide connection points for water and electricity from the health train as well as furniture, shading and public amenities. Transnet will also manage personnel for the movement and the staging of the train and security services including crowd control.

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Notes to editors

SCHEDULE OF EASTERN CAPE C STATIONS

No	Station	Duration	Schedule
1	Stutterheim	2 weeks	11 May – 22 May
2	Mount Ruth	2 weeks	25 May – 5 June
3	Dutywa	2 weeks	8 June – 19 June
4	Mthatha	2 weeks	22 June – 3 July

SCHEDULE OF KZN STATIONS

No	Station	Duration	Schedule
1	Phoenix	2 weeks	18 May 2020 – 29 May 2020
2	Empangeni	2 weeks	01 June 2020 – 12 June 2020
3	Ulundi	2 weeks	15 June 2020 - 26 June 2020
4	Pietermaritzburg	2 weeks	29 June 2020 – 10 July 2020
5	Port Shepstone	2 weeks	13 July 2020 – 24 July 2020