

KONE
Elevators Escalators
SCAN 0 777 777 426
Dedicated to People Flow

Daily News

100 PLUS YEARS
LAKE HOUSE
f @lakeside.lk

SRI LANKA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER | SINCE 1918
THURSDAY OCTOBER 29, 2020 | 32 PAGES | VOLUME - 102 - NO 257 | RS. 30.00 | REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER IN SRI LANKA | LATE CITY ★

The best e-Learning packages from Mobitel

25GB Pack Rs. 150/-
+Taxes

To activate Dial #170#

Quarantine curfew in WP from midnight today

Acting on the advice of the Director General of Health Services a quarantine curfew is to be imposed in the Western Province (WP) from midnight tonight (29) until November 2. The move is aimed at containing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. **1029 02**

Quarantine curfew will be strictly enforced - DIG

Acting Police Media Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said that when the quarantine curfew comes into effect in the Western Province from midnight today, no one will be allowed to commute in or out of these districts, expect for certain groups. **1029 02**

ASP led team to investigate Brandix cluster

Acting Police Media Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana said that a team of Police officers led by an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) will lead investigations into the Brandix cluster to ascertain how employees had contracted the COVID-19 virus and why it had not been contained.

COVID-19 cases pass 9,000 mark, recoveries 4,075

ISHARA MUDUCAMUWA

The number of COVID-19 coronavirus recoveries in the country has increased to 4,075 with 32 recoveries reported yesterday, states the Health Ministry Epidemiology Unit. According to the situation report, one patient each at the Minuwangoda Base Hospital and Hambantota District General Hospital, 15 at Colombo East Base Hospital, five at Theldeniya Base Hospital, six at Homagama Base Hospital and two each from the Lagalla Pallegama Hospital and Dankotuwa District Hospital have recovered. Sri Lanka's confirmed cases count meanwhile exceeds 9,000. However, 4,776 of them are currently under medical care. **1029 02**

Reveal purpose of Pompeo's visit

SHYROMI ABBAYASINGHE

Former Minister Vajira Abeywardena has said that those in the present government would have accused the former government for selling off the country to the US, had the US Secretary of State visited the country during the UNP government.

NO COMPROMISE ON INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY IN FOREIGN RELATIONS - PRESIDENT

READY TO ASSIST SRI LANKA'S DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT HESITATION, PLEDGES POMPEO

U.S. INVESTMENTS IN SRI LANKA TO INCREASE

ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT DRUG TRAFFICKING

INDIAN OCEAN SHOULD REMAIN A PEACE ZONE

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo told President Gotabaya Rajapaksa that the United States is ready to continuously engage with Sri Lanka in its bid to achieve economic development goals.

The USA expects to further develop the already existing strong bilateral relations between the two countries, the Secretary of State said.

The high-level US delegation led by the Secretary of State Mike Pompeo that arrived in the country on Tuesday night, called on President Rajapaksa at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday (28).

During the cordial discussion between the two parties, views on

a number of areas of bilateral and regional importance were exchanged. Elaborating on the foreign policy of Sri Lanka, the President said it is based on neutrality.

Relations between Sri Lanka and other nations are determined by several conditions. Historic and cultural relations and development cooperation are some of the priorities.

The President stressed that he is not ready to compromise the independence, Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity of the Nation in maintaining foreign relations whatever the circumstances may be. Noting that China assisted in the development of the country's infrastructure since the



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo yesterday held bilateral talks in Colombo with President Gotabaya Rajapaksa on a wide range of issues of mutual interest. Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena and US Ambassador Alaina B Tepitz were also present. *Picture by Sagara Lakmal De Mel - President's Media Division*

end of the war, the President reiterated that Sri Lanka is not caught in a debt trap as a result.

Expressing the desire of the United States to continue to work closely with Sri Lanka in achieving a high level of economic development, Sec-

retary of State Pompeo said priority will be given to promote US investments in the island.

Tourism is a key sector that contributes to employment and income generation. The United States is ready to give a helping hand to the

development of this area under a carefully prepared action plan," Pompeo stated.

In response, President Rajapaksa said what Sri Lanka wants is not obtaining loans continuously but to achieve a high level. **1029 02**

US one of Sri Lanka's major development partners - Dinesh

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The United States (US) is one of Sri Lanka's major development partners with over US\$ 2 billion worth of development assistance in wide-ranging areas including Agriculture, Environment, Natural Resources, Health, Education, Business Development, Trade, and Humanitarian



Assistance, Foreign Relations Minister Dinesh Gunawardena said, Foreign Minister Dinesh Gunawardena. **1029 02**

US to review travel ban imposed on Army Commander - Pompeo

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The travel ban imposed on Army Commander Lt. Gen. Shavendra Silva is part of a legal process and the United States (US) will continue to review the travel ban, said visiting US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo addressing a media briefing held at the Foreign Ministry yesterday (28).

"It is a legal process and the United States will also continue to review it and we want to make sure we get it factually and legally right," he said.

He was responding to a question raised by a local journalist on whether the US intends to lift the ban imposed on the Army Commander. In February, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. **1029 02**

Chinese Embassy tweets movie poster to Pompeo

The Embassy of China in Colombo, meanwhile hit back at the comments of US Secretary of State, tweeting: "Sorry Mr. Secretary @SecPompeo, we're busy promoting #China-SriLanka friendship and cooperation, not interested in your #AlienVsPredator game invitation. The US can play two roles at the same time as always."

Earlier this week, the Chinese Embassy in Sri Lanka in its statement mentioned that US Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Dean Thompson openly instigated and interfered in China-Sri Lanka relations during a press briefing on Secretary Pompeo's upcoming visit, and even urged Sri Lanka "to make difficult but necessary decisions" on its foreign relations, which is a blatant violation of diplomatic protocols. **1029 02**



US donated US\$ 6 mn in COVID-19 assistance

Pompeo thanks Sri Lanka for supplying high quality Personal Protective Equipment

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said that the United States had donated over US\$ 6 million of COVID-19 assistance to Sri Lanka and thanked Sri Lanka for the hundreds of a supplied for high quality Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) which

saved American lives. At a joint media conference held at the Foreign Ministry in Colombo yesterday, Pompeo said that the US comes as a friend and a partner.

Case filed against Hijaz Hisbullah postponed

SHAVINI MADHARA

The case filed against Attorney-at-Law Hijaz Hisbullah was postponed till February 4 by Colombo

wants to retain supremacy in Indian Ocean - JVP

ha Vinukthi Peraramana (JVP) Anura Kumara Dissanayake said the US is attempting to coerce Sri Lanka in an attempt to retain their supremacy in the Indian Ocean to which Sri Lanka must not be dragged into. He said during a media briefing held yesterday, Dissanayake said that while it is not for leaders of other countries to interfere in Sri Lanka, a large contingency

had arrived in the country prior to the visit of US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and had conducted discussions with the President and Foreign Minister beforehand. He believed that among their objectives was making sure that Sri Lanka chose which side or whose. **1029 02**



Dialog HOME Broadband

ANYTIME WORK & LEARN PACKS

Zoom, Google, Microsoft, YouTube, Education Apps and Web Browsing @ Amazing Rates

35GB Pack for just Rs.495/-** *inclusive of taxes

80GB Pack for just Rs.995/-** *inclusive of taxes

This Pack cannot be used to access Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Netflix and other streaming, gaming & social networking apps

Activate from MyDialog App or Dialog.lk

Ultra High Speed Home Broadband

The Future.Today.