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US\$ 900 mn earned from exports

SANDASEN MARASINGHE

The Government could settle the loan premium of US\$ 4.2 billion amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, although the political opponents thought otherwise, said Economic Revival and Poverty Eradication Presidential Task Force Chairman Basil Rajapaksa yesterday. He also said that the Government could earn an export income of US\$ 900 million in October this year. He made these observations during a discussion held at the Temple Trees

on organizing a mechanism to provide essential food items to the public who have been affected due to the COVID-19.

Basil Rajapaksa said that it has been decided to provide a pack of essential food items worth of Rs 5,000 to the needy and those who have been deprived of livelihoods in Colombo, Gampaha and Kalutara dis-



tricts. He added that this measure would be taken in addition to the provision of a bag of essential food items worth of Rs. 10,000 to those families whose members are affected and families that are being quarantined.

Basil Rajapaksa said that the Divisional Secretariat, Pradeshiya Sabhas, Police and other relevant authorities

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GOVT TO IMPLEMENT HOME DELIVERY SERVICES - DIG AJITH ROHANA

Reverses earlier decision to open all essential

CAMELIA NATHANIEL

The Government has decided to reverse the decision taken earlier to open all essential food outlets in curfew imposed areas and implement a home delivery option instead, Police Spokesman DIG Ajith Rohana said.

Addressing a virtual media briefing yesterday, the DIG noted that it has been decided to implement delivery services in areas where the curfew is in effect.

"Accordingly, the District Secretaries have been given permission to

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Quarantine curfew violation: 179 persons, 29 vehicles in custody in past 24 hours

AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Police have taken 179 persons and 29 vehicles into custody in relation to the violation of the quarantine curfew within the last 24 hours, Police Media Spokesperson DIG Ajith Rohana yesterday (02) said.

Speaking to media DIG Ajith Rohana stated that, "The Quarantine curfew is being implemented in the Western province and Eheliyagoda and



Due to vegetable stocks accumulating at the Dambulla Economic Centre, the Government has decided to keep the Dedicated Economic Centres and wholesale vegetable stalls in the Western Province open for traders to purchase these vegetables. Picture by Sigiiriya Special Corr. Kanchana Ariyadasa

DCCs and wholesale vegetable stalls in WP to open today

SIGIRIYA SPECIAL CORR

Matale District Parliamentarian Pramitha Bandara Tennakoon yesterday said all Dedicated Economic Centres (DCCs) and wholesale vegetable stalls

in the Western Province will be opened today (03) to enable the traders to purchase vegetables from the Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre.

"The Government has

decided to keep the Dedicated Economic Centres and wholesale vegetable stalls in the Western Province open for the traders to purchase vegetables accumulated

School reopening postponed by two weeks

The Education Ministry has decided to postpone the reopening of all government schools for the third term by another two weeks. Previously, all government schools were scheduled to reopen for the third term on November 9.

Procedure of discharging asymptomatic COVID-19 patients to be changed - Chief Epidemiologist

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

Based on studies conducted both locally and internationally, a decision has been taken to change the procedure of discharging asymptomatic COVID-19 patients from hospitals, Chief Epidemiologist Dr. Sudath Samaraweera said.

Accordingly, asymptomatic COVID-19 patients and those with mild to moderate symptoms no longer need to take a follow-up PCR test in



Thirty four at Horana garment factory test positive for COVID-19

PRIYADARSHANI KAHAWALA

Ingiiriya Central Group Corr.

PCR investigations carried out on the employees of a leading garment factory in the Horana area revealed that 34 of the nearly 150 workers had tested

COVID-19 patients top 11,000

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

According to the statistics of the Epidemiology Unit of the Health Ministry, the total number of COVID-19 positive patients detected in the

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