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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 toan 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 mecha-nism to provide essential food items to the public who have been affected due to the COVID-19.

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 proviin 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 Sabbas, Police and other relevant authorities

CAPITAL HEIGHTS



SHOW APARTMENT

READY FOR INSPECTION

RS 35 MILLION **UPWARDS**



+94763112233

Access PROJECT NEARING COMPLETION

GOVT TO IMPLEMENT HOME DELIVERY SERVICES - DIG AJI

Reverses earlier decision to open all essent

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 Secretars have been given permission to



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

AMALI MALLAWAARACHCHI

AMALI MALLAWAARACHCHI The Police have taken 179 per-sons and 29 vehicles into custody in relation to the violation of the quarantine curfew within the last 24 hours, Police Media Spokes-

24 hours, Police Media Spokes-person DIG Ajith Rohana yester-day (02) said.

Speaking to media DIG Ajith Rohana stated that, "The Quaran-tine curfew is being implement-ed in the Western province and Eheliyagoda and

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

PRIYADARSHANI KAHAWALA. Ingiriya Central Group Con

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 10ME 02

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



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 Sigiriya Special

DDCs and wholesale vegetable stalls in WP to open today

SIGIRIYA SPECIAL CORR

Matale District Par-liamentarian Pramitha Bandara Tennakoon yester-day said all Dedicated Eco-nomic Centres(DDCs) and wholesale vegetable stalls

in the Western Province will be opened today (03) to enable the traders to pur-chase vegetables from the Dambulla Dedicated Eco-

omic 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 accuvegetables accu-

AG directs Acting IGP to probe alleged land grab

Attorney General Dappula De Livera directed the Acting IGP to commence an investigation on the Hambantota Mayor and his associ-ates in connection with the alleged

forcible acquisition of lands of Sri Lankans living abroad by political power and selling them using forged deeds.

General State Counsel

reopening postponed by two weeks

The Education Ministry The Education Ministry has decided to postpone the reopening of all govern-ment schools for the third term by another two weeks. Previously, all govern-ment schools were sched-uled 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. pitals, Chief Epidemiologis Dr. Sudath Samaraweera said.

Dr. Sudatu Samaraweera said.
Accordingly, asymptomatic
COVID-19 patients and those
with mild
to modereate symptoms no

longer need to take



Relief package for tourism sector to continue

IRANGIKA RANGE

Tourism Minister Prasanna Rana-tunga stressed yesterday that the relief package given to those engaged in tourism ventures badly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to be

provided.
This package was initially granted following the Easter Sunday terror attacks and then renewed for another year.



Essential goods worth Rs.10.000 provided to people under self-quarantine

DINULI FRANCISCO

The Government has taken a decision to provide a bag of essential goods worth Rs.10,000 to those under self-quarantine to curb the spread of COVID-19 and minimize its impact on public lives.

SLT Group Net Profit up by 35%, Revenue Recorded at Rs. 67.2 Bn: in First Nine Months 2020









Group Operating Profit up by 37.0% YoY

Group Top Line up by 5.2% YoY, surge in Broadband Revenues Continues leap in FTTH revenues through accelerated Fiber **Expansion Program**

Investment in CAPEX Rs. 11.7 Bn

Direct & Indirect taxes and levies paid to GoSL Rs. 11.8 Bn

Sri Lanka Telecom PLC (SLT) Group released its financial results for the first nine months of 2020 recording a remarkable 35.4% YoY growth in its Net Profit to Rs. 6.7 Bn. The Group revenue reported at Rs. 67.2 Bn, a 5.2% YoY growth, assuring a resilient performance amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Broadband revenue of the Group surged significantly over the same period last year underpinned by the increase of FTTH (Fiber-to-the-Home) footprints across the Country by the ongoing accelerated Fiber Expansion Program by SLT and the of mobile broadband services by Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd. PEOTV revenues too soared during the period under review. However, the Group experienced a de-growth in Voice revenues in both SLT and Mobitel (Pvt) Ltd.

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