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Parliament to take up 2020 Appropriation Bill on November 12

Parliament will convene from 10.00 am to 8.00 pm on November 12 when the 2020 Appropriation Bill will be taken up for debate.

This was decided at the Committee on Parliamentary Business meeting held yesterday (09), a communique issued by the Parliamentary Communications Department said yesterday. Accordingly, the Second and Third



Readings of the Appropriation Bill will take place from 10.00 am until 5.00 pm.

From 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm the Adjournment Debate under a motion moved by the Opposition will take place.

Whilst Questions for Oral Answers will not be taken up on the said date, it was also decided that the Sittings will continue without a lunch break.

The Appropriation **▶ TO PAGE 02**

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WHO donates 100,000 rapid antigen test kits to Sri Lanka

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

The World Health Organization (WHO) has donated 100,000 rapid antigen test kits to Sri Lanka. State Minister of Pharmaceutical Production, Supply and Regulation Prof. Channa Jayasumana stated.

The State Minister further said that following a request made by the Government of Sri Lanka, the WHO has donated these test kits.

Meanwhile, Government Medical Officers' Association (GMOA) Editor Dr. Haritha



Aluthge said that the rapid antigen test is a low cost diagnostic test that can diagnose COVID-19 in a few minutes and it is essential to use this test to manage the current COVID 19 crisis. But certain groups are attempting to promote rapid **▶ TO PAGE 02**

HEALTH SERVICE CAPABLE OF CONTROLLING COVID WITH PUBLIC SUPPORT – PRESIDENT

“Our doctors and health sector, one of the best in the world”

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa yesterday said the country's health sector is capable of controlling the COVID-19 pandemic and what is needed is the support of the people. The COVID pandemic is a health issue. The responsibility of protecting the people against the virus and steering the country forward lies

with the health sector and the Government.

The President said that he strongly believes that Sri Lankan doctors and the health sector, one of the best in the world, can easily achieve the target.

President Rajapaksa made these remarks during the daily discussion

with the members of the Task Force on COVID Prevention held at the Presidential Secretariat yesterday (09).

“We have three options in the face of the spread of the pandemic. The first is to lock down the entire country by imposing curfew. The second is not to do **▶ TO PAGE 02**



Sabry says looking into possibility of burying Muslim COVID-19 victims

MOHAMMED RASOOLDEEN

Justice Minister Ali Sabry, PC said on Sunday that on an initiative made by him, action is being taken to reconsider the Government's decision on cremation of COVID-19 infected bodies. **▶ TO PAGE 02**



Alleged defamation of PCoI probing Political Victimisation

Case filed in Appeal Court against five SJB members

ROSHAN THUSHARA and SHAVINI MADHARA

The Chairman of the Presidential Commission of inquiry probing incidents of Political Victimisation Supreme Court Justice Upali Abeyratne has stated that a case has been filed with the Court of Appeal against five members of the Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB) for allegedly insulting the Presidential Commission of Investigation (PCoI) probing Political Victimisation. The case has been filed **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Farmers claim drop in vegetable prices at Dambulla DEC

SIGIRIYA SPECIAL CORR.

The Dambulla Dedicated Economic Centre (DEC) had received large stocks of vegetables yesterday but the farmers claim that the vegetable prices have dropped drastically as there are not enough vendors to buy vegetables. Farmers and



Public transport services in area yesterday under strict health guard passenger at the entrance to the

Over 13,900 COVID-

ISHARA MUDUGAMUWA

According to the statistics of the demography Unit of the Health Ministry, the total number of COVID-19 positive

around 8,850 of them have recovered while 5,014 remain in hospitals. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Police Sergeant arrested while transporting heroin

PRIVADARSHANI KAHAWALA, Injiriya Central Group Corr.

A Police Sergeant who was the driver of a high ranking officer in a Spe-

cial Division of the Police Headquarters has been arrested in connection with a heroin racket, Bandaragama Police said. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Construction work on Sri Lanka's first LNG Power Plant to commence

CHANDIMA KARUNARATNE

The Ministry of Power and Energy aims to empower the country in generating effective and profitable power. The project is being implemented to make Clean Energy generation a reality, which has been under discussion since 2005.

Lanka Transformers Limited **▶ TO PAGE 02**



Distance learning programmes via electronic media for all grades

AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Education Ministry together with key stakeholders in education and the media will commence distance learning programmes for

all grades via the electronic media from November 15, 2020 as the schools are yet to open due to the COVID-19 pandemic prevailing in the country. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

Anura Yapa appointed CoPF Chairman

AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI



Government MP Anura Priyadarshana Yapa was appointed as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Finance (CoPF) in Parliament.

The decision was made when the Committee met yesterday (09) in Parliament. At this meeting MP Anura Yapa's name was proposed by Minister Dr. Bandula Gunewardena and it was seconded by MP Dilan Perera.

Galle tennis club allegedly flouts traffic laws

MAHINDA P. LIYANAGE, Galle Central Special Correspondent

A reputed sports club located in Galle has allegedly brought in a number of large heavy vehicles into the historic Galle Fort contravening the traffic laws which bar the entry of heavy vehicles into the Galle Fort. **▶ TO PAGE 02**

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