

Daily News

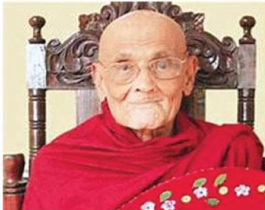
100 PLUS YEARS

LAKE HOUSE



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State funeral for Chief Prelate of Ramanna Maha Nikaya tomorrow

ASEKA KURULUWANSA

The final rites of the Chief Incumbent of the Sri Lanka Ramanna Maha Nikaya Aggamaha Panditha Napane Pemasiri Mahanayake Thera will be held at

the Bandaranaike National School Grounds in Warapitiya, Kundasale under State patronage tomorrow (22).

The Maha Sangha has requested all Buddhists to fly yellow flags at their residences on Sunday as

a mark of respect to the Thera. A large number of people are visiting the Sri Vidyasagara Pirivena in Hurukadawa to pay their last respects to the remains of the Mahanayake Thera.

Lalith U.Gamage stated that people paying their last respects are adhering to the COVID-19 health guidelines and regulations.

He also said that the remains of the Mahanayake Thera will be taken from the Sri Vidyas-

gara Pirivena to the Bandaranaike Grounds by the Army.

He also added that the Cremation Committee has taken a decision to allocate a limited number of seats in the grounds as to maintain social distancing.

A patriarch of the Maha Sangha - President

CONDOLENCE MESSAGES

An irreparable loss to Buddha Sasana - PM



Most Venerable, Aggamaha Panditha Napane Pemasiri Mahanayake Thera had been a patriarch of the Maha Sangha and a symbol of the meaningful depiction of the teachings of the Buddha, President Gotabaya Rajapaksa said.

In a Condolence Message on the demise of Most Ven. Napane Pemasiri

Mahanayake Thera, the President said the passing away of the Mahanayake Thera was not only a loss to the nation, but to Buddhists all over the world.

"I was deeply saddened to learn about the passing away of the Most Venerable, Aggamaha Panditha **TOP PAGE 02**



Issuing a condolence message on the passing away of the Mahanayake of the Ramanna Chapter Most. Ven. Napane Pemasiri Thera, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said his demise would be an irreparable loss to the Buddha Sasana.

The Prime Minister stated: "Ven. Pemasiri Thera was an erudite monk who rendered

a yeoman service to the Buddha Sasana and the country. He was a true disciple of the Buddha who followed in the footsteps of his Bhikkhu teachers and dedicated his entire ordained life to disseminate the Buddha Dhamma here and abroad.

His life was the very epitome of compassion and he inspired many **TOP PAGE 02**

PM at opening of newly constructed Peliyagoda Market

GOVT. GIVES PRIORITY FOR PUBLIC WELFARE

'Country enjoys judicial independence today'



LAHIRU FERNANDO

The Government will give priority to remove the inconveniences faced by the public despite the obstacles coming its way, Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa said.

The Prime Minister was speaking at the opening ceremony of the newly constructed Peliyagoda Market. The Pettah Manning Market that was relocated in Peliyagoda was opened for business activities by Prime Minister Rajapaksa yesterday.

Addressing the ceremony, the Prime Minister said the re-location of the market in Peliyagoda was aimed at providing solutions for the prevailing daily traffic congestion in the City of Colombo.

"In addition, as its new location is a hub connecting the country's Express-



Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa going on an inspection tour of the relocated and newly constructed Peliyagoda Market's Media Unit

way network, the transportation of vegetables and fruits to and from the Manning Market would be easy for the vendors and the suppliers," he

President inaugurates 'Husma Dena Thuru' tree planting programme



The 'Husma Dena Thuru' (Trees Giving Life) tree planting programme, aimed at planting 2 million saplings within the next 5 years, was inaugurated by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa yesterday. The President took part in the programme by planting a 'Sandun' tree in front of the Central Environmental Authority (CEA) premises in Battaramulla. Environment Minister Mahinda Amaraweera, Chief of Defence Staff, Commander of the Army Centre for Prevention of COVID 19 outbreak Lt. Gen. Shavendra Silva and Army Dr. Anil Jasinghe also participated. The programme aims at expanding the 0 percent of the land as envisaged in the 'Saubhagayya Dekma' manifesto. It is by the Environment Ministry, CEA, Army and the Defence Headquarters. Picture



CA quashes indictments against Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon

LAKMAL SOORIYAGODA
The Court of Appeal has issued an order quashing the operation of indictments filed against Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon at Kandy High Court over an alleged murder that took place in 1999.

The Court of Appeal two-judge-Bench comprising Justice (President) A.H.M.D. Nawaz and Justice Sobhitha Rajakaruna made this order pursuant to a writ petition filed by Minister Janaka Bandara Tennakoon.

The Court of Appeal ruled that the Attorney General had filed indictments against the petitioner contrary to the laws. **TOP PAGE 03**



All me approved
'People v pigs'



CAMELIA NATHANIEL and AMALI MALLAWARACHCHI

The Government will take all measures to import a World Health Organisation (WHO) approved vaccine against the new COVID-19 Coronavirus, when made available, Minister of Youth and Sports Nimal Rajapaksa said in Parliament yesterday (20).

However, Minister Rajapaksa pointed out that the Government will not allow the people to be used as guinea pigs for a vaccine that has not yet received WHO approval.

Minister Rajapaksa made these **TOP PAGE 02**

vaccine Sajith MALLAWARACHCHI

preparations to ID-19, when available, Opposition Leader



tree or charge to the public, Sajith Premadasa yesterday (20) said in Parliament. Premadasa also said that the government should discuss with foreign countries that are experimenting on a vaccine to cure COVID-19 virus so that when the time comes, it can import it.

Premadasa observed, "We must first examine the extent to which these Government policies are in line with the promises made in the Presidential and General Elections. When you look at the budget, there is not a single positive feature reflected in the policy statement. Therefore, this budget and the policy statement have become nonsense before the People's Court." **TOP PAGE 02**

Minuwangoda-Peliyagoda COVID-19 cluster exceeds 15,000 mark

ISHARA MUDDUGAMUWA

The total number of COVID-19 positive cases reported from Minuwangoda garment factory employees and Peliyagoda Fish Market cluster has exceeded 15,000 mark.

The National Operations Centre for Prevention of COVID-19 Outbreak (NOPCO) stated that as of yesterday morning, the total number of COVID-19 positive cases reported from the Minuwangoda-Peliyagoda cluster increased to 15,324.

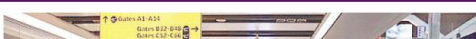
Of them, 3,059 were from the Minuwangoda cluster and all other 12,265 were from the Peliyagoda Fish Market cluster. Meanwhile, 9,478 fully-recovered COVID-19 patients from both Minuwangoda and fish market clusters have been discharged from hospitals. Up to yesterday, a total of 18,838 persons **TOP PAGE 02**

Drone operations help nab 117 quarantine violators

SHAVINI MADHARA

Sri Lanka exempted from UK quarantine

Travellers arriving in England, Wales and Northern Ireland from



Jaffna HC rejects petitions over 'Mahaviru' commemorations