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THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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19/03/2020

Lieutenant General Shavendra De Silva,
National Operation Center for Prevention of COVID- 19 Outbreak
No. 1090,
Sri Jayewardenepura,
Rajagiriya.

Dear sir,

Present Situation with regards to Controlling COVID 19 Pandemic.

We wish to draw your attention to lifting of police curfew for several hours in high risk areas.

We highly appreciate the move to impose police curfew in high risk areas to facilitate contact tracing and to prevent transmission.

However, with lifting of curfew for several hours the benefits of imposing the said curfew will be severely reduced.

Hence we strongly recommend to trace and bring back those who travelled outside these areas and also to trace their contacts outside with immediate effect.

Furthermore, to control the COVID 19 pandemic we suggest the following steps for review at the task force meeting.


1. Explore the possibility of further restricting mobility of people of the entire country except for necessary reasons.
2. We observe a severe shortage of PPEs and other protective equipment necessary for healthcare staff. The supply mechanism for this crucial equipment is not at all satisfactory given the seriousness of the situation, as well as our repeated representations regarding this issue.

We observe that, due to the current supply chain being not satisfactory, Dr. Sunil De Alwis Additional Secretary, has been appointed to coordinate procurement in order to ensure a continuous supply.

3. Dr. Udaya Silva, Consultant Paediatrician, TH Anuradhapura has designed and developed a highly cost effective PPE which need to be produced in adequate numbers as soon as possible under government patronage.

4. Take measures to prevent smoking, as it is identified with increasing the severity of disease. On the other hand, closer of all liquor shops in the country will be essential to maintain the discipline
5. WHO/ UNICEF assistance should be sought for obtaining necessary equipment, as this facility has not been utilized up to now.

Thank you,
Yours faithfully,



Dr. Haritha Aluthge
Secretary

Cc: Secretary, HE the President
Secretary, Hon. Prime Minister
Secretary, Defense Ministry
Secretary, Ministry of Health
Additional Secretary (MS), Dr. Sunil De Alwis
Director General of Health Services
Director, Epidemiology Unit
Chairman, State Pharmaceuticals Corporation of Sri Lanka
To All GMOA BU Secretaries.