



GMOA

THE GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

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GMOA/HE/2020/0003
16/03/2020

His Excellency Gotabhaya Rajapaksa,
HE the President of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka,
Presidential Secretariat,
Colombo 01.

Your Excellency,

GMOA Proposes drastic measures to control COVID19 pandemic.

The Executive Committee of GMOA having considered the prevailing status of COVID 19 (Corona Virus) pandemic in Sri Lanka, urge Your Excellency to take the following steps with immediate effect.

1. Shutdown all ports of entry. (Air ports and Harbors)
2. Extend the public holidays to cover the entire week and prevent unnecessary movement and gathering of people.
3. Centrally coordinated vigorous measurers for contact tracing and monitoring, utilizing MOH (Medical Officer of Health) offices, Grama Niladharis, Armed Forces and Police.
4. Provide adequate protection (PPEs etc.) for healthcare staff in both government and private sectors.
5. Postpone all non-emergency healthcare services in government hospitals.

The above measurers were carefully thought out by studying the experiences in China and Singapore, which countries succeed in controlling COVID19 pandemic. In contrast, Italy which failed to adhere to the above steps in a prompt manner, failed to control the pandemic with disastrous consequences to its' citizens as well as becoming a threat to the rest of the world.

Studies have shown, an eighty percent (80%) contact tracing is absolutely necessary for preventing the spread of the present pandemic.

Furthermore, containing the disease, is the only path available to our country as our ICU services, including ventilator support, which is necessary to treat patients with advanced COVID19, is already at maximal utilization with virtually no reserve.

We as a responsible professional organization, which highly values human life, expect Your Excellency to respond to the above proposals positively and promptly.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,

Dr.A.B. Padaniya
President

Dr. Haritha Aluthge,
Secretary

Cc: Hon. Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka
To all Hon. Ministers of the Cabinet
Secretary to HE the President .
Secretary to Hon. Prime Minister
Secretary, Ministry of Healthcare and Indigenous Medical Services
Director General of Health Services
To All Secretaries of GMOA Branch Unions