

People are requested not to panic, but to remain calm and follow the advice from the health authorities on COVID-19: State Counsellor

FROM PAGE-1

those infected by this disease the death rate is 4.4 per cent. Therefore, it is clear that it is a curable disease. Those who died from this disease were patients with chronic diseases, poor immune system or late treatment. So we wish

to suggest that those persons who are vulnerable to this disease need to take this matter seriously. What is most important is to get medical treatment early. As soon as a person gets symptoms, he should go to the nearest healthcare center immediately, without procrastination.

Just as in the saying “report early, know early, benefits everyone”, please inform the health centers what you need to tell them. At this time, all those who had contact with the two infected persons should report to the health center at the earliest. This is both for individual safety as well as the safety of the respective community. I heard that some residents in Tiddim Township are fleeing in panic out of grave concern. This type of behavior does not benefit anyone. In reality, if someone is infected with the virus, it will be carried in the body wherever this person goes. Please go to the health center in your village and get tested. Please get the necessary treatment.

Myanmar is welcoming back the influx of Myanmar nationals who were working in Thailand. They are advised to stay at home or a designated place in a responsible manner for home or facility quarantine for 14 days to prevent the spread of the disease. Those who have arrived back home should cooperate with a full sense of responsibility. Those who have arrived back in Myanmar should not go into hiding because of fear and concern. This is important. They should report their health conditions to the health centers by telephone

whether they have COVID-19 symptoms such as fever, cough and fatigue. Only then, could the respective health center provide free medical treatment. Those in 14-days home quarantine must follow the directives of the health departments without fail. By doing so, cases of infection could be detected immediately and early treatment could be given to them. It could also effectively prevent their family members and communities from becoming infected. By providing early treatments we can effectively reduce the death rate.

As soon as the news came out that two person infected with COVID-19 have been found, some people began buying foods, medicines and household items in panic. There is no likelihood that we will run out of stock. If you go into the crowd to buy these commodities, there is more likelihood that you will catch the disease. People are the key to prevent the spread of this virus; the ability of the people to remain calm plays a pivotal role.

I wish to inform that the government has to plans to shut down necessary public services, markets or commodity centres. It is also advised that only one person should go for buying, instead of going in groups and that only the quantity that is really needed should be bought.

Fake news are floating around that enterprises, factories, workshops will be closed; and that entry and exit points to townships and villages will be closed. Please do not get panicked by such news.

I hope you know the “Four wrongful paths”. A wrongful path is a path which is wrong. What pushes onto the wrongful path are: Intention, Hatred, Fear and Ignorance. It is important we should not be pushed onto the wrongful path with regard to the COVID-19 disease that other countries are facing.

Pushed on by Intention: do not participate in unlawful gatherings; hoarding of commodities and medicines and neglecting of healthcare instructions.

Pushed on by Hatred: do not spread false information and rumours which affects the peace and stability of communities.

Fear: Fear must not turn into panic buying and covering up symptoms of infection.

Ignorance: could result in negligence of official announcements and advice to prevent wrong doings.

I wish to request all of you not to follow the above mentioned “Four Wrongful paths”.

Don’t fall into the trap of **intention**. We can face against all the challenges with our hearts in close proximity despite social distancing.

Don’t bear **hatred**. Let us overcome all challenges with loving-kindness for each other.

Don’t get filled with **fear**. Let us meet our challenges by uniting the strength of the people and the strength of the nation.

Don’t be submerged in **ignorance**. Instead, people should study the official announcements; do not get onto false path by listening to rumours. We can overcome the Covid-19 problems with mindfulness, relentless effort and wisdom.

Based on responsibility, accountability and transparency which are the basic fundamentals needs of good governance, our government will release up-to-date information in real-time all information that the people need to know.

People are the key. Thank you.

(Translated by Aung Kin)

Union Minister U Soe Win discusses emergency loan for Covid-19

UNION Minister for Planning, Finance and Industry U Soe Win made a discussion at his office in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday with the Country Director of Asian Development Bank, Mr Newin Sinsiri, about possible emergency loans of ADB to purchase medicines and medical equipment to be used in measures for prevention and treatments of Covid-19

diseases in Myanmar. They also discussed the assistance of & ADB in easy purchasing process of these items.—MNA

(Translated by Aung Khin)

Union Minister U Soe Win discusses with Mr Newin Sinsiri, Country Director of Asian Development Bank, in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**



Union Minister Dr Win Myat Aye attends the coordination meeting in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. **PHOTO: MNA**

MSWRR to draw project plan for COVID-19 prevention, control at IDP camps

MINISTRY of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement held a coordination meeting yesterday on drafting a project plan for prevention, control and treatment of the Coronavirus infection at the internally displaced persons-IDP camps.

Speaking at the meeting, the project plan is aimed at quickly responding to the possible COVID-19 infection at the IDP camps as the disease can spread rapidly. According to the statistics in January, 2020, there are 128 IDP camps with a total population of 184,333 in 24 townships in Kachin State, Kayin State, Shan State and Rakhine State. “Regarding the project, it is important to disseminate knowledge on prevention and control the Coronavirus infection not only to those living at

the IDP camps but also for those taking administrative duty at the camps,” said Dr Win Myat Aye.

The Union Minister also called on local and foreign volunteers from the humanitarian aid organizations to follow the advice of the health authorities.

He also stressed the need to be ready for providing quarantine services to the suspected patients and to provide health care services by the health workers from the Ministry of Health and Sports. The participants of the meeting also discussed management for receiving and distribution of sanitary things, medicines and medical equipment for preventing and control of the infectious disease at the IDP camps. — MNA

(Translated by Kyaw Zin Tun)