

GURKHA INTERNATIONAL GROUP

Website: gurkha.com.hk

Newsletter

Issue 270 – February 2020



Shipping Companies And Ships Linked To Us

We are working with 19 shipping companies, and have 767 men and 149 women on ships, a total of 916 crew and staff under management.

We welcome:

Dhan Narayan Prajapati

Dinesh Gurung

Anisha Gurung

Indrajit Gurung

Jeewan Kumar Thapa

Pushpa Thapa Pulami

Chuchan Gurung

Sulav Raj Shrestha

Surav Raj Shrestha

GI (HK) BUSINESS

We are providing security services for 30 Hong Kong Clients and have 190 security staff employed.



We publish this month a photograph of Disney Magic of Disney Cruise Line.

If you have pictures or postcards of your ship, please send them in to us for future Newsletters.

The novo corona virus has been renamed **COVID 19** and has spread to countries in every continent. Here in Hong Kong, we have had 100 cases and 2 deaths, but the virus has not yet shown that it has spread into the general population and the rise in cases is small, about 1 or 2 daily, on some days none at all. The rate of new infection in China is dropping, showing that, with successful quarantine measures, the spread of the virus can be controlled or reduced. This gives some grounds for hope, but it is too early to say at the moment whether the virus can be controlled worldwide.

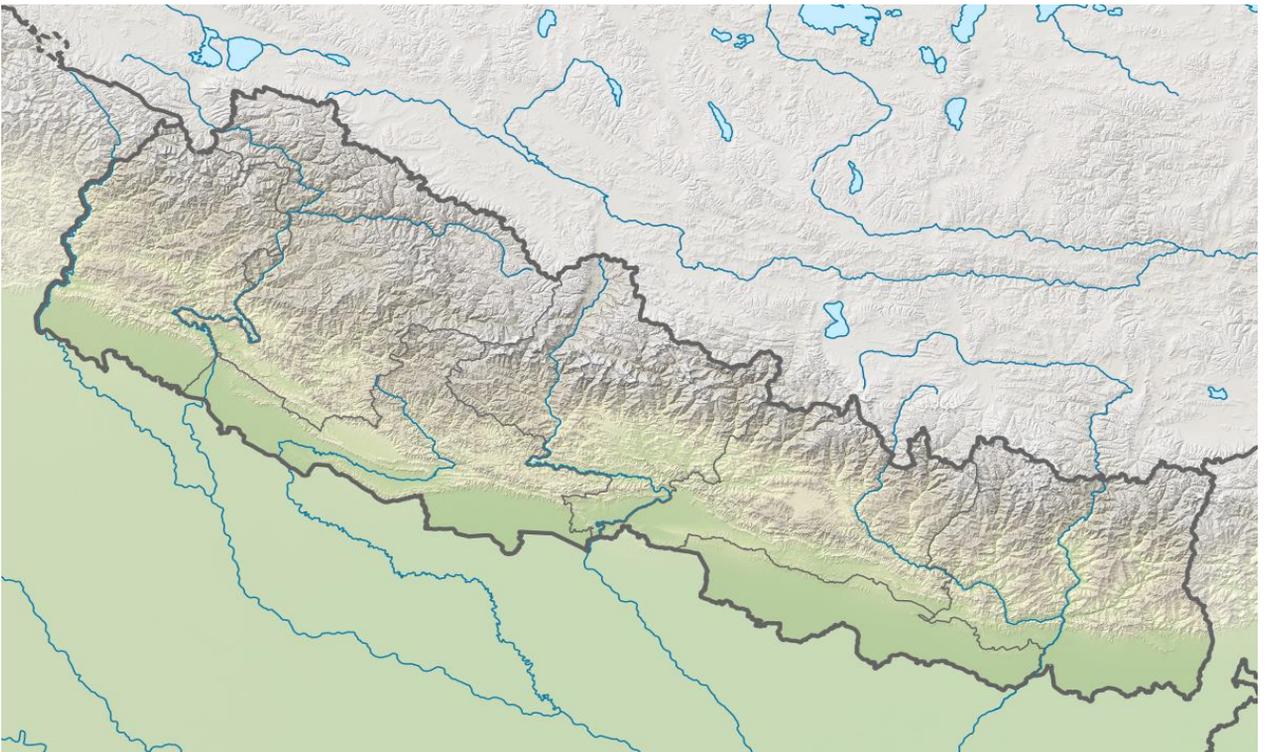
COVID 19 VIRUS

We update here what and what not to do to prevent infection from the COVID 19 virus:

- Don't panic. For the young, this virus is just about as lethal as annual flu. It is worse, however, for the elderly.
- If you feel ill, have a cough or runny nose, wear a mask and see a doctor.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently, for at least 20 seconds, especially after touching handles and railings that are touched by others. Use a sanitizing agent if there is one available.
- Touch your face as little as possible.
- Clean your mobile phone with alcohol-based fluid.
- If you need to touch screens, keyboards or mice that are used by others, clean them first with alcohol-based wipes.
- The virus is transmitted in tiny droplets of spittle and mucus from the nose and mouth. It is NOT carried only by the air.

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World Security

Conflict continues in Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Somalia and South Sudan. The civil war in Syria is having international repercussions, as Turkey, which supports the rebels, is facing off against Russia, which supports the Assad regime. There are about 3.5 million Syrian refugees in Turkey, whose President Erdogan has begun to let cross into Europe, seemingly in an attempt to get the EU to pay more money towards their upkeep. There have been ugly scenes at the Greek-Turkish border, with Greek police firing tear gas, refugees stuck between the two states and some drownings.

Islamic terrorism struck Nigeria and Egypt during the month. Western governments seem to have at last woken up to the threat posed by ISIS and al-Qa'eda in sub-Saharan Africa (the Sahel). The British government announced that it was sending 250 troops to Mali, one of the countries most affected.

Tension continues between Russia and the West, between China and the states bordering the South China Sea and the Sea of Japan over islands disputed there, and between Qatar and the Arab coalition led by Saudi Arabia that has been blockading it since June 2017.

Nepal News

Confusion reigns over the Visit Nepal campaign with no clear statement from the government regarding its fate



This can also be gauged by the fact that many influential leaders of the ruling Nepal Communist Party (NCP) are publicly speaking against the \$500 million grant scheme, stating it is tied to the US-led Indo-Pacific Strategy, which they say is a military alliance.

Right after his swearing-in yesterday, HoR Speaker Agni Sapkota had said there was no need to endorse the MCC in haste amid the ongoing debate.

Addressing today's HoR meeting, Prime Minister Oli said the Parliament had many bills and proposals to endorse this session and MCC was among them.

“I will tell the Parliament about it in detail in future, but the MCC is a scheme that has gone through different phases under six or seven prime ministers. It is awaiting parliamentary endorsement,” the prime minister said.

Source: [The Kathmandu post](#)

Visas on-arrival have only been halted temporarily for citizens of five countries hit hard by Covid-19, Immigration Department clarifies



The Nepal government has decided to stop issuing visas on-arrival to foreign nationals from five countries that have been hit hard by the coronavirus outbreak, according to the Department of Immigration.

A Cabinet meeting on Sunday decided that visas for citizens of China, “including its Special Administrative Regions”, Japan, South Korea, Italy and Iran will not be issued on arrival, effective from March 10, according to an official at the department.

If citizens from these countries wish to travel to Nepal, they will need to obtain a visa at the Nepali embassy in their respective countries.

“The government of Nepal is monitoring the spread of COVID-19. Taking into account the global recommendations and measure of the WHO, the government has decided to temporarily suspend visa-on-arrival for the nationals of the following countries, effective from 10 March, 2020 to till the date of further notice,” the department said in a statement issued Monday evening.

Source: [The Kathmandu Post](#)

Hong Kong News

225 Hongkongers evacuated from coronavirus epicentre in mainland China



Hongkongers still stuck in the epicenter of the coronavirus outbreak in mainland China are running low on food and have complained that a non-resident member of a family was excluded from evacuation.

The news of their situation emerged as a third government-chartered flight out of Hubei province returned on Thursday afternoon, with a fourth touching down at 9.10pm. A total of 225 residents were flown home on both flights.

At 4.30pm, evacuees from Wuhan, in full protective suits, disembarked from their Cathay Dragon plane and boarded coaches stationed on the tarmac. They were transported to Chun Yeung Estate in Fo Tan for a two-week quarantine.

[Source: South China Morning Post](#)

Hong Kong's small businesses thrown vital budget lifeline as Financial Secretary Paul Chan bids to safeguard jobs



Hong Kong businesses have been thrown an HK\$18.3 billion (US\$2.3 billion) lifeline in relief measures as the government vows to support enterprises and safeguard jobs through the economic doldrums.

A full government guarantee on loans of up to HK\$2 million for each small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) and extended subsidies on utility bills were among the key measures Financial Secretary Paul Chan Mo-po announced during his budget speech on Wednesday to help more than 3 million workers keep their jobs and ease the financial burden on companies.

Profits tax and business registration fees would also be waived.

Reacting to the measures, business were generally favorable but were adamant the city's soaring rents remained insurmountable and called on landlords to offer reductions.

Source: [South China Morning Post](#)

Promotions

We congratulate the following on her promotion in our Hong Kong office:



Mrs. Mamta Gurung Tamang– promoted to Assistant Manager Accounts.

We wish you every success in your new position!

Promotions

We congratulate the following on his promotion in our Hong Kong office:



Mr. Arun Mangrati – promoted to Assistant Manager Operations.

We wish you every success in your new position!

Promotions

We congratulate the following on his promotion in our Hong Kong office:



Mr. Dipan Siwa– promoted to Assistant Manager Recruiting and Training.

We wish you every success in your new position!

Conclusion

Security in the current time of a virus epidemic also includes ensuring that the rules set by the company for which you are working must be enforced.

Quarantine measures only work if they are applied rigorously. Cleanliness will save lives. It is up to all of us to make sure that all crew and passengers obey the rules in force. This is an extra duty for us, but it is now a vital one.

Keep safe and keep healthy!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Collett', written in a cursive style.

Nigel Collett
Managing Director