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www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/myanmar

25 March 2020

Dear British Community Members,

These are challenging times and I wanted to assure you that your welfare is a high priority for me and my team at the Embassy. Given the confirmation of three cases of COIVD-19 I thought it even more timely to remind you that the UK Government has advised all Britons to leave Myanmar - whilst commercial flights are available.

You will be well aware of the rapidly evolving situation in regards to flights. Most routes have been cancelled – or are not allowing transit - but some routes are still open. Timetables are erratic but it is still possible to book flights. I strongly urge you to look at these options. My team is working with other Embassies to do what can be done to encourage commercial airlines to maintain some links. This is not certain so I urge you to make your plans now.

The FCO Travel Advice for Myanmar is being updated daily and has been advising British Nationals to leave Myanmar since 15 March. Please continue to monitor our social media channels regularly.

For those wanting to travel to the UK but who are struggling to find seats please be aware that we will shortly be opening a dedicated email address just for Britons and those with valid entry clearance to be in the UK to express an interest if additional commercial flights could be arranged. To be clear, these would be additional commercial services at passengers' expense. Links can be found from our Facebook page.

In the event that I am instructed to send more staff back to London then the Embassy will be severely challenged in delivering consular assistance to those British Nationals remaining. If British Nationals get stuck here, it is very unlikely that the British Government will be able to help you leave.

UK Passport applications are made through the VFS office at Prime Hill Business Centre, which remains open for business as usual. However, UK short term visa applications for Myanmar and other visa nationals have been suspended due to draw-down of non-essential staff in some of our neighbouring posts where visas are issued.

An Emergency Travel Document, good for passage back to the UK can be applied for on-line through www.gov.uk. However, all these documents are processed in neighbouring Posts and the service is reliant on commercial air courier services which may also be subject to disruption.

Please stay safe.

Dan Chugg

British Ambassador to Myanmar