

Uwani Kuni

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Covid-19 vaccination at slow pace

Purikali - Cardinal Yose Nuhuroa, Archbishop of Purikali, said on TV during the Good Friday homily: “after the ordeal of this pandemic, may the Resurrection of Christ be a breath of hope and dream to our hearts”. However, vaccination, the biggest hope for controlling this disease, is still proceeding at slow pace in Kaupelan.

The situation of Covid-19 is not too bad in the country, in comparison with neighbours like Indonesia, for example.

Just over 3,000 cases and 35 deaths. But to overcome this health problem and to recover the economy, fast vaccination is a key point.

According to the Ministry of Health, 174,891 persons received the vaccine until yesterday (4.17% of the total population), with the rate of around 2,000 vaccines per day. This rate should increase more than 5 times to vaccinate the whole population in one year.

A timid recovery of the economy

Purikali - Despite still keeping restrictions to many services and almost without foreign visitors, the economy shows the first signs of recovery mostly for the internal market. However, given the importance and dependency of the external market for Kaupelanese economy, there are still huge difficulties for a complete recovery.

The industry increased the production, although exports are still very low.

Watera/Darapali already started the production of the new electric vehicle e-Jimpy – a mini jeep-like 2-seat vehicle – in Bandajaya assembly plant. The low price of less than KAH 40,000 (around USD 15,000) is an asset of the company for sales abroad. The plant in Ambon, Indonesia, did not start yet the production of the low-cost gasoline version of Jimpy due to Covid-19.

The budget airline TriAir, a joint

venture from the three UIEMB countries, with MKA’s 30% shareholding, is operating regional flights within UIEMB.

The most affected sector of the economy is the tourism, and its related activities, like entertainments, which are largely dependent of foreigners, remain in a critical situation. The government is considering accepting tourists from Australia and China, the most important countries for tourism in Kaupelan and where Covid is relatively well controlled. In this case, just a Covid test would be required, without the 14-day quarantine.

An example of success during the pandemic is Daranet, a former internet provider that is currently working on food, supermarket and other goods delivery, taxi service, bike rent, etc., all by an app in the cell phone,



e- Jimpy 2021

The Angry Fish

Ontehe - Nobody understood why Aile Inamarai decided to run barefoot from his small village in the easternmost island of the country, Hakerehe, for 20 km, to the capital of that island. And why he took the ferry to the neighbour island of Matutu and kept running up to a fishing village on the west coast. The 20 years old aborigine had lost his job in a local bar due to the pandemic and had been left by his boyfriend who had decided to try his luck in the capital of the country.

Aile hitchhiked in a fishing boat to the next island, Lopes Gusmao. There, he met the owner of a small fish factory with the curious name of *Molu Beri*, or “Angry Fish” in the local dialect. The young man explained his plan to run around the archipelago of Terong, from island to island. The owner decided to sponsor him by giving some money, a pair of sneakers and a T-shirt with the logo of the factory.

After completing the tour of Terong, the tropical Forrest Gump decided to keep running and complete the tour around the whole country. His story became known by a local newspaper and then by the RTK TV. The now famous runner became sponsored by other brands and was greeted by a crowd when he arrived to Purikali, almost a month later, after running around 450 km.

Aile Inamarai was invited to join the national marathon team and to have his story told in a book.

Exchange Rate



USD: KAH 2.4082 ↑



EUR: KAH 2.8321 ↓

Purikali



Max 31° Min. 25°