



National

Politics Diplomacy Defense Labor & Environment Law & Crime Health & Welfare Embassy Seoul & Provinces Education Foreign Communities Obituaries Multicultural Youth Award

Tue, M

Politics

Gov't to take legal actions against churches ignoring 'social distancing' guidelines

Posted Updated

1.5K



Churchgoers confront public officials trying to enter Sarang Jeil Church in Seoul on Sunday. The church held public services despite the government's strong request not to hold public gatherings at religious, indoor sports and recreational facilities as part of efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Yonhap

South Korea will take legal action against several Protestant churches for violating the government's guidelines for preventing the massive spread of the new coronavirus, the prime minister said Monday.

As part of the government's drive for stricter social distancing, health authorities advised churches to follow quarantine measures, including keeping the distance between followers at least 2 meters while attending services and having their temperature checked.

But some churches, including Sarang Jeil Church in northern Seoul, pressed ahead with weekend religious services, without abiding by some of the guidelines.

Prime Minister Chung Sye-kyun said stern government measures, including banning gatherings, should be imposed on churches that have ignored the virus guidelines.

Top 10 Stories

- 1 Face of notorious child p revealed
- 2 Police nab 124 Telegram
- 3 Postponing Olympics ma inevitable: Japan PM Abe
- 4 College official suspended with 40 Chinese students phone numbers
- 5 US soldier stationed in P; dead, cause unknown
- 6 A 93-year-old woman re COVID-19
- 7 Gov't to take l churches igno l guidelines
- 8 S. Korea alarmed by patie overseas
- 9 S. Korea confirms 64 nev infections, total at 8,961. hits 118
- 10 Korea calls on citizens to postpone overseas trips o

"The churches' act seriously hurt the safety of not only individuals attending the service but also communities," Chung said at a pan-government meeting on coronavirus responses.

"Now is an emergency situation that amounts to a quasi-wartime situation. People should not regard the government's administrative orders as a bluff," he stressed.



In a public message on social distancing, Chung "strongly" called for religious, indoor sports and entertainment facilities to suspend operations for 15 days on Saturday, calling the next two weeks a "critical" time.

He also warned the government will issue an administrative order to ban gatherings if the facilities do not abide by the virus guidelines when they keep operating.

For facilities that do not follow the orders, the government will take legal action, including closures and filing compensation suits, he said.

Small-scale cluster infections have been reported at Protestant churches in recent weeks after the bulk of cases tied to the Shincheonji religious sect subsided.

Followers at Sarang Jeil Church, led by now-jailed conservative pastor Rev. Jun Kwang-hoon, closely sat together when they attended the services.

On Monday, the Seoul city government imposed a two-week administrative order on the church, banning it from holding services until April 5.






Mayor Park Won-soon told reporters in a briefing that the city imposed the order after the church breached virus guidelines.

The city government had earlier warned that it will take countermeasures for churches that do not follow the guidelines and file compensation suits if infections occur.






Chung, meanwhile, called on health authorities to consider whether to expand stricter screening procedures for arrivals from North America where the number of COVID-19 cases has spiked.

Since Sunday, the government has had all arrivals from Europe tested for the virus and begun to impose a two-week self-isolation period on them. The country also has implemented stricter quarantine steps on all international arrivals.

"The number of visitors from North America is double that of arrivals from Europe," Chung said. "We need to seriously review whether to take any effective, stronger quarantine measures."

-  한의사 김
DNA발견'
-  윗배,아랫
에 빼주는
-  딱 소리 무
먹으니 움?
-  비싼 모발
것'으로 모
-  주식투자 1
한다면 '이
-  한의사 김
으로 요요
-  '무릎 관절
'이것'으로

Top 5 Entertainment Ne

-  1 'Itaewon (
up with a
-  2 'I don't w
punched':
personalit
fears of vi
racism
-  3 'Time to I
theaters a
straight to
-  4 Big Hit to
Korean le
program u
content
-  5 'Kingdom
proud of I
Korean-st

DARKROOM



(Yonhap)

Désintoxication pour le foie
 Cette astuce permet de détoxifier votre organisme et combattre votre graisse abdominale.
 BodyFokus

Recommended Contents For You



한 의사 김오곤, "살빠지는 DNA 발견" 짝악~빠져!



Gyeonggi to give emergency basic income of 100,000 won t...



딱 소리 무릎관절, "이것" 먹으니 움직임이 달라!



Gov't to boost night tours to revive tourism industry



윗배,아랫배,옆구리 한방에 빼주는 김오곤 다이어트!



Managing fears crucial in Korea's COVID-19 fight



IXL
 Essayez gratuitement 20 exercices

Maternelle

CE1

% C

CP

CE2

% C

0 Comments

Sort by Oldest



Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

Recommended Contents

Promoted Links by Taboola

Nadia Comaneci confirme ce que nous savions depuis le début

90MIN

Arthritis P Hit List

Learn the shocking truth about "heat" foods in this free



S. Korea alarmed by patients from overseas

Cette photo de Sophie Marceau confirme les rumeurs

Life Indigo

S. Korea confirms 64 new coronavirus infections, total at 8,961. Death toll hits 118

Understand How UK and France Tax Rules Affect You

Abbey Wealth

A 93-year-old woman recovers from COVID-19

About Korea Times

Content Sales

Location

Mobile Service

한국어

CEO Message

Media Kit

Privacy Statement

RSS Service

Dongw

Times History

Contact Us

Terms of Service

Ombudsman

Code of I

Publisher : Lee Byeong-eon Director of Content : Oh Young-jin Online newspaper registration No : 서울, 0152844 14th Fl., Sejong-daero, 17, Jung-gu, Seoul, Korea (Postal Code: 045-010) Digital News Email : webmaster@koreatimes.co.kr Subscription : 02-724-2715 Copyright © koreatimes.co.kr. All rights reserved. Copyright Policy