

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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TODAY COUPON

Increased police powers to act over bar music: Inside



Coronavirus pandemic “over by June” if countries act, says Chinese adviser

London.—The global coronavirus pandemic could be over by June if countries mobilise to fight it, a senior Chinese medical adviser said yesterday, as China declared the peak had passed there and new cases in Hubei fell to single digits for the first time.

Around two-thirds of global cases of the coronavirus have been recorded in China’s central Hubei province, where

the virus first emerged in December. But in recent weeks the vast majority of new cases have been outside China.

Chinese authorities credit strict measures they have taken, including placing Hubei under near total lockdown, with preventing big outbreaks in other cities, and say other countries should learn from their efforts.

“Broadly speaking, the peak of the epidemic has passed

for China,” said Mi Feng, a spokesman for the National Health Commission.

“The increase of new cases is falling.”

Zhong Nanshan, the government’s senior medical adviser, told reporters that as long as countries take the outbreak seriously and are prepared to take firm measures, it could be over worldwide in a matter of months. **Inside**

“No new bookings” in Spanish hotels, coronavirus impact like “tsunami,” says federation

Madrid.—Occupancy rates at Spanish hotels have fallen dramatically, with some hotels left empty, and there are “no new bookings” due to the coronavirus epidemic, a top official at Spain’s hotels and tourist accommodations federation CEHAT said yesterday.

“A tsunami has arrived. A meteorite has fallen on us and we have to see how we survive,” CEHAT Secretary General Ramon Estalella told Reuters, urging the Spanish government to take extraordinary measures to avoid bankruptcies and layoffs at hotel companies.

Spain government switches to video meetings after minister catches coronavirus

Madrid.— Spain cancelled top-flight soccer, shut schools across a swathe of the country and announced the prime minister will hold his meetings by video, after a minister tested positive for coronavirus and the death toll nearly doubled overnight.

Spain, which at first took few steps against the outbreak, changed tack this week after infections soared, declaring a ban on flights from Italy, closing some schools and cautioning against domestic and foreign travel.

The death toll from corona-

virus rose to 84 on Thursday from 47 on Wednesday, the health ministry said, a rise of nearly 80 percent overnight and a threefold increase from Monday. Schools will shut down for two weeks in Catalonia, the Basque Country, Galicia and Murcia.