Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Data as reported by the Thai Ministry of Public Health



7 May 2020

WHO Thailand Situation Report













THAILAND SITUATION IN THE PAST 24 HOURS

SPOTLIGHT

- On 7th of May 2020, three new cases of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 were announced by the Ministry of Public Health of Thailand (MoPH), bringing the total number of cases to 2,992.
- One case detected through active case finding is a Thai female aged 59 years old from Yala province, who had contact with confirmed cases from Malaysia.
- Two further cases were detected in two Thai males, aged 46 and 51, who returned from Kazakhstan on 2nd May and were held in state quarantine.
- Zero deaths reported today.

UPDATES FROM THE CENTRE FOR ADMINISTERING THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (CCSA)

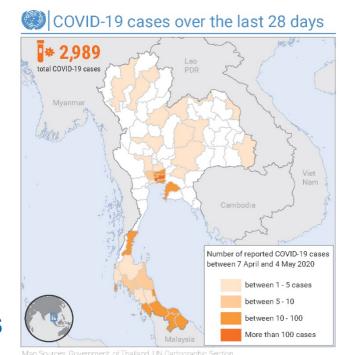
Today the Prime Minister chaired the CCSA meeting.

Key issues discussed are as follows:

- The PM is satisfied with the situation overall and stressed the importance of compliance with health measures and the need for strict enforcement.
- Maintaining travel restrictions and organizing State Quarantine and Local Quarantine will be necessary to prevent transmission from returnees. The second phase of easing restrictions is under consideration. The CCSA is monitoring the situation and if there is no surge in infections, the next phase is expected to be introduced on 17th May 2020.
- Government will assess the level of compliance with measures, organize public hearings/consultations with concerned sectors and draft measures for easing of restrictions.
- MOPH proposes targeted surveillance and active case finding in vulnerable populations and high risk venues.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs proposed criteria for the management of Thai people abroad, due to the high
 number of Thais registered for repatriation. The first priority is sick people, those stuck in the airports around the
 world, those with expired visas and stranded tourists; and the second priority are monks and nuns, students and
 the unemployed.

Summary of key decisions made by the CCSA

- The classification of countries listed as high-risk infection zones will be reconsidered.
- ASEAN countries will collaborate on the possibility of joint investment in vaccine development and research on COVID-19.
- The SMART VISA scheme will ease restrictions for highly-skilled workers.
- A testing laboratory will be established to ensure international standards are met and for quality assurance of domestically produced medical supplies such as personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Access to soft loans for small businesses and public-private collaborations will be increased to mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19.



UPDATES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DISEASE CONTROL (DDC)

The results of a DDC online poll show that in the past 5 weeks levels of public adherence to hand washing, wearing of masks and physical distancing have been declining.

The public is encouraged to strictly practice these personal protective measures to protect themselves and others from contracting COVID-19.

ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC



WHY IS COVID-19 CAUSING SO MUCH STIGMA?

The level of stigma associated with COVID-19 is based on three main factors:

- 1) it is a disease that's new and for which there are still many unknowns;
- 2) we are often afraid of the unknown;
- 3) it is easy to associate that fear with 'others'. It is understandable that there is confusion, anxiety, and fear among the public. Unfortunately, these factors are also fueling harmful stereotypes.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT?

Stigma can undermine social cohesion and prompt possible social isolation of groups, which might contribute to a situation where the virus is more, not less, likely to spread. This can result in more severe health problems and difficulties controlling a disease outbreak. Stigma can:

- Drive people to hide the illness to avoid discrimination
- Prevent people from seeking health care immediately
- Discourage them from adopting healthy behaviours

WHAT WHO IS DOING TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THAILAND

WHO Thailand is in frequent direct contact with the Royal Thai Government through the Ministry of Public Health, sharing information on key developments, guidelines and scientific updates.

WHO supports the wider UN response, including working with key partners and the Ministry of Public Health to support migrant populations in Thailand. WHO also provides information and advice to staff of the UN system in Thailand.



- The Thailand COVID19 situation report is available in Thai and English, please visit.
- For regular updates on WHO's response in Thailand, please visit.
- For global figures and technical advice from WHO, please visit.

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www.who.int/thailand







