

Special Announcement of COVID-19 On 22 May 2020

Regarding today's COVID-19 situation in Thailand, 13 cases recovered and were discharged (a total of 2,910 cases have recovered or 95.82% of the total number of the confirmed cases) and 71 were being treated in hospitals (2.34% of the total number of confirmed cases). Today, there were no reports of new COVID-19 cases or deaths, as the total number of confirmed cases remained at 3,037 and deaths at 56 cases.

The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) has focused on active case finding in communities and risk areas to control the COVID-19 outbreak because it may find some asymptomatic and mildly symptomatic cases in communities where there are no reports of new cases. These asymptomatic and mildly symptomatic cases can spread the disease to other people in the community if they do not know that they are infected. Thus, the most important factor to reduce the risk of infection is that people must not be careless and keep practicing the protection measures including wearing a face mask/cloth mask when they leave the residence, frequently washing hands, keeping 1-2 meters of social distance from others, not touching their face, eyes, nose, and mouths with unclean hands, and avoiding travel to crowded places, mass gatherings, or to cities where confirmed cases have been reported.

For Thai people who are returning from abroad, the government has prevention and control measures in place to quarantine them for 14 days. Quarantine is one of the control measures to protect all citizens who live in the country from imported cases. Now, 21 state quarantine facilities have been set up across Thailand.

The disease control measures in the state quarantine areas include two rounds of collecting samples from the quarantined individuals, first during days 3-5 after checking in, to swiftly confirm the infection status of all quarantined people. If individuals are positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), they will receive timely treatment. Days 11-13 are the second round of sample collection to ensure the people are free from COVID-19 and unable to spread the disease in the community. They are allowed to return to their hometown after completing 14 days of observation.

On 22 May 2020, 264 Thai citizens are returning to Thailand from four countries including Tunisia, South Korea, the United States, and Germany. They will be under observation for 14 days in designated state quarantine facilities.