



Novel Coronavirus 2019 Pneumonia News release

by Emergency Operation Center, Department of Disease Control

Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Anutin, sent medical staff to bring Thai people back from Wuhan; all staff are honored to respond for Thailand.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health sent medical staff and crew to bring Thai people back from Wuhan, Hubei. All staff are honored to be a part of this significant operation for Thailand. The minister approximates that the arrival time will be this evening and he will be present to give them a warm welcome.

On 4 February 2020, Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health gave an interview after sending the medical team to Wuhan from Don Mueang International Airport. He said that today, he sent the medical team to bring Thai people back from Wuhan to Thailand. From talking with the medical team, they are ready and have a good mental state. Each member volunteered to go, and feels proud to be part of Thailand's response.

Mr. Anutin stated that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs contacted the Thai people living in Wuhan and informed them of the operational plan to bring them back to Thailand. Before traveling back to Thailand, Thai people living in Wuhan will be screened. If anyone has a fever, they will not be allowed to get on the plane. During the trip back to Thailand on the plane, the medical team will check the health condition and temperatures of Thai passengers three times. After landing, all Thai passengers will be brought to the prepared quarantine area for 14 days. He also assured all Thai people in the country that the disease prevention and control measures will be implemented in accordance with international standards.

“All relevant agencies are prepared after receiving the process and the demonstration of the transportation plan. I am confident that this mission will be successful. I plan to pick all Thai people up at the airport this evening. Thais in Wuhan are missing Thai food because they were being kept under restrictions. We are trying to provide food and communication devices for Thais and their family members to reduce the feeling of being disconnected and homesickness.”

Thai Lion Air has volunteered to bring back Thai people, who may still be left in cities of China, by having ongoing operating flying routes between 5 and 8 February 2020. This news is much appreciated for the general public and will be announced again for further details. For the operating team taking Thai people back from Wuhan, including officers and aircrew members, they will follow the protocol of clinical observation at a quarantine station for 14 days as well. The airplane must be cleaned according to the standards of the airline.

***** 4 February 2020