

Special Announcement of COVID-19 On 5 July 2020

Regarding today's COVID-19 situation in Thailand, five new COVID-19 cases were confirmed. One confirmed case returned from India, two confirmed cases returned from Kuwait, one confirmed case returned from the United State of America, and the other confirmed case returned from Japan. They were all under state quarantines in Bangkok. This brought the total number of cases to 3,190. Five cases recovered and were discharged (a total of 3,071 cases have recovered or 96.27% of the total number of confirmed cases) and 61 were being treated in hospitals (1.91% of the total number of confirmed cases). There were no reports of deaths so the total number of deaths remained at 58 cases.

Dr. Sapon Iamsirithaworn, Director of the Division of Communicable Diseases said that today, the 5 newly confirmed COVID-19 cases include:

- One confirmed case who returned from India. She is a 42 year-old Thai female who arrived in Thailand on June 23. Her laboratory results were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) on July 3rd but she was asymptomatic.
- Two confirmed cases who returned from Kuwait. Both of them are Thai males, aged 42 and 57 years-old. They arrived in Thailand on June 29. Their laboratory results were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) on July 3rd.
- One confirmed case who returned from the United States of America. She is a 17 year-old Thai female who arrived in Thailand on June 29. Her laboratory results were positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) on July 3rd but she was asymptomatic.
- One confirmed case returned from Japan. He is a 38 year-old, business officer who arrived in Thailand on June 30. His laboratory results were positive for SARS-CoV-2.

Asanha Bucha Day (Buddhist Lent Day) is an important religious day. Many people travel to make merit, which may lead to some places being congested and it poses a risk of spreading COVID-19. The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) requests cooperation from all temples to comply with the prevention measures from the Department of Religious, Ministry of Culture, National Buddhism Office, and the MOPH including organizing the area to reduce congestion when entering the temple and setting up screening stations to screen for fever among people entering the temple. If their body temperature exceeds 37.5 degrees Celsius or they have respiratory symptoms, they will not be allowed to enter the place. The temples should provide hand washing points with soap and water or alcohol gel. They must keep the temple clean, provide a well ventilated system, and provide a separate meal set for monks. All monks must wear a face mask/cloth mask and shorten the time of ceremonies and rituals. If anyone is sick, they must refrain from religious ceremonies.

For people who join merit making, they must wear a cloth mask/face mask, avoid touching items that are frequently touched such as gavels and railings, frequently wash their hands with water and soap or alcohol gel, and strictly follow the regulations of religious places. When returning to their residence, people should wash their hands and clean themselves immediately to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19.