

## Special Announcement of COVID-19 On 9 March 2020

### 1. The situation on 9 March 2020 at 8.00 a.m.

1. There are currently 16 confirmed cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) being treated in hospitals, 33 cases who returned to their homes and one death, which brings the total number of coronavirus infection cases detected in Thailand to 50.

2. From 3 January to 9 March 2020, the total number of patients under investigation (PUI) increased to 4,518 people. Of those, 212 PUI were detected from screening at all ports of entry and 4,306 people sought medical services on their own at hospitals, 2,729 cases returned to their homes and some of them are being continually monitored. Most of the PUI were infected with seasonal influenza, and 1,789 PUI are still admitted at hospitals.

3. Regarding the international situation involving 102 countries, two administrative regions and one cruise ship between 5 January to 9 March 2020 at 7.00 A.M., there were 107,862 confirmed cases and 3,664 deaths, with 80,703 cases and 3,098 deaths coming from the People's Republic of China.

### 2. MOPH emphasized that care of the undocumented Thai workers abroad is a display of cooperation from all sectors; 186 people were screened and there were no signs of fever.

The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) emphasized that taking care of undocumented Thai workers has shown cooperation from all sectors. 186 people were screened and observed at Sattahip Naval Base. Currently, none of them have a fever but they are under observation.

Dr. Tanarak Plipat, Deputy Director General and his team stated about the COVID-19 situation today, that 16 COVID-19 confirmed cases still remain in the hospital, 33 cases have been discharged from the hospital and there has been one death. The total number of COVID-19 cases in Thailand is 50. There have been no additional confirmed cases. One severe case still remains at the Bamrasnaradura Infectious Diseases Institute, and laboratory results for the virus are now negative, but the patient is still under close observation.

There are 186 undocumented Thai workers from South Korea who were sent to the naval facility in Sattahip for quarantine - 88 men and 98 women. Of these, 18 people are in need of special care (pregnant women, children and patients with chronic illness) and 8 are among high-risk groups who have travel history to Daegu and/or North Gyeongsang province. All of them have gone through health checks and nobody had a fever. The Ministry of Public Health and the Royal Thai Navy have established health care centers providing temperature and symptom checks every day. The Office of Disease Prevention and Control, Region 6 has cooperated in this action. Staff are available 24 hours at the facility.

The measures to take care of the passengers departing from South Korea are under the responsibility of various sectors including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Ministry of Transport, The Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Defense, the Ministry of Labor and Social Development and the Ministry of Tourism and Sport. The aforementioned passengers are categorized into three groups, i.e. 1) International passengers, 2) Thai passengers, and 3) the group of Thai workers. When passengers arrive at the airport, landing and specific isolation areas have been arranged for those people. They will be screened and must pass the entry screening. If anyone has a fever, they will be brought to the hospital in accordance with the protocol. Among Thai workers, passengers holding an expired passport will be brought to the designated areas prepared by the government, while other Thai workers will be brought to the local quarantine areas

prepared by the Provincial Governor, the Provincial Health Medical Doctor and relevant sectors. Disease surveillance and the following up of symptoms will be done for 14 days.

In following the contacts of the Thai male students from Iran, there are 157 people considered as high-risk exposure contacts that have been monitored, observed for symptoms and have had specimens collected for laboratory testing. Some of them have already traveled outside Thailand. For the people staying in Thailand, the investigation teams have tracked them to monitor their symptoms.

### 3. Advice for the general public

Request for people to manage their health by doing the following:

1. Avoid going to crowded places
2. Avoid staying close to people who have respiratory disease symptoms
3. Take measures to eat cooked food, use serving spoons, wash hands and wear cloth masks to prevent the disease.

Please follow the news from the Ministry of Public Health. If there are any questions, ask at the Department of Disease Control Hotline 1422 for 24 hours per day or website: <https://ddc.moph.go.th/viralpneumonia/>, Twitter, Facebook, Line official, Tik Tok “ไทยรู้สู้โควิด” and Line official ChatBot 1422 “Kor-Ror-OK”, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health. People can check for scams at the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society. [www.antifakenewscenter.com](http://www.antifakenewscenter.com)