

Thailand DDC has strong prevention and control measures for COVID-19 in all ports to bring Thai citizens back to the homeland.

The Department of Disease Control (DDC), Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) revealed the strong measures for prevention and control measures for COVID-19 in all ports to bring Thai nationals back to the country by following a definite quota for the number of people each day. Now, every province is preparing designated quarantine places to quarantine Thai people for 14 days under the governmental prevention and control protocols.

Today (18 April 2020), Dr. Sopon Iamsirithawon, Director of Division of Communicable Diseases, as the Incident Commander of Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control stated about the permission for Thai citizens to enter across Permanent Crossing Point in the areas of border provinces. DDC has strictly operated the COVID-19 prevention and control measures by integrating cooperation from all sectors i.e. international communicable diseases control at point of entry (airports, seaports and groundports), hospitals (private and government sectors) and community-based surveillance.

For Thai people who are traveling back to Thailand by passing through the permanent crossing points in the border provinces in this period, there is a pre-specified number of travelers each day and at point of entry along the border crossing points. Everyone will have to pass the screening protocol including screening, temperature measurement, and symptom monitoring in accordance with COVID-19 prevention and control measures in Thailand. Those returning to Thailand must have two important documents which are 1) the medical certificate or fit to travel and 2) the official letter for entering the country issued by the Embassy or the Consulate - General of the departing country (the said official letter shall specify the personal information of travelers, the location of point of entry, date of departure, the province or hometown of travelers in Thailand, travelers' signature agreeing to be quarantined at the State Quarantine or Local Quarantine for 14 days in accordance with the disease control standard. This information will ensure the safety of people in the country and be beneficial for travelers in case they get the infection and need to receive diagnosis and treatment.

Dr. Sopon said that each province has prepared to screen and arrange designated quarantine areas specified by the government for 14 days in accordance with the determination of preventive and control measures with good cooperation from all sectors including government, local, private and community sectors. All have the same goal of providing optimized care among travelers so that Thailand can prevent and control COVID-19 effectively.