

Thailand situation update on 7 May 2020

1. International Situation

As of 7 May 2020, there were a total of 3,835,125 confirmed cases with 48,201 patients in critical condition and 265,244 COVID-19 deaths across more than 209 countries, two Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China (Hong Kong and Macau), and on cruise ships. The ten countries with the most confirmed COVID-19 cases include: the United States (1,263,224), Spain (253,682), Italy (214,457), England (201,101), Russia (177,160), France (174,191), Germany (168,162), Turkey (131,744), Brazil (126,611) and Iran (101,650). The 11th is the People's Republic of China (83,971 cases, as well as 1,041 and 45 cases in the Special Administrative Regions of Hong Kong and Macau, respectively).

2. The Disease Situation in Thailand

2.1 Surveillance Protocol for COVID-19

The accumulated data from 3 January to 6 May 2020 showed that among 38,240 flights, there were a total of 4,421,385 passengers screened. Among those, 1,067 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI). Outside of the airports, 141,856 people from 2,118 ships were screened at seaports between 1 January and 6 May 2020, and two people met the PUI criteria. There were 1,881,072 people screened at ground ports between 1 February to 6 May 2020. Between 30 January to 7 May 2020, a total of 170,905 people who were renewing their passports were screened at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road. The total number of PUI from all ports is currently 1,069 people.

2.2 Situation of Patients with Suspected Symptoms of COVID-19 in Thailand.

On 7 May 2020 at 18:00, Thailand announced that 3,471 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 89,791 PUI, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	89,791
• Detected from the airport screening	1,069
• Detected from seaports	2
• Sought medical services on their own at hospitals	88,634
• Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao	88

Situation	Total number of PUI
Confirmed cases	2,992
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	2,784
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergoing Treatment 	153
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deaths 	55
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	2,992
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Transmission 	2,458
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Imported Case 	534
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	87

Notice: *The quarantine measures for travelers from aboard have been in effect as of 3 April 2020

In Thailand, there have been 2,992 confirmed COVID-19 cases. Among the confirmed cases, 2,784 patients have recovered and returned home, and 55 patients have died.

A 14-day State Quarantine measure has been implemented by the government for travelers entering Thailand from abroad. On 7 May 2020, two additional cases were reported, and the total number of cases at designated quarantine areas increased to 87 cases. There are 62 cases among Thai people returning from Indonesia, nine cases from America, four cases from the United of Arab Emirates, four cases from Malaysia, two cases from England, two cases from Kazakhstan, one case from the Netherlands, one case from Japan, one case from India, and one case from Russia. All Thai people returning from abroad are required to comply with State Quarantine measures, meaning they have to quarantine in specific provinces; in total there are 5 cases quarantined in Narathiwat, 12 cases in Pattani, 8 cases in Yala, 18 cases in Songkhla, 19 cases in Satun, 3 cases in Krabi, 4 cases on Chonburi, 14 cases in Bangkok, and one case in Samut Prakan.

On 25 April 2020, 42 confirmed cases were found at the immigration quarantine unit at Sadao district in Songkhla province (34 cases were Burmese, 3 cases were Vietnamese, 2 cases were Malaysian, 1 case was Yemeni, 1 case was Cambodian, and 1 case was Indian). On 4 May 2020, 18 confirmed cases were found from active case finding in migrant groups (17 cases were stateless Rohingya, and one case was Burmese) which brought the total number to 60 cases.

The median age of the confirmed cases is 37 years old (ranging from 1 month to 99 years old). 1,627 cases are male, and 1,365 cases are female (ratio of male to female: 1.19:1).

In terms of nationality, 2,663 cases are Thai, 54 are Burmese, 34 are Chinese, 29 are French, 24 are British, 17 cases are Stateless Rohingya, 12 are Russian, 12 are American, 11 are Japanese, nine are Indian, eight are Canadian, eight are Italian, eight are German, six are Swedish, six are Belgian, six are Swiss, five are Danish, five are Filipino, five are Singaporean, four are Pakistani, four are Australian, four are Malaysian, four are Vietnamese, three are South Korean, three are Indonesian, three are Cambodian, two are Kazakh, two are Brazilian, two are Laos, two are New Zealander (one case is Maori), two are Spanish, two are Israeli, two are Albanian, one is American-Samua, one is Malian, one is Kuwaiti, one is Serbian, one is Tunisian, one is Taiwanese, one is Dutch, one is Palestinian, one is Portuguese, one is Finnish, one is Mexican, one is Ukrainian, one

is Yemeni, one is Liberian, one is Thai-Indian, one is Iranian, one is Uzbek, one is Hungarian, and data is not available for the remaining 14 cases.

Underlying diseases were found in some of these cases, including hypertension (27 cases), hypotension (1 case), allergies (19 cases), diabetes (10 cases), other NCDs (13 cases), asthma (8 cases), dyslipidemia (3 cases), thyroid disease (3 cases), psoriasis (2 case), salivary gland cancer (1 case), paranasal sinus disease (1 case), COPD (1 case), multiple underlying diseases (28 cases), stroke (1 case), epilepsy (2 case), thrombocytopenia (1 case), myasthenia gravis (1 case), valvular heart disease (1 case), HIV (2 case), depression (2 cases), anemia (1 case), migraine (1 case), liver cirrhosis (1 case), breast cancer (1 case), Hepatitis B virus (1 case), and rheumatoid arthritis (1 case). There were 2,838 cases reported without any underlying disease. 40 cases were detected from the screening protocol at airports (one case was found within the group of Thai workers returning from Wuhan). 1,752 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,021 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts”. A total of 31 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Institute for Urban Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Disease Control, is looking for active cases in the Khlong Toey District by collecting nasal and throat swabs of symptomatic bedridden patients and asymptomatic risk groups, including laborers and migrant workers. This search and analysis will allow for a better understanding of the disease, and can allow to more quickly isolate patients and administer treatment earlier. Those who are close-contacts will be looked after and quarantined in designated places. Moreover, health education will be implemented in communities to dispel myths, correct people’s understanding of COVID-19, and decrease stigma surrounding recovered patients who return home.
- The Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration issued six relief measures allowing stores to sell alcoholic drinks for takeaway starting May 1. There are still a few provinces that are not allowed to sell alcoholic beverages, including Pathum Thani, Phitsanulok, and Buriram. The Pathum Thani Governor signed a letter stating that alcohol can be sold only as takeaway starting May 7.
- Mr. Tewan Liptapallop, the Minister of the Office of the Prime Minister, spoke on the concerns about reinstating almshouses in more than 400 temples in Thailand. All temples that reinstate their almshouse must uphold the social distancing rules, and limit the number of people to no more than 500 per day. If there are a lot of people arriving each day, then temples are encouraged to implement and keep people in a queue to reduce crowding. People must wear hygienic masks and the temple must provide hand sanitizer or alcohol gel.
- The Police Colonel Krishana Phattanacharoen, deputy police spokesman, disclosed the performance of the police team and joint operating units that inspected stores and places where measures were relaxed for some activities and business to reopen as announced in the terms of the Emergency Decree and relaxation of measures to carry out certain activities. There were about 4,600 places inspected at random out of around 13,000

places total that were forewarned and advised to prepare for potential investigation. In addition, the police officers have been collaborating with all operational units of public relations to improve the understanding of COVID-19 regulatory measures amongst the general public, entrepreneurs, and store operators. An improvement of understanding can allow for increased compliance with COVID-19 measures to prevent the spread of disease. The police have also increased the frequency of inspection and enforced laws in all areas to prevent the recurrence of a devastating outbreak.

- The Director General of the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development opened a center for demonstrating the "AntiCOVID-19Salon" with the main objective to provide haircut services to people and guide salons on how to run their businesses. Hair salons are being provided by the Nonthaburi Knowledge Center of Women and Family Development after realizing the importance of mitigating the burden on people during/after the COVID-19 outbreak. This center will provide services from 5 – 29 May 2020 (09:00 A.M. - 03:00 P.M.) In addition, the Director General also tasked 8 Knowledge Centers of Women and Family Development to establish "AntiCOVID-19Salon" in their areas while in compliance with the MoPH measures per the statement made by the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) revealing the regulations for health and beauty services are issued by each province.
- The Faculty of Law Thammasat University established a TU Pandemic Legal Aid Center for those who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. They can contact two main online channels to get assistance, both of which are on the Facebook page: Tulawcovid19, and the second channel is the email tulawcovid19@gmail.com. People with legal problems must give questions information clearly along with personal information. TUlaw will give a recommendation within 72 hours or longer depending on the problem.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- The measures including disease screening, isolation, quarantine or quarantine for observation to control and prevent the disease are implemented among passengers departing from areas or countries affected by COVID-19.
- In cases where it is necessary to make contact with other people, please wear a mask and maintain a distance of at least 1 meter between yourself and the other person when interacting with others. It is also recommended to only make contact with people for a short period.
- Regularly wash hands with water and soap or use alcohol gel. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Do not use or share personal stuff with others (i.e. handkerchiefs, glasses, and towels) since pathogens causing respiratory disease can be transmitted to other people through secretions.
- Avoid eating raw food.