

Thailand situation update on 7 September 2020

1. International Situation

As of 7 September 2020, there were a total of 27,300,480 confirmed cases with 60,027 patients in critical condition and 893,120 COVID-19 deaths across more than 213 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 (6,460,421), India (4,208,645), Brazil (4,137,606), Russia (1,030,690), Peru (689,977), Colombia (666,521), South Africa (638,517), Mexico (634,023), Spain (517,133), and Argentina (478,792). The 38th is the People's Republic of China (90,070 cases, as well as 4,890 and 46 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 as of 6 September 2020 showed that 7,322,942 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 2,913 people met the case definition criteria of patients under investigation (PUI), as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Screening passengers at ports of entry

Ports of Entry	Total number of screened people	Total number of PUI
Total number	7,322,942	2,913
• Airport screening* (45,306 flights)	4,589,072	2,894
• Seaports**	170,290	2
• Ground ports***	2,290,919	17
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	272,661	0

Remark: Includes data starting from *January 3rd, **January 1st, ***February 1st, ****January 30th

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

On 7 September 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 608 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 42,070 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation

by Emergency Operations Center, Department of Disease Control

Table 2: Results of screening implementation to detect patients with suspected symptoms of COVID-19

Situation	Total number of PUI
Total number of laboratory tests	852,563
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who met the PUI criteria 	425,153
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Active Case Finding 	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Returnees under state quarantine 	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who did not meet the PUI criteria 	329,900
Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)	425,153
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detected from ports of entry 	2,913
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (134,226 cases in private hospitals, and 287,926 cases in public hospitals) 	422,152
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao 	88
Confirmed cases	3,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovered and discharged from hospitals 	3,284
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergoing Treatment 	103
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths 	58
Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases	3,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Transmission 	2,445
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imported Cases 	1,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designated Quarantine Places* 	507

Notice: *Quarantine measures for travelers from abroad have been in effect since 3 April 2020

The median age of the confirmed cases is 36 years old (ranging from 1 month to 97 years old). 1,927 cases are male, and 1,518 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.27:1). In terms of nationality, 3,076 cases are Thai, 360 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

210 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,235 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). 1,588 cases sought medical treatment by themselves, 1,189 cases were tracked via case investigation and defined as “close contacts.” A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

3. Thailand Precautions

- The Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health reported the situation of COVID-19 in Myanmar that the current situation is quite worrisome. Although the areas of the outbreak are currently far from the Thai border, the risk of COVID-19 outbreak may increase near Thailand in the next two weeks. All officials, including the administrative sector, military officials, village headmen, and medical personnel should intensely monitor the situation along the border. If abnormal events can be detected, they must be investigated and people quarantined. Therefore, the Department of Disease Control is asking for cooperation from everyone to help each other by preventing undocumented migrants from entering Thailand, especially along natural borders.

4. Risk Communication to the Public

- In case of traveling to areas and across areas by public transport, the public transport operator must prepare the system and comply with the disease control measures, i.e. cleaning the vehicle, screening passengers, encouraging passengers to wear a mask, limiting bus services during certain periods, arranging distance between seats, and limiting the number of passengers. Customers must wear a mask at all times while traveling, refrain from talking and eating on public transport, and register each time they enter/leave the service area.

- For other business places/enterprises, operators are recommended to keep the areas clean, encourage people to wear a mask, limit the number of customers in accordance with the COVID-19 control measures.

- For people visiting crowded places or closed areas such as meeting rooms, department stores, and movie theatres, they are recommended to wear a mask, keep a distance of at least 1-2 meters from other people, and limit contact with other people to be only for a short period of time.

-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.

Special Report

“The Myanmar COVID-19 Situation on 7 September 2020”

1. The COVID-19 Situation in Myanmar

State/Region	Total number of confirmed cases	Total number of recovered cases	Total number of deaths	Important disease control measures in Myanmar
Rakhine	514(+9)	30 (+4)	0	<p><u>March 30 - present:</u> Limits on international flights.</p> <p><u>April 20 - present:</u> Lock down some regions such as 7 areas in Yangon.</p> <p><u>August 20 - present:</u> Closing Sittwe City in Rakhine after an increase in new confirmed cases.</p> <p><u>August 27- September 30:</u> Closing the schools and air borders.</p> <p><u>August 28 - September 30:</u> Extending the period of all regulations.</p> <p><u>August 29 - present:</u> The Tanintharyi government announced they will punish all people entering Kawthaung illegally from the Thailand border.</p> <p><u>August 30 - present:</u> Curfew time was set at 09.00PM - 04.00 AM</p> <p><u>August 30 - present:</u> people who enter Yangon from Rakhine must be quarantined for 21 days (14 days in State Quarantine and 7 days in home quarantine)</p> <p><u>September 2nd - present:</u> People in 7 districts in Yangon must stay at home except for officials and businesses.</p> <p><u>September 3rd - present:</u> Aung San Suu Kyi asked for cooperation to follow the government’s news and regulations. Violators may face penalties under the Natural Disaster Situation Management Act of serving up to one year in prison. Myanmar leaders insist on exercising power to control communicable diseases. People who violate the regulations can face a fine of no less than 5,000 MMK/time (approximately 118.44 baht)</p> <p><u>September 4th- present:</u> People who</p>
Yangon	585 (+70)	267 (+10)	7	
Kayin	30 (+1)	29	0	
Chin	19 (+1)	15	0	
Shan	18 (+5)	10	0	
Bago	58 (+18)	8	1	
Sagaine	11 (+2)	9	0	
Mandalay	37 (+18)	4	0	
Tanintharyi	6 (+1)	2	0	
Magway	5 (+1)	3	0	
Mon	17 (+1)	2	0	
Ayeyarwady	6 (+3)	2	0	
Nay Pyi Taw	12 (+1)	2	0	
Kachin	4 (+2)	2	0	
Kayah	0	0	0	
Unknow	145	0	0	
Total	1,464 (+145)	385 (+14)	6	

				enter Nay Pyi Taw must be tested for SARS-CoV-2. People who come from a high infectious zone, must be quarantined for at least 7 days and be tested. If the test is negative, individuals can end quarantine faster.
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Sources: Ministry of Health and Sports, Myanmar (on 7 September 2020)

The crucial measures in Thailand regarding the Myanmar situation

1. Surveillance in 10 provinces that border Myanmar: Kanchanaburi, Chumphon, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Tak, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Phetchaburi, Mae Hong Son, Ranong, and Ratchaburi, as well as tightening enforcement upon Burmese workers who come to work or live in Thailand.
2. Increasing the intensity of screening and prevention for undocumented people who cross the border (at fixed border crossing channels, special commercial points, special relief points, and natural channels).
3. Prachuap Khiri Khan Province is disinfecting all arriving trucks and prohibited people and vehicles from Myanmar from entering Thailand. The products are to be transferred to trucks of Thai businesses and Thai workers. All Thai workers are required to wear masks and boots. After completing the task and passing the border, the officials spray disinfectant on all wheels of cargo trucks. Also, public health officers will screen the temperature of those passing through. Everyone has to sign in and out and clean their hands with hand sanitizer.
4. Tak province added measures to control all districts that have a border area. These measures are to control checkpoints and roadblock points for all agencies i.e. public authorities, policemen, 4th infantry regiment task forces, border patrol police 346, sub-district headmen, sub-district headman assistants, village headmen, village headmen assistants, village security staff and village health volunteers. The controls are to limit the undocumented migrations of people who come to Thailand from neighboring countries and include 24-hour surveillance to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
5. Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health advised people not to worry about COVID-19 in the Republic of Myanmar. Currently, all sectors along the Thai border are cooperating to tighten the measures and are asking Thai people's cooperation in not facilitating the movement of the undocumented immigrant population into the Thailand, especially for business operators. They have been requested to not accept undocumented foreign workers because of the risk of spreading the infection in the country.
6. General Apirat Kongsompong, the Chief of the Royal Thai Army visited Tha Kham Kalum and Tha Kham Som-O at Maesai District, Chiang Rai Province with the main objective of updating the COVID-19 situation and following up the Phamuang Force's measures to screen undocumented entries into the country. This kind of screening is implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 from Myanmar

7. The Border Patrol Police in Ranong Province conducted intensive checks along the border both by land and sea to prevent the smuggling of people in neighboring countries and to block the spread of COVID-19, especially on islands near the borders where people can hide before entering.

8. In Ranong province, the 25th Infantry Regiment Task Force and the Thepsatri Task Force provided personnel to patrol both land and sea borders across Ranong province (more than 200 kilometers) and some areas of Chumphon province to cease the smuggling of Burmese migrants who come to Thailand without passing the COVID-19 screening point. Moreover, they increased the strictness of checking vehicles i.e. buses, vans and private cars.