

## Thailand situation update on 17 October 2020

### 1. International Situation

As of 17 October 2020, there were a total of 39,633,170 confirmed cases with 71,522 patients in critical condition and 1,109,833 COVID-19 deaths across more than 214 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 (8,288,278), India (7,432,680), Brazil (5,201,570), Russia (1,384,235), Spain (982,723), Argentina (965,609), Colombia (945,354), Peru (862,417), Mexico (841,661), and France (834,770). The 53rd is the People's Republic of China (90,926 cases, as well as 5,221 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 16 October 2020 showed that 7,541,263 people had passed through the international ports of entry. Of those, 3,250 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
<b>Total number</b>	7,541,263	3,250
• Airport screening* (47,830 flights)	4,648,400	3,230
• Seaports**	179,054	2
• Ground ports***	2,386,342	18
• Renewing passports at the Government Complex Commemorating His Majesty at Chaengwattana Road****	327,467	0

Remark: Includes data starting from \*January 3<sup>rd</sup>, \*\*January 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*February 1<sup>st</sup>, \*\*\*\*January 30<sup>th</sup>

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

On 17 October 2020 at 12.00, Thailand announced that 1,208 additional people met the criteria for PUI, raising the total to 466,312 PUI, as shown in Table 2.

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

Situation	Total number of PUI
<b>Total number of laboratory tests</b>	893,722
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who met the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	466,312
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From the Active Case Finding</li> </ul>	15,834
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Returnees under state quarantine</li> </ul>	81,676
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People who did not meet the PUI criteria</li> </ul>	329,900
<b>Total number of people who met the criteria of patients under investigation (PUI)</b>	466,312
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detected from ports of entry</li> </ul>	3,250
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sought medical services on their own at hospitals (145,754 cases in private hospitals, and 317,220 cases in public hospitals)</li> </ul>	462,974
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notified by hotel residences, the Erawan Medical Center, local universities, tour groups and U-Tapao</li> </ul>	88
<b>Confirmed cases</b>	3,679
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovered and discharged from hospitals</li> </ul>	3,478
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undergoing Treatment</li> </ul>	142
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deaths</li> </ul>	59
<b>Characteristics of Infection in Confirmed cases</b>	3,679
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Transmission</li> </ul>	2,447
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Imported Cases</li> </ul>	1,232
- Designated Quarantine Places*	736

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). 2,079 cases are male, and 1,600 cases are female (the ratio of male to female is 1.3:1). In terms of nationality, 3,223 cases are Thai, 437 cases are foreigners, and data is not available for the remaining 9 cases.

217 cases were reported with underlying diseases and 3,462 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, 736 cases were positive from the state quarantine supported by the government. A total of 55 confirmed cases were found from the active case finding measures.

### 3. Thailand Precautions

- On October 16, 2020, the Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Public Health revealed that from the preliminary report on the 2 Thai cases in Tak province who were infected with SARS-CoV-2, the infected couple has contact history with a Myanmar delivery driver who was found infected with the virus earlier. The detection of these 2 cases was from the proactive contact tracing measures. Currently, The disease investigation and control are strictly in place. Hence, people can stay calm and focus on self protection by wearing masks, maintain social distancing, wash hands frequently, and follow other public health measures.
- The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Interior, as the head responsible officer for emergency situation response in relation to the command and coordination with the provincial governors and governor of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA), revealed that due to the situation of COVID -19 in one neighboring country has rapidly increase. To ensure effective implementation of local epidemic preventive measures, the ministry has directed all provincial governors in those border areas to strengthen their implementation as follows:

1) Implementation of strict disease preventive measures among people entering Thailand, especially the cargo shippers as required and identified by the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) Order No. 8/2020 regarding compliance guidelines issued in accordance with section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005) No. 7 and related laws and regulations, 2) The Provincial Communicable Disease Committee considers and determines the area for parking of cargo vehicles clearly and limit the entry-exit area for those who are involved in the transport of goods as necessary only, and 3) The Provincial Communicable Disease Committee appoints 1 responsible staff as an Incident Commander (IC) at every Point of Entry (POE) where people, goods and vehicles are allowed to enter and exit. The IC is to strictly monitor, task and coordinate the practice for enter and exit as a regulation, order and related law. The IC will also command the problem solving arising from the enter – exit areas and report the performance to the Provincial Communicable Disease Committee for consideration or implementation. The performance report will then be submitted to the Center for COVID-19 Situation Administration of the Ministry of Interior.

## 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.