

No. 0404/c.1137

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions, Consular Representatives and International Organisations (DCIOs) in Thailand and, with reference to the Ministry's Note No. 0404/c.1015 dated 21 May B.E. 2563 (2020) forwarding information related to Regulation (No.7) issued under Section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005), has the honour to inform the latter as follows:

- 1. On 29 May B.E. 2563 (2020), the Royal Thai Government has approved the **third phase of easing COVID-19 restrictions**. In this regards, the Prime Minister has issued the Regulation (No.9) under Section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005), taking effect on 1 June B.E. 2563 (2020).
- 2. Provisions under the said Regulation include the **shortening of the** nationwide curfew hours to between 23.00 03.00 hrs. along with the re-opening and extension of operational hours of some specified businesses as well as relaxation of prohibition or limitation on carrying out certain additional activities with the requirement that vendors or operators must strictly comply with the government's disease prevention measures and maintain strict hygiene under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015). Additionally, the cross-provincial travel restrictions for the general public have been relaxed. An unofficial English translation of Regulation (No.9) is enclosed herewith for the DCIOs' information and reference.
- 3. The Ministry has further the honour to inform the DCIOs that Thailand has been closely following the World Health Organization (WHO)'s Situations Reports on COVID-19 as well as strategic advice and criteria on lifting of COVID-19 restrictions. Despite the decreasing numbers of new infections and downward trend in many countries, including Thailand, the Royal Thai Government heeds the WHO's warning to remain vigilant and not hasty in easing COVID-19 preventive measures. We also share global concerns for the possibility of a second wave of the infections and constantly assess the situation to revise public health measures and gradually ease restrictions to prepare the general public for a "new normal"

as appropriate. The Ministry, therefore, greatly appreciates the DCIOs's continued support and cooperation with the Royal Thai Government's public health measures and will continue to keep the DCIOs informed of the government's update measures on COVID-19 in due course.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions, Consular Representatives and International Organisations in Thailand the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

9 June B.E. 2563 (2020)

(Unofficial Translation)

Regulation

Issued under Section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005) (No. 9)

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Pursuant to the Resolution of the Council of Ministers adopted on 26 May B.E. 2563 (2020) extending the duration of the enforcement of the Declaration of an Emergency Situation in all areas of the Kingdom of Thailand as from 1 June B.E. 2563 (2020) until 30 June B.E. 2563 (2020);

CovID-19) is spreading in other countries and may possibly spread into Thailand due to travellers continually entering the Kingdom amongst whom infected persons are still found, together with the warning of the World Health Organization that the simultaneous relaxation of the strictness of several measures in many countries may lead to a recurrence of another outbreak, and taking into account changes in weather conditions and risk exposure of persons, places and types of certain activities, despite the cooperation from the public sector and the people which has improved the recent situation, and that those responsible for public health, administration and security have determined that, during this critical period where the enforcement of certain measures for phase 3 from now on will be further relaxed to closely resemble normalcy, it is still imperative to continue to monitor the situation in each area for a certain period of time to ensure its continuing stability, and if there is an increased number of infected persons or the risk exposure becomes higher, such relaxation may be partially or entirely suspended or modified in due time;

By virtue of Section 9 of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005) and Section 11 of the State Administration Act B.E. 2534 (1991), the Prime Minister hereby issues a Regulation for the general public and guidelines for government agencies as follows:

1. <u>Prohibition to Leave Dwelling Places:</u> It is prohibited for any person throughout the Kingdom to leave their dwelling places from the time of 23.00hrs to 03.00hrs of the following day, and the exemptions to the prohibition to leave dwelling places in accordance with Regulation (No. 3) issued on 10 April B.E. 2563 (2020) shall remain in force.

Vehicles and passengers as well as persons involved in cross-provincial public transportation of people or goods, which depart from the originating province before 23.00hrs and arrive at the province of destination after 03.00hrs of the following day, may travel across provinces during the time of prohibition to leave dwelling places.

- 2. Relaxation of the Prohibition of Use of Buildings and Premises of Schools or Educational Institutions: In order to prepare for the commencement of the 2020 academic year, at this initial stage, there shall be a gradual relaxation of restrictions on the use of buildings and premises of schools and educational institutions for the organisation of education, training, meetings, or for the purpose of examinations or the selection of persons, as follows:
- (1) The use of buildings and premises for education or training of non-formal schools under the laws on private schools, specifically for vocational education and for arts and sports (only for the types of sports permitted under the relaxation to carry out activities), while primordially taking into consideration the number of students per classroom, the readiness and capabilities to organise flexible learning and the arrangement of premises and systems in accordance with disease prevention measures.
- (2) The use of buildings and premises of schools and educational institutions for the holding of meetings, the organisation of examinations or selection examinations, short trainings of no more than fifteen days or the carrying out of any other similar activities.

The responsible persons of the schools or educational institutions under (1) or (2) shall strictly comply with disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government, the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, including recommendations of the government.

- **3.** Relaxation of Prohibition or Limitation on Conducting or Carrying Out Certain Activities: In order to facilitate the people and to move forward certain activities in addition to those specified under Regulation (No. 6) issued on 1 May B.E. 2563 (2020) and Regulation (No. 7) issued on 15 May B.E. 2563 (2020), subject to implementation of disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government as well as the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, places or activities for which the Governor of Bangkok and Provincial Governors have previously issued orders to temporarily close in accordance with the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) and Regulation (No. 5) issued on 1 May B.E. 2563 (2020), may open for operation or carry out certain additional activities throughout the Kingdom on the basis of their choosing and readiness as follows:
 - (1) Activities relating to the economy and way of life:
- a. Department stores, shopping centres and community malls may open for operation until 21.00hrs.
- b. Exhibition centres, convention centres or exhibition halls may carry out meetings or exhibitions provided that the total space does not exceed twenty thousand square metres and may open for operation until 21.00 hrs.

The organisation of competitions, sales promotion activities or the carrying out of any other activities attracting a large gathering of people and causing disorderly situations, shall be prohibited.

- c. Amulet centres and amulet markets may open for operation but shall not carry out activities attracting a large gathering of people and possibly causing disorderly situations.
- d. Beauty salons, hair styling or hairdressing salons and barber shops for gentlemen or ladies may open for operation but services in the salon/shop shall not exceed two hours per person and there shall be no waiting in the salon/shop.
- e. Early childhood and preschool development centres may open only for the carrying out of necessary tasks of staff for the setting up of appointments, the provision and distribution of beverages and lunch, and the preparation for premises in compliance with disease prevention measures prescribed by the government.

(2) Exercising, health care and recreational activities:

- a. Plastic and cosmetic surgery clinics, beauty institutes, tattoo or skin/body piercing parlours.
- b. Health and wellness establishments, spas and traditional Thai massage parlours (body steaming, herbal steaming or group steaming and facial massage shall be prohibited), foot massage parlours excluding establishments providing shower and massage parlours.
- c. Fitness centres may open for operation by limiting the number of persons in group classes but body steaming or group steaming shall be prohibited.
- d. Boxing training centres, gyms or boxing camps may open only for shadow-boxing without a sparring partner and sparring with boxing pads but competition and the gathering of audiences shall be prohibited.
- e. Sport fields may open for operation only for exercising or training for the following sports namely football, futsal, basketball, and volleyball but competition shall be prohibited and the number of participants in the area of the sport fields (excluding the players) shall not exceed ten persons.
- f. Bowling alleys, skating or rollerblading rinks or other similar recreations, may open for operation only for exercising or training.
 - g. Ballroom dance halls or academies.
- h. Pools and lakes for water sports or activities, such as jet-skiing, kitesurfing, riding banana-boat type equipment, may open for operation but competition shall be prohibited and the number of players shall be limited according to the number of equipment and the size of the area.

- i. Movie theatres, playhouses and theatres may open for operation but the number of participants shall not exceed two hundred persons. Theatres during this initial period may open only for Thai folk dramatic performance (Likae), Thai-style antiphon (Lamtat) or other folk performances while refraining from organising musical performances or concerts or other activities which may be risk-prone to the violation of physical distancing and the transmission of the disease.
- j. Zoos or animal exhibitions may open for operation but the number of participants in groups in the exhibition area shall be limited.
- 4. <u>Implementation of Disease Prevention Measures and Setting up of Orderly Arrangements:</u> Responsible persons, owners or managers of places under Clause 2 or Clause 3 shall have the duty and responsibility of implementing disease prevention measures, as well as setting up of orderly arrangements and systems in accordance with recommendations, conditions and timeframes determined by the Governor of Bangkok, Provincial Governors, or the government.

Competent officials shall have the power to inspect that the use of buildings and premises under Clause 2 and the conduct of activities by the owners or managers of places under Clause 3 are in compliance with disease prevention measures, as well as the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems determined by the government. If an act is found to be risk-prone to the spread of the disease, competent officials may give recommendations, warnings and prohibitions, and shall have the power to determine the period of time for responsible persons, owners or managers of places to make improvements and rectifications to prevent the spread of the disease, as well as to make a submission to persons having powers under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) to order the temporary closure of such specific place.

In the case where the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors issued an order to temporarily close a place in accordance with the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015), once the responsible person, owner or manager of such place has implemented the measures prescribed by the government and set up orderly arrangements and systems, the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors, as the case may be, shall have the power to issue an order for the reopening of such place.

5. Relaxation of cross-provincial travels: As the Government has recently recommended people to refrain from or delay cross-provincial travels, from the assessment of those responsible, the said measure has been found to be one of the factors contributing to the ability to control the number of infected persons and the spread of the disease. However, for the way of life of the people to return as closely as possible to normalcy, as well as to encourage activities relating to the economy, therefore it is deemed appropriate to relax restrictions on cross-provincial travels, where people travelling, including those from abroad, shall comply with disease

prevention measures and also the setting up of systems and orderly arrangements determined by the government, which may cause inconvenience and necessarily cause burden to travellers especially during periods of traffic congestions or special circumstances. However, if there is a reason to suspect that a traveller is infected or is a carrier of the disease, competent officials shall have the power to order his or her isolation, quarantine or control for monitoring in accordance with the laws on communicable diseases in order to prevent the spread of the disease.

6. Where there is a question whether a place or activity falls under the prescriptions of this Regulation, the *Ad Hoc* Committee for the Consideration of the Relaxation of the Enforcement of Measures to Prevent and Suppress the Spread of the Communicable Disease Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19), with the Secretary-General of the National Security Council in the capacity of the Head of the Central Coordination Office, as the Chairman, shall be consulted.

7. The abuse of position as or the impersonation of a competent official to unlawfully solicit, accept, agree to accept money, properties or any other benefits, or seeking undue benefits from the use of privately owned places for isolation, quarantine, or control for monitoring, or intentionally tricking others into committing wrongdoings under the laws on communicable diseases or regulations issued under the law on public administration in emergency situations, or dishonestly omitting to perform duties by soliciting money, properties or undue advantages in return for not prosecuting wrongdoers, is an offence under the law. Persons who encounter such incidents shall report to Damrongdhama Centres throughout the Kingdom or to the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration, Government House.

This Notification shall come into effect from 1 June B.E. 2563 (2020).

Issued on 29 May B.E. 2563 (2020)

(General Prayut Chan-o-cha)

Prime Minister