

*(Unofficial Translation)*

## **Regulation**

Issued under Section 9 of the Emergency Decree  
on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005)  
(No. 16)

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Pursuant to the Declaration of an Emergency Situation in all areas of the Kingdom of Thailand as from 26 March B.E. 2563 (2020) and the subsequent 8<sup>th</sup> extension of the duration of the enforcement of the Declaration of an Emergency Situation until 15 January B.E. 2564 (2021);

Whereas the new wave of outbreak of the communicable disease Coronavirus 2019 has widely spread the disease to many areas, and the number of newly confirmed infected patients, especially cases of domestic infection, has increased on a daily basis, together with the travel by persons the majority of which are asymptomatic or have not yet shown any symptoms, from COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones, causing the spread of the disease in the form of cluster infections; moreover, competent officials performing tasks to control the disease have discovered that some infected persons conceal their travel information, causing a delay in disease investigation and hindering the performance of other related tasks, resulting in a new widespread outbreak; it is therefore necessary for the Government to prescribe and enforce all measures in order to remedy and suppress this emergency situation. 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 and guidelines for government agencies, as follows:

**1. Prohibition of Use of Buildings or Places that are Risk-Prone to the Spread of the Disease:** It is prohibited to use the buildings and premises of all types of schools and educational institutions located in COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones for the organisation of education, examinations, training or any other activities that involve a large number of participants, except for the following:

- (1) The organisation of education or activities through remote communication or electronic means;
- (2) The use of buildings or places for assisting, caring, fostering or sheltering persons;

(3) The organisation of activities by the government or of public interest upon the permission of the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors;

(4) Small-sized schools or educational institutions with the total number of students not exceeding one hundred and twenty, or border patrol police schools.

**2. Prohibition to Conduct Activities that are Risk-Prone to the Spread of the Disease:** It is prohibited to conduct activities in the COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones that involve a large number of participants and a possibility of close physical contact, such as meetings, seminars, catering, the distribution of food or materials, except when conducted or permitted by competent officials, or when conducted in areas specified as places of quarantine with supporting public health measures in place.

The Governor of Bangkok, upon the recommendation of the Bangkok Communicable Disease Committee, or Provincial Governors, upon the recommendation of the Provincial Communicable Disease Committee, shall prescribe criteria for competent officials to consider issuing permission, as appropriate according to the situation in each area under their responsibility.

**3. Closure of Premises that are Risk-Prone to the Spread of the Disease:** The Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors shall, by virtue of the laws on communicable diseases, consider issuing orders to close places of entertainment, other similar establishments, pubs, bars, and karaoke shops situated in the COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones.

**4. Conditions for the Opening for Operation:** In the COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones, the following places, businesses or activities may open for operation under the prescribed conditions, timeframes and the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems:

(1) The sales of food or beverages: orderly arrangements in accordance with the guidelines and disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government shall be set up for the access to services, the number of dine-in customers and the arrangement of premises, and such services may be operated as takeaway. The Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration of the Ministry of Interior and the Emergency Operation Centre for Medical and Public Health Issues shall jointly consider, assess and determine the format and supervise that the implementation of such guidelines and measures in each Province is appropriate.

(2) The sales of liquor in restaurants or other places that sell liquor: the consumption of liquor and alcoholic beverages in the restaurant/place shall be prohibited.

(3) Department stores, shopping centres, community malls, exhibition centres, convention centres or exhibition halls, convenience stores, supermarkets or other similar places of business may open for operation during their normal operating hours under strict compliance with the disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government.

**5. Appropriate Measures According to the Situation in each Area:** In order to prevent and suppress the spread of the disease according to the situation in each COVID-19 zoning area, the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors may consider, in accordance with the laws on communicable diseases, ordering the closure of, restriction on or prohibition of operation in the areas, places or vehicles, or ordering the prohibition to carry out any other activities which are risk-prone to the spread of the disease in the area under their responsibility in addition to those already prescribed in accordance with the measures or guidelines prescribed by the Regulation (No. 15).

**6. Screening Measures for Cross-Provincial Travel:** Competent officials shall inspect and screen travel via cross-provincial transportation routes, in particular the travel of persons from COVID-19 zoning areas categorised as maximum COVID-19 control zones in accordance with the measures prescribed by the Operation Centre of the CCSA, taking into consideration the propriety in each area, without creating undue burden for the people.

Cross-provincial travel shall be refrained from or delayed, except when there is a necessity, for which the reason and evidence shall be shown to competent officials. The travellers shall be screened and follow disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government, which may cause inconvenience and unusual delays in the journey.

7. Private sector operators are requested to cooperate by considering their format of operation during this period, which may include working outside the office, or alternating days or arranging overlapping shifts for going into the office in order to reduce the number of workers and travelling as a measure to decrease the risk of infection.

8. 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) shall inspect, review and submit to the Prime Minister for consideration of additional permission to relax or tighten measures to be implemented for places, businesses or activities according to the situation as appropriate.

This Regulation shall come into effect from 4 January B.E. 2564 (2021) at 16.00 hrs.

Issued on 3 January B.E. 2564 (2021)

(General Prayut Chan-o-cha)  
Prime Minister