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Measures under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) to control the Coronavirus Disease 2019 or COVID-19

1. By virtue of the provisions of Section 6 (1) of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015), the Minister of Public Health (MOPH) hereby declared coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a dangerous communicable disease under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) enforced since March 1, 2020. The declaration allows disease control officers in local areas to have the power to order or authorize others to bring the confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases to be tested, treated, clinically diagnosed, isolated, quarantined, or controlled for observation until the lapse of the infectious period or until the situation has ended or any action under Section 34 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) on a case by case basis.

2. By virtue of the provisions of Section 8 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015), the Minister of Public Health announced the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, including Macau and Hong Kong Special Administrative Regions, the Italian Republic, and the Islamic Republic of Iran to be defined as Disease Infected Zones of the dangerous communicable disease outside the Kingdom of Thailand under the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) enforced since 6 March 2020.

The announcement allows the disease control officers at quarantine offices to order or authorize others to direct the vehicle owners or vehicle controllers (any conveyance by land, air, or sea) from the four Disease Infected Zones entering the Kingdom of Thailand to bring passengers traveling in those vehicles to be checked by medical practitioners for possible isolation, quarantine or control for observation at designated areas for a designated period of time or to prohibit entry/exit of anyone from that vehicle unless approved by the disease control officers at the quarantine offices or any action under Section 40 of the Communicable Diseases Act B.E. 2558 (2015) on a case by case basis. Moreover, the Disease Infected Zones of the dangerous communicable disease outside the Kingdom of Thailand can be amended when the situation has ended or on a case by case basis.

3. According to the [Department of Disease Control \(MOPH\) COVID-19 website](#), there are several countries with ongoing local transmission of COVID-19. The Department of Disease Control has alerted Thai people to refrain from unnecessary travel to those areas through the Department of Disease Control website. For all travelers returning from the said areas, they must pass the screening procedures at airports and are suggested to self-monitor their symptoms.

4. The Ministry of Public Health (MOPH) complied with the policy determined by General Prayut Chan-O-Cha (the Prime Minister of Thailand and the Minister of Defense) and Mr. Anutin Charnvirakul (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health). This policy requested the MOPH to implement the following measures as needed and appropriate to ensure the safety of the people:



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4.1. If a traveler is a COVID-19 patient or is a suspected COVID-19 patient by exhibiting a fever of 37.5 degrees Celsius or higher, accompanied by at least one of the symptoms such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, and shortness of breath, officers will strictly apply the law to bring those suspected travelers to a medical facility specified by the MOPH so that the aforementioned traveler can be tested, treated, clinically diagnosed, isolated or quarantined on a case by case basis.

4.2 If a traveler is not a COVID-19 patient or is not a suspected COVID-19 patient, the following measures apply:

4.2.1 In the case of a traveler arriving from a territory outside the Kingdom of Thailand defined as Disease Infected Zones of the dangerous communicable disease, the traveler must implement self-quarantine at his/her accommodations for a period of not less than 14 days without leaving (emergency cases shall be approved by a disease control officer) until the end of the infectious period or the reason for suspicion. Throughout the period of quarantine, the aforementioned traveler must record his/her own symptoms in the reporting system and monitor his/her symptoms strictly required by the MOPH. There will be a surveillance officer to closely monitor the traveler's symptoms.

4.2.2 In the case of a traveler arriving from an area with ongoing local transmission as announced by the MOPH, they have to be under observation (meaning supervision without quarantine) in order to ensure self-monitoring for no less than 14 days until the end of the infectious period or the reason for suspicion. The aforementioned traveler must record his/her own symptoms in the reporting system and monitor his/her symptoms strictly required by the MOPH as stated in 4.2.1. The travelers from areas with ongoing local transmission must notify the disease control officer about the places they visit so that a surveillance officer can closely monitor their movement and contacts.

4.3 In the case of a person under 4.2.1 or 4.2.2 feels sick or suspects they have fever accompanied by at least one of the symptoms such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, and shortness of breath within 14 days of arrival into Thailand, they are to inform a disease control officer immediately upon symptom onset or upon suspecting illness in order to be tested, treated, clinically diagnosed, isolated or quarantined on a case by case basis.

For more information, please refer to the Q&A or contact the Office of International Cooperation, DDC
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