

(Unofficial Translation)

Regulation

Issued under Section 9

of the Emergency Decree on Public Administration in Emergency Situations B.E. 2548 (2005)

(No. 18)

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 9th extension of the duration of the enforcement of the aforementioned Declaration of an Emergency Situation until 28 February B.E. 2564 (2021);

Whereas measures have been enforced in order to suppress and prevent the occurrence of a new wave of cluster infections of the COVID-19 disease and elevated to the extremely stringent level in certain areas, those responsible for public health have reported the results of operations and assessed the current situation that the implementation of such measures has been able, to a certain extent, to satisfactorily limit and control the spread of the disease, owing to the hard work of the competent officials, government agencies, the private sector, volunteers as well as the cooperation from the people in all sectors through these times, therefore, in order for economic and social activities to continuously move forward while implementing public health measures aiming mainly for the safety of the people, it is deemed appropriate to relax the designation of COVID-19 zoning areas and the enforcement of certain measures in a systematic manner and according to the condition of each COVID-19 zoning area corresponding with the integrated control measures so that appropriate places, businesses or activities which are ready can open for operation under the conditions, timeframes, the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems as well as disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government, 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. Designation of COVID-19 Zoning Areas: The categorisation of different levels of zoning areas for the enforcement of integrated control measures shall be as follows:

(1) Maximum and Strict COVID-19 Control Zone: The areas of Samut Sakhon Province shall be categorised as maximum and strict COVID-19 control zone where extremely stringent measures shall be enforced as stipulated in Clause 2 of the Regulation (No. 17) issued on 6 January B.E. 2564 (2021), in order to promptly and absolutely stop and suppress the spread of the disease.

(2) Maximum COVID-19 Control Zone: The areas of Krung Thep Maha Nakhon (Bangkok), Nonthaburi Province, Pathum Thani Province and Samut Prakan Province shall be categorised as

maximum COVID-19 control zones where measures prescribed for the maximum COVID-19 control zone under the Regulation (No. 16) issued on 3 January B.E. 2564 (2021) shall be enforced, unless specifically prescribed under this Regulation.

(3) COVID-19 Control Zone, COVID-19 High Surveillance Zone and COVID-19 Surveillance Zone: The Emergency Operation Centre for Medical and Public Health Issues together with the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration of the Ministry of Interior shall assess the situation and place provinces in groups according to COVID-19 zoning areas, and categorise them according to the guidelines and conditions for the categorisation of COVID-19 zoning areas determined by the CCSA and submit to the Prime Minister for further announcement.

2. The Use of Buildings and Premises of Schools and Educational Institutions: All types of schools and educational institutions, except those located in the maximum and strict COVID-19 control zone, may, as appropriate on the basis of their readiness, use their buildings and premises for the organisation of education, examinations, training or any other activities which shall be carried out in accordance with guidelines on setting up orderly arrangements and systems, recommendations of the government and disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation as well as related agencies together with the Ministry of Public Health.

3. Integrated Control Measures Necessary for the Maximum and Strict COVID-19 Control Zone

(1) Provincial governors, upon the approval of Provincial Communicable Disease Committees, by virtue of the power vested in them under the laws on communicable diseases, shall consider ordering the temporary closure of places located in the maximum and strict COVID-19 control zone or the prohibition of conducting activities which are risk-prone to the spread of the disease as are necessary for the situation, which shall, at least, include the following places: places of entertainment and establishments of a similar nature, pubs, bars, karaoke shops, establishments providing shower facilities, massage parlours, health establishments, traditional massage parlours, game arcades, gaming centres and internet cafes, boxing stadiums, indoor exercise places or gymnasiums, fitness centres, playgrounds, play equipment, amusement parks and public transport terminals.

(2) It is prohibited to conduct activities which are risk-prone to the spread of the disease, with a large number of participants who may easily transmit the disease, such as meetings, seminars, catering, except for activities with the characteristics of those exempted under Clause 2 of the Regulation (No. 16) issued on 3 January B.E. 2564 (2021).

(3) The following places, businesses or activities may open for operation under the prescribed conditions, timeframes and the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, and in strict compliance with disease prevention measures prescribed by the government.

a. The sales of food or beverages may open for operation and normal dine-in until 21.00 hrs, while orderly arrangements for the access to services, the number of dine-in customers and the arrangement of premises shall strictly be set up in accordance with guidelines and disease prevention measures prescribed by the government, but the consumption of liquor and alcoholic beverages on the premises shall be prohibited.

b. Department stores, shopping centres, community malls, exhibition centres, convention centres or exhibition halls may open for operation until 21.00 hrs. Convenience stores, supermarkets, retail stores, community wholesale shops or other similar businesses may open for operation during their normal operating hours.

c. Markets, flea markets, floating markets and wholesale markets may open for operation while restricting the number of persons in the area and complying with disease prevention measures prescribed by the government.

d. Early childhood and preschool development centres, elderly care centres with residential facilities or any other similar place may open for operation to offer services in accordance with their mission.

e. Factories and establishments may open for operation while owners, managers or responsible persons of such places shall arrange for their working staff to comply with the prescribed disease prevention measures.

4. Integrated Control Measures Necessary for the Maximum COVID-19 Control Zone:

(1) Measures prescribed under the Regulation (No. 16) issued on 3 January B.E. 2564 (2021) on the prohibition to conduct activities that are risk-prone to the spread of the disease, the closure of places that are risk-prone to the spread of the disease, the screening measures for cross-provincial travel and the request for cooperation from private sector operators to consider adjusting their format of operation, shall be implemented.

(2) Conditions for the opening for operation prescribed for places, businesses or activities located in the maximum COVID-19 control zone under Clause 4 of the Regulation (No. 16) issued on 3 January B.E. 2564 (2021) shall remain in force, except for the sales of food or beverages which may open for operation and normal dine-in by implementing measures for the setting up of orderly arrangements for the access to services, limiting the number of dine-in customers and arranging the premises in accordance with the guidelines and disease prevention measures as prescribed by the government, and after 23.00 hrs, may operate as takeaway only.

(3) Sports fields or places for exercising, playing sports, training, competing or the teaching of all types of sports, may open for operation as normal. The organisation of sports competitions shall be broadcasted without any audiences in the competition venue and the organisers shall comply with the procedures and methods prescribed by the government.

5. Integrated Control Measures Necessary for the COVID-19 Control Zone: The following places, businesses and activities located in the COVID-19 Control Zone may open for

operation under the conditions, timeframes, the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, and disease prevention measures prescribed by the government:

(1) Places of entertainment and establishments of a similar nature, pubs, bars and karaoke shops may open for operation during their normal operating hours until 23.00hrs.

(2) The sales of food or beverages may open for operation as normal until 23.00hrs.

(3) The sales of liquor in restaurants or other places that sell liquor may open for service and liquor may be consumed in the restaurant/place until 23.00hrs.

6. Integrated Control Measures Necessary for the COVID-19 High Surveillance Zone:

The following places, businesses and activities located in the COVID-19 High Surveillance Zone may open for operation under the conditions, timeframes, the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, and disease prevention measures prescribed by the government:

(1) Places of entertainment and establishments of a similar nature, pubs, bars and karaoke shops may open for operation during their normal operating hours until 24.00hrs.

(2) The sales of food or beverages may open for operation as normal until 24.00hrs.

(3) The sales of liquor in restaurants or other places that sell liquor may open for service and liquor may be consumed in the restaurant/place until 24.00hrs.

7. Integrated Control Measures Necessary for the COVID-19 Surveillance Zone:

Places, businesses and activities in the COVID-19 Surveillance Zone may open for operation and service on the basis of their readiness in compliance with disease prevention measures, conditions for the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems, recommendations of the government as well as relevant laws, rules or regulations.

8. Strict control of places or activities risk-prone to cluster infection of the disease:

In order for integrated control measures to be able to quickly and effectively stop the spread of the disease, competent officials shall strictly inspect bullfighting arenas, cockfighting pits, fish fighting arenas, training or competition arenas, or the organisation of other similar activities which have not yet been permitted by the government to operate during this period.

9. Measures for the Travel and Movement of Foreign Workers: The Governor of Bangkok, upon the approval of the Bangkok Communicable Disease Committee, or Provincial Governors, upon the approval of Provincial Communicable Disease Committees of the originating province and the province of destination, as the case may be, may consider authorising foreign workers to travel across provinces for work under strict compliance with the disease prevention measures prescribed by the government, in order for the enforcement of control measures for the travel and movement of foreign workers travelling for work across provinces in each area to be appropriate and correspond with the actual situation.

10. Measures Appropriate to the Situation in each Area: In order for the management and enforcement of integrated control measures in each provincial area to be appropriate and correspond with the actual situation which may differ among provincial areas, the Governor of Bangkok, upon the approval of the Bangkok Communicable Disease Committee, or Provincial

Governors, upon the approval of Provincial Communicable Disease Committees, as the case may be, may submit a request to the Operation Centre of the CCSA to inspect, review and submit to the Prime Minister to consider adjusting the categorisation of the COVID-19 zoning for districts in areas under their responsibility according to the situation of the spread of the COVID-19 disease during that time.

11. Implementation of Disease Prevention Measures and Setting up of Orderly Arrangements: Competent officials shall have the power to inspect the use of buildings and places and the operation by owners or managers of such buildings and places for compliance with integrated disease prevention measures, disease prevention measures as well as the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems prescribed by the government.

If an act is found to be risk-prone to the spread of disease, competent officials may give recommendations, warnings and prohibitions, and shall have the power to determine the period of time in order 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 laws on communicable diseases to order the temporary closure of places in areas under their responsibility.

In the case where the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors issued an order to temporarily close a place, once the responsible person, owner or manager of such place has implemented the integrated control measures and disease prevention measures as well as the setting up of orderly arrangements and systems prescribed by the government, the Governor of Bangkok or Provincial Governors shall have the power to issue an order for the reopening of such place.

This Regulation shall come into effect from 1 February B.E. 2564 (2021).

Issued on 29 January B.E. 2564 (2021)

(General Prayut Chan-o-cha)

Prime Minister