

**MoHS Statement on Novel Coronavirus (16 February 2020, 8:00PM) ([Link](#))**  
***(Unofficial translation by OCHA)***

1. The Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) has been working on monitoring and preventive measures of the COVID-19, which has been spreading in China and some countries in the world, at international entrances/gates, at public hospitals and among communities, as well as in cooperation with private hospitals.
2. A 49-year-old Chinese national, who lives in Tianjin municipality of China, arrived in Thailand on 5 February, and then to Myanmar on 13 February. He started suffering fever and coughing on 15 February and was transferred from a clinic in Yangon's Aung Mingalar Highway Bus Terminal to Weibargi Hospital. He was isolated as a Person Under Investigation, and nasal swab taken from him would be sent to a designated hospital. No other acute respiratory symptoms were found.
3. As of 8:00 PM on 16 February 2020, a total of 10 patients have been monitored and treated at hospitals and are in good health.
4. By sending nasal swabs taken from monitored patients to one of 15 laboratories designated by WHO, the laboratory has replied on the evening of 16 February that the following patients was tested negative for COVID-19.
  - (1) A 36-year-old man from Mongkhet Township Hospital and
  - (2) A 21-year-old woman from Mogoke Township Hospital.
5. The National Health Laboratory has received laboratory equipment from the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Science from Thailand with the support of the WHO, as well as from the National Center for Global Health and Medicine and Juntendo University with the support of JICA and Embassy of Japan in Myanmar. Currently, results were the same when the National Health Laboratory is conducting a parallel testing for the patients, along with the laboratory designated by the WHO.
6. The MoHS will keep updating the results of tests in real time.

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