

MoHS Statement on Novel Coronavirus (17 February 2020, 8:15PM) ([Link](#))
(Unofficial translation by OCHA)

1. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has been spreading in 26 countries including China, and the World Health Organization (WHO) updated as below (as of 13:30 Myanmar Standard Time on 16 February 2020).

- Globally confirmed cases - 51,857
- China
 - Laboratory-confirmed cases - 51,174 (99 percent of global case)
 - Diagnosed cases - 17,410
 - Total cases - 68,584
 - Death - 1,666
- Other countries outside China - 25 countries
 - Laboratory-confirmed cases - 683
 - Death - 3 (Philippines, Japan and France)

2. COVID-19 in Myanmar

No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar as of 17 February 2020	
Situations Update (31.01.2020 – 17.02.2020)	
Person Under Investigation (PUI)	34
Suspected patient	2
Total	36

Situation Update about PUIs and Suspected Patients (31.01.2020 – 17.02.2020)

Patients tested negative for COVID-19	28 (26 PUIs and 2 suspected patients)
Cases under (Thailand) laboratory test	5
Cases to be sent for laboratory test	3
Total	36

The 36 of PUIs and suspected patients included:

- People who had travelled to China - 34
 - People who had not travelled to China - 2
- All are in good health.

3. Regarding the COVID-19 outbreak and spread in China and other countries, the MoHS has been working on monitoring and preventive measures at;
- (a) international gates/entrances such as Yangon International Airport, Mandalay International Airport and Nay Pyi Taw International Airport, as well as ports and,
- (b) border gates- especially in Pang War-Chipwi, Waingmaw, Momauk towns in Kachin State and Muse, Namhkan and Laukkaing towns in northern Shan State that border with China's Yunnan Province, where as,
- ensuring the filling-in of Health Declaration Cards,
 - monitoring suspected cases, investigating and contact tracing by relevant Region/State Health Department, General Administrative Department and other departments concerned, in cooperation with hotels and guest houses,
 - conducting hospital-based surveillance,
 - conducting community-based surveillance,

- cooperating with private hospitals and
- cooperating with other ministries concerned.

Respective Region/State public health staff have also been conducting preventive measures at factories and workplaces and there has been no cases of COVID-19 at factories and workplaces as of now.

- Public/General Hospitals at central level and Region/State levels
 - has prepared Intensive Care Unit (ICU), Isolation Ward medicines and medical equipments as required.
 - has defined the Kandawnadi Hospital in Mandalay City of Mandalay Region as a designated hospital and prepared ICU and Isolation Ward at the hospital in case of epidemic-prone disease.
 - has defined hospitals close to border gates- District General Hospital (Muse Town), General Hospital (Lashio Town), Sao San Tun General Hospital (Taunggyi Town), General Hospital (Myitkyina Town), and General Hospital (Kengtung Town)- as designated hospitals.
- The National Health Laboratory (NHL) has received laboratory equipment (Primer, Probe and Reagents) 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, the NHL in Yangon has started testing COVID-19 in parallel with the testing by a WHO-designated laboratory. Since the results of parallel testing are the same and accurate, the NHL will start independent testing on 20 February 2020.
- The MoHS has been conducting public health awareness through State-run media and radio, updating regularly on the MoHS's website (www.mohs.gov.mm) and social media (<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthAndSportsMyanmar> and <https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarCDC>), as well as disseminating leaflets, stickers, posters at public places, especially at schools, hotels and guest houses, pagodas, cinemas, factories and workplaces, bus stops and markets.
- In each Region/State, the MoHS conducts;
 - active surveillance and contact tracing of suspected patients,
 - prohibition and limiting on travels as quarantine measures,
 - referral of suspected patients and PUI to designated hospitals,
 - health education,
 - daily and immediate reporting about cases, and
 - coordination with relevant ministries and stakeholders.
- Myanmar has received local and international supports as below.

No	Organization	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	N-95 Mask	Surgical Mask	Hand Gel	Non-Contact Thermometer
1	WHO	100	500	-	-	-
2	Sea Lion Company	2,000	-	-	-	-
3	Korea (Okkar Thiri Company)	1,000	-	-	225	-
4	Myanmar Red Cross Society	1,500	-	5,000	-	-
5	Zizawa Company	-	-	-	-	45

	Total	4,600	500	5,000	225	45
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9. In addition, the MoHS has ensured that the hospitals in each Region/State are prepared and have adequate medical equipments- ventilators, humidifiers, pulse oxymetres, defibrillators, electrocardiograms, non-contact thermometers, PPEs, N-95 masks, surgical masks and hand gels.

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