

Thai News Update: 3 March 2020

1. Thailand Ministry of Public Health adds Germany and France to list of eleven countries to advise Thais to self quarantine if traveling from

Source: The Pattaya News ([Link](#))

On the 2nd of March 2020, the Ministry of Public Health กระทรวงสาธารณสุข advised that countries and areas listed below are experiencing ongoing #COVID19 transmission: China, France, Germany, Hong Kong SAR, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Macao SAR, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taipei and environs, Germany and France are new additions to this list. The Pattaya Notes this is an advisory and a request, not a law or an order. It is geared to Thai citizens and not foreign Nationals.

2. Operators to lean on domestic tourists

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

The domestic meeting and leisure market is seen as the last resort for the local tourism industry to battle the decline in foreign tourists, but despite government aid measures, demand is still slow. After the delayed fiscal budget was approved, local tourism operators expect spending by state agencies to increase, starting from this month, said Phuriwat Limthavornrat, president of the Association of Domestic Travel. The domestic meeting and leisure market contributes up to 60% of the total domestic market, said Mr Phuriwat. Even though operators are aware many agencies are deeply concerned about the Covid-19 outbreak, they hope to secure at least 20% of this segment during March and April as independent tourists remain worried about making trips.

3. Navigating portfolio diversification in Thailand

Source: Bangkok Post ([Link](#))

The Thai capital market plays an important function in driving the country's economic development, creating a robust capital ecosystem that has allowed the country to survive major crises such as the ones we faced in 1997 and 2008. As fund managers, we know how essential it is to diversify. Never put all of your eggs in one basket. It is an age-old adage that still resonates 3 March. The ultimate goal is to cushion the foreseeable negative impact on the portfolio and to

reduce volatility. This is because not all asset categories, industries or stocks move together or perform alike. Bearish and bullish markets can prevail independently through varying asset classes.

4. Ministry to step up on business relief packages

Source: The Nation ([Link](#))

The Finance Ministry will hasten launch of new relief packages for businesses hit hard by impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, said minister Uttama Savanayana on March 2. The measures, he added, are customised to serve the specific needs of affected groups of businesses. Tourism and Sports Minister Pipat Ratchakitprakarn said he would consult Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha on his plan to boost domestic tourism. A measure under consideration would offer incentives for people travelling to other provinces and stay overnight/s. The package, expected to kick off this month, will help promote income distribution to communities.

5. Department proposes cut in rental, parking, landing fees at 28 airports

Source: The Nation ([Link](#))

The Department of Airports will ask the Transport Ministry this week to consider its proposal to cut aviation fees at its 28 airports to ease the burden on airlines and businesses suffering from the impact of the Covid-19 outbreak, said director-general Tawee Gasisam-ang on March 2. Among the measures will be a 50 per cent cut in rental fees for business operators in passenger terminals, 50 per cent reduction in landing fees and a 90 per cent cut in parking fees. The measures will last from March to August this year. If approved, the plan will be forwarded to the cabinet for consideration.