

Thai News Update: 6 March 2020

1. CP lends helping hand by building face mask factory

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

The Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group is spending 100 million baht to build a factory to produce face masks to help combat Covid-19, CP's senior chairman Dhanin Chearavanont said. Mr Dhanin said the CP conglomerate was setting up a factory that will have the capacity to produce about 3 million face masks a month. It should be up and running in five weeks, he added. These masks will be supplied free of charge to hospitals and medical personnel battling the spread of the virus as well as to people who have limited access to masks.

2. Textile firms step up mask output

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

The government has ordered textile firms to speedily produce 30 million pieces of washable cloth face masks in the next month to give away in Bangkok metropolitan areas to combat chronic shortages. The Industry Ministry acknowledged that textile firms should be able to produce 10 million cloth masks in one month based on their production capacity. The ministry expects to propose a budget to the cabinet to buy cloth masks from local factories next week. Industry Minister Suriya Jungrungreangkit said the ministry will negotiate with face mask and textile and garment companies to produce the cloth masks to supply the country because of complaints about shortages.

3. Health Ministry announces list of high-risk virus-hit nations

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

All returnees from “high-risk” coronavirus-hit countries such as China – including Macau and Hong Kong – South Korea, Italy and Iran need to undergo self-quarantine for 14 days, or they may be subject to quarantine organised by the authorities. The Covid-19 disease was declared a dangerous communicable disease on February 24, under the Communicable Disease Act 2015. Over the past few days, people were confused about the list after Health Minister Anutin Charnvirakul published a list on his Facebook page on 3 March, stating that the high-risk

countries were Japan, Germany, South Korea, China – including Macau and Hong Kong – Taiwan, France, Singapore, Italy and Iran.

4. Thailand announces compulsory quarantine for arrivals from six places

Source: Reuters ([Link](#))

The Thai government on 5 March announces new compulsory quarantine measure for arrivals from four countries and two territories in a bid to contain the spread of the coronavirus. The move came as the Thai postal service began disinfecting all packages received from overseas, although the World Health Organization has said it is safe to receive post from badly affected countries such as China. The quarantine announcement, published in the official Royal Gazette on 5 March, classified South Korea, China, Macao, Hong Kong, Italy and Iran as “dangerous communicable disease areas”.

5. Lazada lines up niche campaigns

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

Lazada Thailand, the e-commerce arm of Alibaba in Asean, is gearing up for more targeted marketing campaigns to shoppers this year as the coronavirus outbreak is leading to rising online transactions and more vendors. "We will continue our marketing campaigns throughout this year even during this challenging time as consumers have strong demand to purchase online rather than buying in crowded areas," Jack Zhang, deputy chief executive of Lazada Thailand, told the Bangkok Post. The number of sellers on Lazada has jumped during the last quarter along with a rise in sales transactions, he said.