# REPORT DISEASE AND HEALTH HAZARD NEWS OF INTEREST ALONG THE BORDER

March 31 - April 6, 2022

#### **WEEKLY EVENTS**

- On March 27, 2022, there was a border conflict on the opposite side of Umphang District, Tak Province. There are still immigrant villagers at several points around the border of Umphang District. The conflict situation has continued and has moved up to the Three Pagodas checkpoint Kanchanaburi.
- On March 28, 2022, villagers in Omkoi District, Chiang Mai province campaigned against the implementation of the coal mining development. The Pwo Karen community members of Baan Kabe Din Village No. 12 are concerned about the negative impacts on lifestyle, environment and resources in the area, including lack of clean air to breathe and limited access to clean water if the coal project continues.
- On April 2, 2022, the charge d'affaires of the Thailand Embassy in Myanmar presented the delivery of 500,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine and vaccination equipment to the Myanmar Red Cross Society at Yangon International Airport. Following this donation, Thailand has now donated 1,000,000 vaccine doses to Myanmar.

## **COVID-19** REINFECTION WITH DIFFERENT VARIANTS

On March 28, 2022, the Director-General of the Department of Disease Control stated that COVID-19 reinfection is possible if infected with a different variant. For example, a patient who has recovered from a Delta variant infection can still be infected with the Omicron variant. Therefore, people who have a history of infection, must still be careful to take care of themselves. It is expected that during the coming Songkran festival, many people will return to their hometowns across the country, including border areas. Everyone is asked to strictly follow the measures set by the government, such as monitoring their symptoms if they are at-risk, refraining from travel and checking themselves with an ATK within 72 hours before and after travel for the Songkran Festival. People should observe their symptoms for 7 days and avoid close contact with other people. If there are any suspected symptoms, they should use an ATK to check their infection status. Everyone is encouraged to be safe from COVID-19 before, during, after the festival by acting strictly according to the government measures.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OFFICIALS

Officers should inform the migrant health volunteers to monitor the people who come back to visit their hometowns during Songkran.

If someone is found to have abnormal symptoms, they should notify the health authorities. Local officials should coordinate with the organizers of local, traditional events and health officials to jointly take action in accordance with the health measures. For example, they need to specify screening points at entrances and exits, ensure that people are wearing masks at all times, provide alcohol gel and maintain social distance. People are discouraged from splashing powder, participating in foam parties, and consuming alcoholic beverages in the event area. Elderly people who attend events should be fully vaccinated to ensure their safety and health.

#### **INFORMATION COLLECTED AND ANALYZED BY**

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### COVID-19 SITUATION AND INFORMATION IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES As of April 6, 2022

COVID-19 Information by country	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Thailand
Number of confirmed cases (people)  • New Cases (daily)  • Cumulative	22 132,449	2,115 188,985	12,017 4,268,486	58 611,984	24,252 3,781,827
Daily cases per 100,000 population (7-day average)	0.23	30.75	39.82	0.26	37.38
Test positivity (%) (In the past 14 days)	4.3	100	13.9	1.8	57.94
Recovered cases  • New (daily)  • Cumulative	121 132,449	528 182,351	20,431 4,062,154	201 555,996	26,225 3,508,052
Fatalities  • New (daily)  • Cumulative	1 3,055	2 684	33 35,160	- 19,433	94 25,697
Percent of the population fully vaccinated	89.1	67.2	79.3	41.5	73
Percent of the high-risk population fully vaccinated	≥90	≥90	≥90	≥90	≥90

#### **SOURCES**

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- Image Courtesy of watpamahachai.net
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