

NEWSLETTER

THE CURRENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE SOUTHERN BORDER PROVINCES OF THAILAND

ALLEVIATING COVID-19 IMPACTS ON SBPs' WORKERS



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As overseas Thai workers from the Southern Border Provinces (SBPs) have returned home due to the COVID-19 situation, local authorities have implemented various measures to enable greater access to their employment, targeting more than 17,000 workers. This includes a series of job-seeking surveys, career training as well as coordinating with private companies across the country to broaden the opportunity for such SBPs workers.

ROLE MODEL FOR MEDICAL SERVICES



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Pattani Hospital has become a model hospital for implementing technology in healthcare services amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The hospital's online service, including queueing and health screening, does not only comply with the new normal lifestyle but also enables a wider access to healthcare for the locals in Pattani. The Ministry of Public Health, in consultation with local counterparts and WHO representatives, aims at magnifying the service to all levels of healthcare in the province before future implementation throughout Thailand.

ENCOURAGING YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPING THE SBPs



As the COVID-19 situation has impacted the education of youths from the SBPs, relevant agencies have organised various activities aiming at helping the youths in pursuing their future education, career, and self-discovery. Comprising a series of training courses and seminars, these activities promote engagement between the youth and the agencies and open the door for the youths to share their perspectives about the prospect of the SBPs and their roles in contributing to the development of the SBPs in the future.



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NEW NORMAL RAMADAN AND EID AL-FITR



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Normal Way	New Normal
Gathering to break the fast together	Use individual own food storages
Attending congregational prayer at worshipping sites	Perform religious prayer in the place of residence
Distribute Zakat and Sadaqah directly to the poor	Distribute Zakat and Sadaqah through local Mosque's representatives

This year, April and May are the important months for Muslim communities for the annual Islamic events, namely the Holy Month of Ramadan and Eid al-Fitr (known as Hari Raya in the local context). Despite the strict health regulations due to the COVID-19 outbreak, all Muslims can celebrate these revered events under conditions promulgated by the Sheikhu'l Islam Office of Thailand. These conditions, aligned with Islamic tradition, are implemented under the new normal context such as encouraging all Muslims in Thailand to conduct their religious prayers at home, wearing masks while attending activities, keeping distance from each other, as well as distributing Zakat (compulsory charitable disposal) to the poor through representatives of local mosques.

