

**JTTRI International Seminar on  
"Railway and Area Development in Thailand"  
Mr. Sorapong's speech**

Dear Mr. Noboru Sekiguchi, Minister, Chief of the Economic Section, Embassy of Japan in Thailand, Yasuhiro Okanishi, Director-General for International Affairs, MLIT-Japan, Mr. Masafumi Shukuri, Chairman, JTTRI and distinguish guests.

On behalf of the MOT Thailand, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the MLIT and the JTTRI for holding this Railway and Area Development seminar.

and to the embassy of Japan, for our continuous friendship and your always support.

I am honored to be on this stage. This seminar is considered an important step in the Railway and Area Development in Thailand. In our strategic framework for railway and area development in Thailand, we intend to make the Thai railway system successful according to the following four development concepts.

1. Inclusivity: creating an equal access to the public rail service with designs and services for all. Especially children, pregnant women, elderly, disabled.
2. Green & Safe Transport: developing a safe, stable, and environmental friendly railway system.
3. Transport Efficiency: developing a high-efficiency railway, which aims to reduce the logistics cost. Expanding railway network connecting the whole country as well as cross-border connectivity.
4. Innovation & Management: Acquisition and utilization of new innovations and technologies to promote rail transportation, including having high-efficiency railway management system for a sustainable transportation.

In the process from policy planning to implementation, our framework of the railway and area development has been planned focusing on convenience, safety, efficiency, and to continuously develop technology to respond the needs of the public.

We believe today's seminar is a great opportunity for the Thai representatives,

comprising of government, the private sector and educational institutions, to learn from Japanese experience about the concepts, experiences and best practices related to the railway and area development. I strongly encourage everyone to use this opportunity to exchange information and experience regarding railway and area development for our mutual benefits in the future, which will fulfill the objective of this seminar.

Finally, I pray for the success of today's seminar, and hope it will be beneficial for all of you. In addition, I would like to thank Mr. Noboru Sekiguchi, Minister, Chief of the Economic Section, the Embassy of Japan in Thailand and to the MLIT for the constantly support in Thailand. I would like to thank JTTRI once again for holding this very beneficial seminar. I truly hope that the freindship between Thailand and Japan will continue, for the support and cooperation in the sustainable transportation developments for the greater well-being of people.