JTTRI International Seminar on Utilization of Mobile Phone Big-Data (MBD)for the Transport Sector in Thailand Mr. Nashida's speech

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

I would like to thank Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Former Minister of Transport, Thailand, Mr. Chayatan Phromsorn, Office of Transport and Traffic Policy and Planning, MOT, Thailand, Mr. Yasuhiro Okanishi, Director-General for International Affairs, MLIT-Japan, and Mr. Masafumi Shukuri, Chairman, JTTRI, for inviting me to today's seminar.

I am Kazuya Nashida, Ambassador to Thailand, Japanese Embassy in Thailand.

I would like to make a speech for the seminar.

As you know, in Thailand, the construction of transport infrastructure such as roads and railways is currently being promoted rapidly.

Thailand is also considering future transport projects, including the revision of the Bangkok Urban Railway Master Plan which is currently scheduled. We believe that this seminar was very timely for Thailand.

In Thailand, particularly Bangkok is facing serious social and economic problems arising from transportation sector, including chronical traffic congestion, frequent traffic accidents, and PM2. 5 air pollution.

In order to solve these social problems, the government needs to formulate plans for future public transport and road networks. Firstly, transport demand must be accurately estimated. On the other hand, due to the rapid progress of computerization in recent years, traffic information is "more" and "more accurate" by a completely new method. It is becoming possible to understand and analyze more efficiently.

"Utilization of Mobile Phone Big-Data (MBD) for the Transport Sector" which is the theme of today's seminar, is one of a new method and has great potential to attract innovation in the transportation field.

The use of personal information held by each entity in response to various needs of society with consideration for privacy protection is highly evaluated as a public interest in the other fields rather than transportation. It also contributes to creating new business opportunities.

I am very pleased that Japan contributes to the development of Thailand's socio-economic society by utilizing our advanced knowledge through this seminar, with the aim of raising the level of industry and more value added under the "Thailand 4.0".

I also hear that this seminar will be held as part of the "ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership".

I hope that the ASEAN countries participants will make widespread progress in the transport field in their own countries, which have the same issues as Thailand.

Finally, I wish all participants the best and the success of this seminar.