

Tanintharyi Region Business Trip

20 - 24 February 2018

During 20 – 24 February 2018, Ambassador Jukr Boon-Long led a delegation of Royal Thai Embassy officials and Thai businessmen to survey economic opportunities in Tanintharyi Region. The region is connected with six provinces in Thailand, including Kanchanaburi, Ratchaburi, Phetchaburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan, Chumphon, and Ranong. It is a huge market for trade and investment between Thailand and Myanmar.

Tanintharyi Region is also strategically linked to the East West Economic Corridor and is logistically important for trade between the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea. On this trip, Ambassador was joined by 26 Thai businessmen from various sectors, including law firms, finance and banking, manufacturing, energy, logistics, ICT, food and beverage, airlines, construction, and hotels and tourism.

Meeting with the Tanintharyi Regional Government and Tanintharyi Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (TCCI)

On 20 February 2018, the delegation had the opportunity to meet with U Phyo Win Tun, Minister of Planning and Finance, U Kyi Hlaing, Minister of Electricity and Energy, U Ho Pin, Minister of Social Affairs and Municipalities and Colonel Kyaw Zayi, Minister of Security and Border Affairs. During the meeting, the delegation discussed business opportunities in various sectors, including tourism, electricity, construction, and fisheries. They expressed their enthusiasm to pursue business collaboration, and the readiness of the Thai private sector to work together with local partners to promote social and economic development in the region.

The delegation also met with the Tanintharyi Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry (TCCI), led by U Ye Htut Naing, Chairman of TCCI, and Myeik Border Trade Chambers of Commerce and Industry, to discuss business collaboration and opportunities for trade and investment in the region. They discussed opportunities for collaboration in sectors such as hotels and tourism, energy, fishery, and construction. TCCI also requested the Thai side to consider visa exemption at the land border to promote trade and investment, especially tourism development between the two counties.

Survey of the Two Lane Road between the Dawei Special Economic Zone and the Thai-Myanmar Border (Htee Khee – Phu Nam Ron)

On 21 February 2018, Ambassador Jukr Boon-Long led the delegation to survey the two lane road connecting the Dawei Special Economic Zone (DSEZ) with the Thai-Myanmar border at the Phu Nam Ron Border Station. Ambassador and delegation were accompanied by U Phyo Win Tun, Minister of Planning and Finance, Tanintharyi Region Government, and Vice Chairman 1 of Dawei Special Economic Zone Management Committee (DSEZMC), and Dr. Myint San, Vice Chairman 2 of DSEZMC.

The two lane road is 156 km from the DSEZ to Phu Nam Ron. It is not only a land bridge promoting joint economic development between Thailand and Myanmar, but also serves as a missing link in the East West Economic Corridor. Ambassador and delegation surveyed part of the existing road, and Dr. Myint San explained its future development plan.

Courtesy call on the Chief Minister of Tanintharyi Region

On 21 February 2018, Ambassador paid a courtesy call on H.E. Daw Lei Lei Maw, Chief Ministry of Tanintharyi Region. Ambassador Jukr Boon-Long emphasized Thailand's commitment to strengthening relations with Myanmar through regional connectivity and Thai businesses' interest to collaborate with Tanintharyi Region on tourism, energy and fishery. Moreover, Thai businesses wish to promote trade with Tanintharyi Region and are prepared to share knowledge on tourism management, fisheries management, and industrial waste management.

Ambassador highlighted the intention of the Thai private sector to not only pursue business opportunities, but also to give back to the local community by implementing corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects. He underlined the importance of Thai-Myanmar cooperation on connectivity, including the two land road connecting the DSEZ to the Thai-Myanmar border, to promote joint economic development. Cooperation on connectivity also includes upgrading the Singkhon-Mawthaung Special Point of Entry into an international border check point to promote tourism in the region.

Ambassador supported the establishment of sister cities between Tanintharyi Region and Thailand to further promote trade and investment, especially in the tourism sector. He also expressed Thailand's willingness to support Tanintharyi Region on human resource development in such areas as vocational training and tourism management for the region's youth.

H.E. Daw Lei Lei Maw outlined the Tanintharyi Region Government's plan to promote connectivity by upgrading the Dawei Airport into an international airport and supported Thailand's participation in the airport's development. With regard to CSR projects, the Chief Minister requested the Thai private sector to support hospital equipment in Dawei.

Survey Islands for Investment in Myeik

On 22 February 2018, Ambassador Jukr Boon-Long led the business delegation to survey Smart Island, Fairy Island, and Dome Waterfall, to survey opportunities for investment in the tourism business. These islands are extremely beautiful and provide opportunities for investment in the hotel business and eco-resorts through joint ventures with local partners.

During the islands survey, the delegation also visited a lobster breeding farm near Fairy Island, and observed the abundant seafood supply in the area that can cater to visiting tourists.

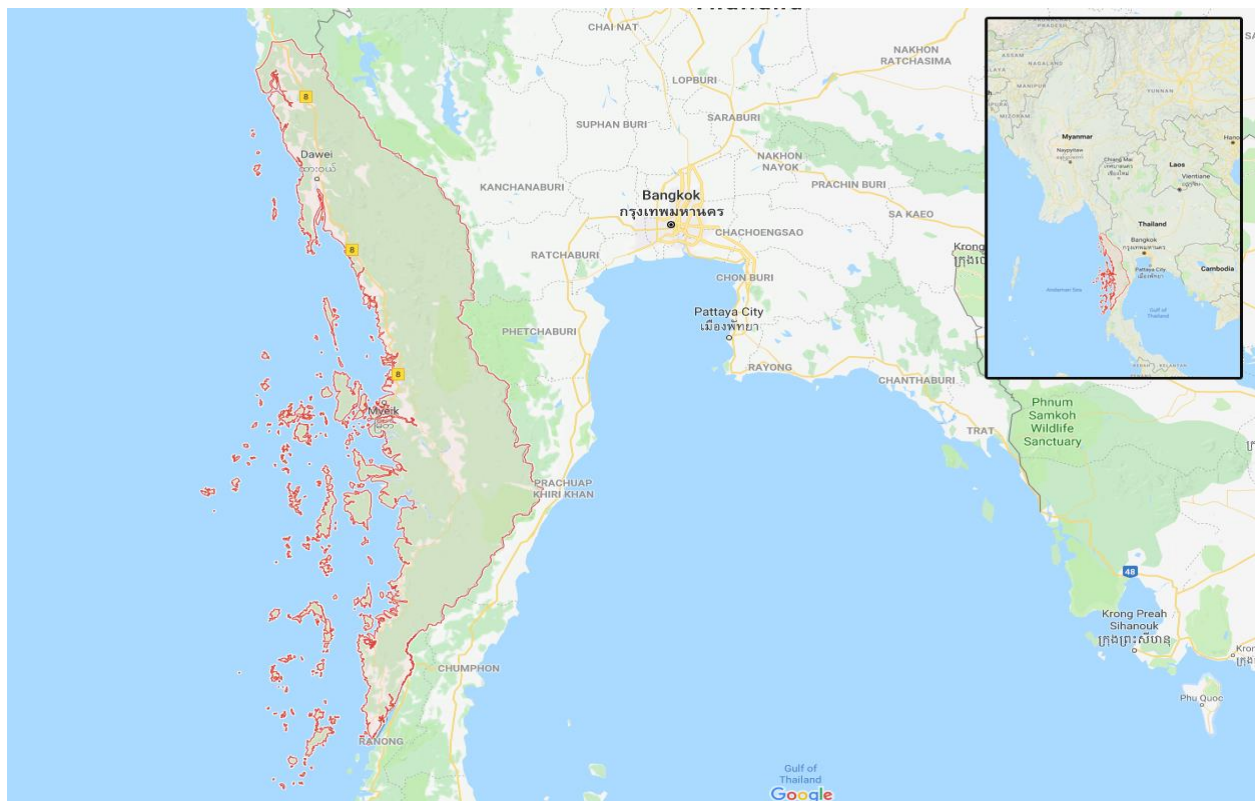
Site Survey at Pyae Pyo Htun International Co., Ltd.

On 22 February 2018 in the afternoon, Ambassador led the Thai private sector to visit Pyae Pyo Htun International Co., Ltd. to observe the company's many businesses: seafood processing, soft shell crab farm, frozen seafood, fish meal factory, and timber and sawmill factory on Pathet Island, Myeik. The company was established on 1 January 1994. It produces premium quality sea water prawn, fish and crabs. The company has a total installed freezing capacity of 8.5 metric tons per day. It also has an additional blast freezing capacity of 75 metric tons per day and cold storage capacity is 1,000 metric tons. It has gained a good reputation overseas, especially from Japan and the United Kingdom market.

Meeting with Prachuap Khiri Khan Governor

In 23 February 2018, Ambassador led the delegation to survey the road from Myeik to the Mawtaung-Singkhon border, which is an estimated 180 km, and is the route linking Myeik in Tanintharyi Region to Prachuap Khiri Khan Province in Thailand. The delegation crossed the border into Thailand and also discussed the potential for Thai-Myanmar trade and investment with the Governor of Prachuap Khiri Khan Province.

In conclusion, the Royal Thai Embassy, Yangon, organized a business trip to Tanintharyi Region to introduce the Embassy team and the Thai private sector to the Tanintharyi Region Government and Myanmar private sector in the area, to discuss opportunities for collaboration in trade, investment, and development, and to promote Thai-Myanmar business networks for future collaboration.



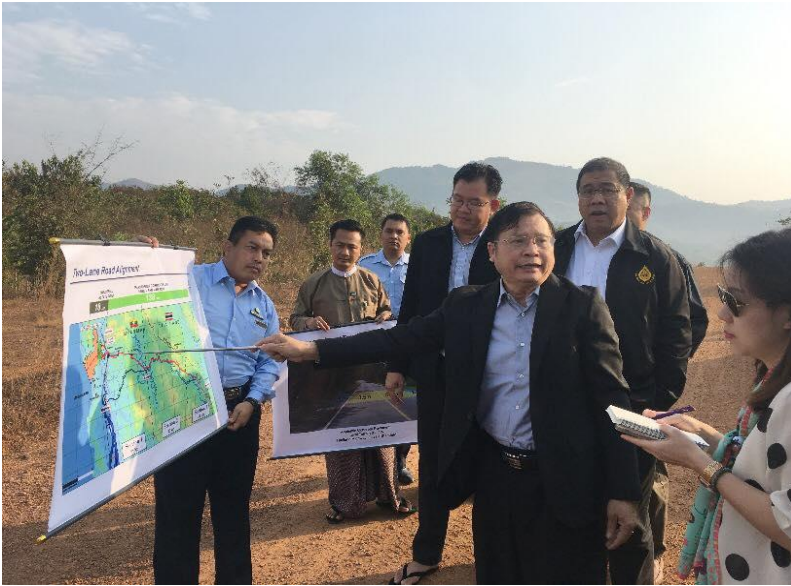
February 2018: Meeting with Tanintharyi Region Government



20 February 2018: Meeting with Tanintharyi Region Chambers of Commerce and Industry



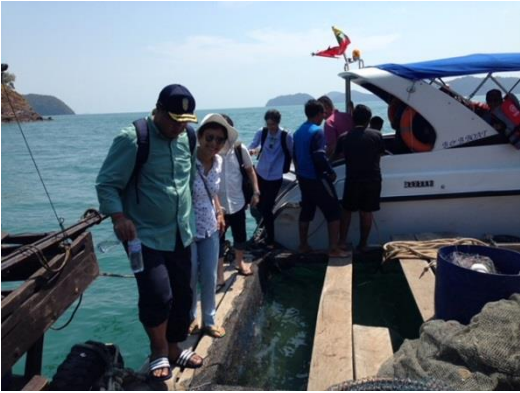
21 February 2018: Survey of Two Lane Road



21 February 2018: Courtesy call on Dr. Lei Lei Maw, Chief Minister of Tanintharyi



22 February 2018: Survey Investment Opportunities in Tourism and Fisheries, Myeik



23 February 2018: Meeting with Governor of Prachuap Khiri Khan Province

