

Prime Minister began his first foreign official visit

On 14 October 2006, General Surayud Chulanont, Prime Minister, lead his cabinet to pay one-day visit to Lao PDR. The visit was the first foreign visit since assuming the premiership.

Prime Minister Surayud hold bilateral talk with Lao Prime Minister Bouasone Bouphavanh. Thai Prime Minister took this opportunity to express his appreciation for the warm welcome and said that both sides agree to continue cooperation within bilateral framework and through ACMECS and ASEAN.

Among various issues discussed are the construction of the third Friendship Bridge in Nakhon Phanom Province, rail link project from Thailand to Vietnam via Lao, electricity supply from Lao, drug suppression, the illegal Hmong immigrants and the bird flu cooperation.

Thai Prime Minister also invited Prime Minister Bouasone to attend the opening ceremony of the Royal Flora 2006 to be held on 1 November 2006 in Chiang Mai Province. Lao Prime Minister accepted the invitation with pleasure and will also send the Lao's traditional performance team to join the ceremony.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Bouasone hosted lunch to Thai Prime Minister and his entourage.

Before leaving Lao PDR, the Thai Cabinet paid courtesy call on Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason, President of the Lao PDR.
