

Thailand and India to boost economic cooperation

Gen. Surayud Chulanont, Prime Minister of Thailand, paid three-day visit (25-27 June 2007) to India to strengthen bilateral tie and boost economic cooperation in sections such as trade and energy on occasion of celebrating the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations which will be on 1st August 2007.

During the visit, the Thai Prime Minister had a courtesy call on Mr. A.P.J. Kalam, President of India and meetings with several key persons of India such as Mr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India. Both countries agreed to enhance cooperation in science and technology, pharmaceutical supplies and energy which were areas of India's expertise. Other issues of discussion between the two Prime Ministers included implementation of Thailand-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and India's open sky policy to increase flights between Bangkok-Mumbai and Bangkok New Delhi. Thailand hoped that Thailand-India FTA should be concluded in the near future as it has been a successful driving mechanism to boost trade volume between the two countries after it was signed in 2003.

Prime Minister of Thailand reaffirmed with the Indian Prime Minister about the current political situation in Thailand, restoration of full democracy and upcoming election at the end of this year. He was also a keynote speaker at the India-Thailand Business Summit to boost confidence among India business people.
