

Signing of Contract 2.3 under the Thai-Chinese High-Speed Rail Project (28/10/2020)



Prime Minister and Defense Minister General Prayut Chan-o-cha has presided over the signing of a 50.63-billion-baht contract, known as "Contract 2.3, under the Thai-Chinese high-speed railway project.

The signing ceremony took place at 15.00 hr on 28 October 2020 at Government House. Governor of the State Railway of Thailand Niruj Maneepun represented Thailand in signing the contract, while China was represented by China Railway International Company and China Railway Design Corporation.

The contract covers trackwork, electrical and mechanical systems, and staff training for the Bangkok - Nong Khai high-speed rail project (Phase 1 of the Bangkok - Nakhon Ratchasima section). It involves a 253-kilometre track and will last 64 months. This railway is expected to open for public service in 2025.

At the signing ceremony, the Prime Minister cited this railway as a strategic line that would enhance the competitiveness of Thailand. It would also serve as a key mechanism for national and regional development, linking with major cities along the rail route that could be further developed into regional hubs.

He stated that the rail route would help strengthen Thai-Chinese relations, as well, and it reflects strong cooperation of the two countries in developing infrastructure to promote their economic prosperity, transport networks, and people-to-people contact.

The Prime Minister thanked all agencies involved for their efforts in pushing the project forward, so that the people would be able to use a quick, convenient, and safe transport system.