

17th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting Kicks Off Today

Written by Administrator

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The ten ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) this morning gathered here at the Peace Palace under the presidency of Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen, Prime Minister of Cambodia, for the 17th ASEAN Transport Ministers' Meeting to gear up the ASEAN Economic Community by 2015.

In his opening speech, the Cambodian premier said it is a very important meeting to speed up for the ASEAN Free Trade Area in 2015. Samdech Techo Hun Sen also pushed the ASEAN transport leaders to accelerate the process of building the Singapore-Kunming railway to bridge ASEAN and China.

The connected railway should be completed by 2015 or the latest by 2020, he said.

The transport sector has seen a remarkable progress in ASEAN, said Samdech Techo Hun Sen, stressing that it will be on the right track towards an ASEAN Community in 2015.

"The transport system is very important for ASEAN to integrate with the global economy, improve competitiveness and enhance the inflow of foreign direct investment," he said.

ASEAN members are Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

During the two-day meeting, there are also some other meetings including the 10th ASEAN-China Transport Ministers, the 3rd ASEAN-South Korea Transport Ministers, and the 10th ASEAN-Japan Transport Ministers.