

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Department of Information

Press Release Outcomes of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit And the 69th Republic Day New Delhi, Republic of India, 25-26 January 2018

Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, led a high level delegation to attend the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and the 69th Republic Day Celebrations in New Delhi from 25 to 26 January 2018, at the invitation of His Excellency Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.

The ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit, the theme of which was "Shared Value, Common Destiny", occurred at a time when ASEAN and India Dialogue Relations celebrated their 25-year anniversary with warmness.

With regard to the ASEAN Community building process, the Leaders are committed to redouble their efforts to cooperate towards the full, effective and timely implementation of the Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-India Partnership for Peace, Progress and Shared Prosperity (2016-2020) and to support the ASEAN integration and the realization of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

In this Commemorative Summit, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** has made substantive contributions to the event, the most salient points of which are summarized as follows:

First: Support for the implementation of priority sectors under the new ASEAN-India Action Plan for the period 2016-2018, inter alia: (1) achieving the ASEAN-India trade target of USD 200 billion by 2022; (2) making good use of the USD 1 billion credit offered by India in a timely and efficiently manner to support the implementation of physical and digital linkages; and (3) supporting ASEAN through capacity-building in information and communication technology (ICT), space communication technology, and to climate change related research.

Second: Promotion of closer trade and investment cooperation by way of: (1) strengthening the competitiveness of SMEs in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) with focus on the participation of women and young entrepreneurs; (2) encouraging cooperation in innovation; (3) exploring cooperation possibilities in emerging industries; and (4) efficiently utilizing the ASEAN-India Trade and Investment Centre.

Third: Appeal to both ASEAN and India to finalize the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiation so as to stimulate growth in the region, create new jobs, enhance the regional supply chain and value chain, and improve people's livelihood, page 1820.

Fourth: further cooperation in the education sector through the provision of more scholarships and the support to the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan III.

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Fifth: Encouragement of the speedily extension of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway into Laos and Cambodia, and the building of a new highway linking India - Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia.

Sixth: request for India to consider supporting the Cambodia-based ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC), which was officially launched in May 2016 by way of financial and technical assistance for the benefit of the people of ASEAN and the whole region.

The Commemorative Summit also reaffirmed the importance of maintaining peace, stability, maritime safety, freedom of navigation and overflight in the region and promoting peaceful resolutions of disputes, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and the relevant international laws.

The Leaders agreed to strengthen maritime cooperation and deepen collaboration in combating all forms of terrorism, violent extremism and radicalization through policy coordination, information sharing, law enforcement cooperation and capacity building.

The Commemorative Summit highlighted the necessity to further strengthen ASEAN-India economic relations through the early conclusion of the RCEP, the promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and private sector engagement, the enhancement of long-term food and energy security in the region, and the establishment of the ASEAN-India Trade and Investment Centre.

The Leaders also agreed to strengthen ASEAN-India cooperation in disaster management and humanitarian assistance, including the support of the work of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) in the realisation of the "ASEAN Declaration on One ASEAN, One Response" and the establishment of close partnership between the AHA Centre and its Indian counterpart for better coordination in regional disaster management.

At the conclusion of the Commemorative Summit, the Leaders adopted the Delhi Declaration.

On the sidelines of the Commemorative Summit, **Samdech Techo Prime Minister** also attended as Chief Guest of the 69th Republic Day. He had a working breakfast with **H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc**, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and paid a visit to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Phnom Penh, 28 January 2018

