

A Bilateral Meeting between H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Mr. Li Zhanshu, Chairman of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China

On 20 July 2021 at 15.00 hrs, Reception Room No. 208, Parliament Building, H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai, President of the National Assembly and Speaker of the House of Representatives, had a bilateral meeting with H.E. Mr. Li Zhanshu, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China (NPC) through the video conference, to commemorate the Chinese Communist Party's 100th anniversary and to promote good relations between the Thai National Assembly and the NPC.

The Chairman of the NPC expressed delight at the opportunity to meet with the President of the Thai National Assembly, who was a senior politician with extensive experiences. The auspicious year 2021 marked the 46th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the People's Republic of China, and both countries hope to quickly overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

In terms of trade, this year's volume of trade between Thailand-China increased by 30% over the same period of last year. In terms of politics, the CCP, with 90 million members, has the potential to bring the prosperity and solidarity the country at the moment. The CCP administration was guided by five primary objectives : 1) Prioritize people and poverty eradication 2) Advocate for development that is appropriate for the country 3) Adhere to the Party Leaders' Policy 4) Improve ourselves and punish offenders and 5) Develop things for all humanity in the future, China would like to see increased cooperation between two countries in the following areas : 1) adherence to One-China policy 2) promotion of the official visits at all levels 3) promotion of co-operation to alleviate the COVID-19 situation 4) enhance connectivity with China via the Thailand-China Railway Cooperation Project in order to complement the Belt and Road initiatives (BRI) and the Thailand 4.0 national development strategy, which includes High-speed Rail Project, Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) and Regional Comprehensive Partnership (RCEP). 5) promote educational, technological and cultural

exchanges and 6) promote multi-lateral cooperation through the Mekong-Lanchang Cooperation, EEC, and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

The President of the Thai National Assembly lauded the Chairman of the NPC for his diverse experience and expressed gratitude for China's medical procurement of masks and equipment to Thailand in response to the pandemic's wide spread in the country. He also congratulated the Chairman of the NPC for the CCP to developing country's economy eradicating poverty and containing the COVID-19 situation. Thailand had to learn these types of success from China. Thailand has placed a high value on the One-China policy for a long period of time and would undoubtedly cooperate with China on the afore mentioned projects. The President of the Thai National Assembly also appreciated China's anti-corruption policy, which he said was consistent with the Thai National Assembly's policy "community integrity" because corruption was the primary impediment to the country's development.

For the relation between the two legislatures, we are now working through the Parliamentary Friendship Groups which have played an important role in strengthening the tie that exists between the two legislative institutions. The President of the Thai National Assembly expressed hope that the exchange of the visits will continue once the situation return to normal. Additionally, the President of the Thai National Assembly requested that the Chairman of the NPC to consider allowing Thai students to continue their studies in China once the pandemic passed as well as, resuming Thai commercial flights in China on the reciprocal basis.


