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**Thailand in Connectivity with China's Belt and Road Strategy**  
**Dr. Kobsak Pootrakool, Minister of the Prime Minister's Office**

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1. This session describes the connectivity between Thailand and One Belt One Road (OBOR) project and the benefits from China's economic growth.

2. Thailand is much smaller from China and India in terms of economic size. It is also a great challenge of Thailand and CLMV countries to catch up with the growth path of both China and India.

3. Thailand and South East Asia (SEA) countries have become an attractive business hub. We see also some key policy initiatives by major countries and Thailand as follows.

- China, the One belt one road.
- India's Act East Policy.
- Japan's Indo Pacific Policy.

4. Thailand aims to be a connectivity springboard for the CLMV region.

4.1. Over the past 10 years, Thailand has expanded the road and motorway system rapidly.

4.2. Thailand will be the center of thriving consumer market of 230-400 million people of the CLMVT region, with consumer population more than 60 million people of Thailand.

4.3 Further enhancement in trade cooperation across ASEAN region by FTA and RCEP (Regional comprehensive economic partnership) which include China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand. This will create an alternative growth area in ASIA, not only China and India.

4.4 ACMES will improve connectivity of transportation over 27 projects in CLMVT especially the railroad network.

4.5 Opening more permanent custom points along with Myanmar and Laos.

4.6 Establishing new economic zones support to Myanmar Lao and Cambodia.

4.7 Expanding an airport link in Thailand, especially connecting the major airports ie; Suvarnabhumi, Don Mueng and U-Tapao.

4.8 Bangkok is going to be the new chapter of landmark or business center. It will be supported by the completion of MRT links in the next 5 years.

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