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## 日本訪問記

タイ商工会議所 副会頭兼タイ商工会議所大学(UTCC) 理事  
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2013 年 10 月に訪日したサワラー・サチチャマルガ (Savaraj Sachchamarga) タイ商工会議所副会頭兼タイ商工会議所大学 (UTCC) 理事からの寄稿

サワラー氏は、日本の鉄道システムについての高等教育プログラム視察のため、UTCC のロジスティックス専門家 4 人を同行して来日。弊研究所が訪日の窓口になったもので、約 1 週間滞在目的や滞在時の体験などについて寄稿してくれた。

For foreign investment in Thailand, Japan is the number one country that invests large scale of capitals in several manufacturing industries. These manufacturing industries require strong support from Thai government in order to compete with other companies around the globe.

According to the Thai government, there is a solid policy to improve the transportation infrastructure to reduce costs and increase efficiency of logistics in Thailand. These infrastructures improvement must be completed by 2020 with the budget of 2 trillion baht, or about 6.25 trillion yen, focusing on investment in the rail system, especially high-speed trains around the country. However, this policy does not cover the personnel development to support newly-improved infrastructure system that will happen. University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce (UTCC), as a private business-oriented university, realizes the need of human resources development in this field, thus, UTCC delegates visit Japan in October this year to study transportation policy as well as the efficient transportation and logistics system of Japan.

Since Japan has the state-of-the-art technology and expertise in railway

transportation, UTCC delegates also would like to establish future partnerships with Japanese universities regarding curriculums development and research collaboration in the field of logistics. With these collaborations, UTCC will be able to teach and train students who are competent and able to support the new logistics and transportation infrastructures in the near future. Consequently, efficient transportation systems and capable staffs will be able to reduce the costs of logistics to business and industries in Thailand, of course, many of them are Japanese companies.

What happens in Thailand now is the debate about the return of the 6.25 trillion yen investment budget and benefits to Thailand. The new high speed train projects are considered to be new to the country and it would be difficult to find a precise and clear answer.

However, this return of investment can be roughly found out from the Japanese case study of investing in high-speed train, Shinkansen, which has been operated for nearly 50 years. Japanese Shinkansen have been proved as an important role in creating economic growth when comparing the increasing number of passengers and the GDP growth of Japan. Moreover, the development of real estate around several train stations increases the snowball effects of other business.

UTCC delegates hope that the Thai government investment in such a huge amount will contribute positively to the economic development of Thailand and promote industrial and real estate development as well as Japan.

IIMA を訪れたサワラー氏一行



タイの鉄道輸送インフラプロジェクトについて日本の関与を報道するタイ有力紙"The Nation"（10月11日。サワラー氏より写真提供）



(IIMA メールマガジンへの寄稿)

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