

Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Mr Keiichi Ishii's visit to Singapore

1. Bilateral meetings

Minister Ishii met Mrs Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State of Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of Transport. Besides promoting Shinkansen system, Minister Ishii also held a conversation about bilateral cooperation on transportation, including port matters. About Kuala Lumpur–Singapore High Speed Rail (HSR) project and Malaysia, Senior Minister of State Mrs Josephine Teo expressed her appreciation to the cooperation from the Japanese companies in the preparation stage. With regards to cooperation on port matters, SMS Mrs Josephine Teo agreed that both countries should work together.

Minister Ishii also met Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for National Development. They exchanged views on bilateral cooperation in urban development and infrastructure of the area around High Speed Rail terminus in Singapore (Jurong Lake District). MND Minister Mr Lawrence Wong commented that he look forward to Japanese know-how on urban development and construction productivity.

2. High Speed Rail Symposium in Singapore

On 22 July, MLIT jointly hosted the “The 2nd High Speed Rail Symposium in Singapore” with Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS) and Japan Overseas Railway System Association (JORSA). Minister Ishii gave the opening remarks at the symposium. This was the second time that the symposium was held in Singapore; the first one was held in January 2015.

In his opening remarks, Minister Ishii welcomed the milestone of 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Singapore and Japan. Regarding the HSR project which will be a symbol of the future cooperation between Singapore and Japan, he also talked about the superiority of Shinkansen which is its safety, sustainability, reliability and training of personnel.

About 240 people took part in the symposium, including SMS Mrs Josephine Teo and government officials, private sector representatives, and journalists. There was also an exhibition held outside the symposium. The exhibition, which included a Shinkansen simulator, was crowded with many visitors.

【Reference】High Speed Rail Symposium in Singapore

(1) Outline

22 July 2016 (Friday) 10:00~12:00

Venue: Grand Hyatt Singapore

(2) Program

- Opening remarks (Mr Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and Mr. Koji Yonetani, Executive Vice President of JETRO)
 - Keynote lecture (Mr. Tetsuya Okuda, Director-General, Railway Bureau, MLIT)
 - Presentations by East Japan Railway Company, Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation, Hitachi Ltd. Railway Systems Business Unit, Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.
- ✂ The exhibition of Shinkansen simulator, panels, and etc was held in the next room.

(3) Hosts

MLIT; MFA; METI; JETRO; JARTS; JORSA

(4) Main participants

From Japan: Mr. Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Mr. Koji Yonetani, Executive Vice President, JETRO; Mr. Yuji Fukasawa, Executive Vice President, East Japan Railway Company; Mr. Hirohiko Morisaki, Managing Director, Hitachi Asia Ltd; and Dr. Kazuaki Hiraishi, Deputy General Manager, Mitsubishi Research Institute, Inc.

From Singapore: Mrs Josephine Teo, Senior Minister of State of Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Ministry of Transport

(5) Media Coverage

- ✓ Channel News Asia – Jul 22, 2016
- ✓ THE BUSINESS TIMES – page 1-2, July 23, 2016
- ✓ TODAY – page 4, July 23, 2016
- ✓ The Sunday Times – page A12-A13, July 24, 2016

3. Port of Yokohama LNG Bunkering Mini Seminar in Singapore

On 22 July, MLIT jointly hosted the “Port of Yokohama LNG Bunkering Mini Seminar in Singapore” with Embassy of Japan in Singapore. Minister Ishii gave the opening remarks.

In his opening remarks, Minister Ishii welcomed the beginning of cooperation between Singapore and Japan on port matters during the milestone year of 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations. With anticipation that the environmentally friendly LNG will spread among vessels as the choice of fuel and with regards to the formation of an advanced supply base of LNG fuel (LNG bunkering hub), both countries will put forth the initiative in the Asia region. Minister Ishii also said that he looks forward to seeing further cooperation on port matters between the two countries.

About 70 people including Chief Executive Mr Andrew Tan attended the seminar. Speakers talked about the efforts in Japan by the public and private sectors. During the Questions and Answers session there was a lively exchange of views about the demand of LNG bunkering in the future.

【Reference】Port of Yokohama LNG bunkering mini seminar in Singapore

(1) Outline

22 July 2016 (Friday) 13:30~14:30

Venue: TKP Conference Centre Cecil Street

(2) Program

- Opening remarks (Mr Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and Mr Andrew Tan, Chief Executive of Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore)
- Presentations by Yokohama Kawasaki International Port Corporation, Tokyo Gas Corporation, NYK LINE, Ports and Harbors Bureau (MLIT), Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore
- Closing remarks (Mr. Kenji Shinoda, Ambassador of Japan to Singapore)

(3) Hosts

MLIT; Embassy of Japan in Singapore

(4) Main participants

From Japan: (Government) Mr Keiichi Ishii, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism; Mr. Kenji Shinoda, Ambassador of Japan to Singapore

(Port) City of Yokohama Port and Harbor Bureau, Yokohama Kawasaki International Port Corporation, and etc.

(Maritime) NYK LINE and etc.

(Energy business) Tokyo Gas Corporation

From Singapore: (Government) Ministry of Transport, Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore, and etc.

(Maritime) Singapore Shipping Association and etc.

(Energy business) SLNG, Pavilion Gas Pte Ltd, Keppel and etc.