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CƠ QUAN CỦA HIỆP HỘI GIAO NHẬN KHO VẬN VIỆT NAM
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MR. TRAN MINH SANH - CHAIRMAN OF PEOPLE'S
COMMITTEE OF BA RIA - VUNG TAU PROVINCE:

“We are aiming to a seaport
urban area”

● CHU NGOC MAI *Interview by*

- The fast development of sea port services and logistics services in Ba Ria – Vung Tau set out new demands, among which the need to develop a seaport urban area. What is your opinion about this matter?

• Our country is more and more deeply and widely integrating into the world economy, the investing and trading activities are growing ceaselessly, productions develop, the need of cargo transport and supportive services from the production phrase to cargo distribution and traffic phrase which are higher and higher give a big chance to the sea port services and logistics services. With the goal of turning Ba Ria - Vung Tau into a seaport urban area, to exploit effectively its advantage as the gateway of the South Vietnam economic main point area, we consider the development of logistics and sea port services is a break-through duty which has to be modernized before other industries, the successful key of the province's economic development strategy.

A gateway to the East Sea of Vietnam Southeast area, Ba Ria - Vung Tau is a place near to the international sea route, an important position with many factors and good conditions to develop sea ports, sea port and logistics services to become the deep water entrepot center of the region which other places hardly to have.

- What is the premise of a sea port urban area, sir?

• The transport system is an important foundation in development of logistics development. In Ba Ria – Vung Tau's area, Thi Vai – Cai Mep River and Dinh River are two lines of national and international waterways. We can develop the deep water port system on these two rivers for the vessels up to over 1000 tons capacity. According to the detailed project of the sea port group 5, Ba Ria – Vung Tau seaport group has been approved by the Government to build and develop into the national general seaport group, international gateway port and the driver of the whole area of the Southern economic main point and the whole country; can be able to meet the need of cargo transport with total designed capacity about 236 million tons/year. So far, there are 21 ports operating; in 2010, the clearance output of cargo through Ba Ria – Vung Tau port system was about 45 million tons. The



Mr. Tran Minh Sanh - Chairman of people's committee of Ba Ria - Vung Tau province
Photo: QUOC CHUONG

In Ba Ria – Vung Tau, the need of a sea port urban area is becoming urgency due to the fast development of sea port services and logistics services. Mr. Tran Minh Sanh - Chairman of people's committee of Ba Ria - Vung Tau province has saved his time for an interview made by VLR reporter about this matter.



The plan and orientation to build Ba Ria – Vung Tau as a seaport urban area is also very clear and consistent.
Photo: PHO BA CUONG

rest is in the deploying and building process. In the present, the container vessels 130,000 tons have entered the international port SP-PSA, Tan Cang Cai Mep and sailed directly to the ports in US, Europe and other countries, helping to reduce the time and transport costs. With convenient location, deep water advantage, Ba Ria - Vung Tau has enough conditions to become a cargo entrepot to do logistics services for the whole region.

Ba Ria – Vung Tau's potentiality and advantage in development of logistics and sea port services will be upheld strongly, become an opportunity helping to shape the seaport urban area in the future, after other important projects such as connecting-port road Cai Mep – Thi Vai, No. 51 National

Road expanded, HCM City – Long Thanh – Vung Tau Highway, HCM City – Bien Hoa – Vung Tau railway and Long Thanh airport has been completed synchronously.

Vietnam's sea strategy up to 2010 has defined that to complete the economic corridor along No. 51 Notional Road is the most important task in the duty to develop Southeastern sea and seashore area's economy. This economic corridor once it has been developed will form an economic connection between Ba Ria – Vung Tau and Dong Nai, Binh Duong, HCM City; so that we can uphold the advantage and ability of Thi Vai – Cai Mep deep water system. Ba Ria – Vung Tau Province has set up its goal of economic development: Strongly develop sea economy, turning Ba Ria – Vung Tau into an industrial province and sea port in the modernizing direction in 2015.

- What solutions that Ba Ria – Vung Tau has done to develop the seaport urban area, sir?

• To deploy the goals and plans, the province has planned and formed 14 industrial zones with an total area of 8,800ha, including about 6,000ha industrial land, so far leased about 2,000ha, at the rate about 36%. To the end of 2010, there are over 220 investment projects in the industrial zones with total capital about USD 14 billions, focusing in production of steel, fertilizer, constructional materials, electronic components, mechanic products, aluminum, glass, warehouse... In addition, Ba Ria – Vung Tau has planned 30 middle-size and small industrial groups,

encouraging to develop small scale and handicraft industries in the rural areas, push forward industrialization the countryside.

To develop the port and logistics services, Ba Ria – Vung Tau kept a sport of land about 800ha in Cai Mep Ha area, in the mean while planed to develop 26 internal ports and warehousing services... with total area near 1,100ha. Totally, the area for development of logistics services is about 2,000ha and will be continued to expand at convenient locations, depending on the need of development in the future.

Together with the development of the industrial zone and sea ports, to build a synchronous economic- social infrastructure for the economic corridor along No. 51 National Road, Ba Ria – Vung Tau has planned to develop the urban system such as: Vung Tau City – the economic-cultural-public service center and exchange junction of the Southeastern and Ba Ria – Vung Tau province, a tourism, marine service, port development and oil and gas center of the whole country; Phu My urban area (tan Thanh District) will be built as an industrial urban area – sea port, important economic center of the South economic main point and of Ba Ria – Vung Tau. Ba Ria provincial town will be developed to be an administrative- political and trading service center of Ba Ria -Vung Tau.

The system of the above-said urban areas will be connected in a united space of economy, together with other urban areas in the region forming a synchronously industrial

economic – sea port corridor. With such projects and development orientations, Ba Ria – Vung Tau is step by step building and developing, aiming to the goal of becoming a seaport city in the future.

- How do you access about things that Ba Ria – Vung Tau has done and has not yet completed?

• Ba Ria – Vung Tau potentiality and advantage to develop sea port and logistics services are very big. The plan and orientation to build Ba Ria – Vung Tau as a seaport urban area is also very clear and consistent. Yet, so far, we can say that the development of those kinds is still moderate. If the sea port and logistics services are not appropriately concerned, slowly develop and cannot catch with the very fast development of the port system in this phrase, in fact we not only miss the chance to exploit the developing potentiality of this region but also cannot gain the goal of economic-social development in the direction of improving the rate of service economy as our expectations.

To determinately focus in development of logistics and sea port services is the basic condition to build Ba Ria – Vung Tau as a sea port urban area in the future. We believe that the opinions of internal and international leading experts in sea port and logistics services, the realistic experiences from the businesses will help Ba Ria – Vung Tau to get practical and realizable solutions to push forward the sea port and logistics service in the near future.

- Thank you very much.