

**Exploring Collaboration in Agriculture and Agro-Industry  
LAOS GOVERNMENT VISITS PETROKIMIA GRESIK**

Date : Monday, August 26th, 2019  
Location : Gresik, East Java  
Event : Visit of Minister to The Prime Minister's Office of The Lao People's Democratic Republic

Minister of The Prime Minister's Office of The Lao People's Democratic Republic, Alounkeo Kittikhoun, visits PT Petrokimia Gresik (PG), a fertilizer producer for agroindustry solution, a member of PT Pupuk Indonesia (Persero) Holding Company today, Monday (8/26/2019) at Wisma Kebomas Petrokimia Gresik

The Indonesian government is currently striving to encourage State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs) to invest and establish cooperation with Laos, one of which is in agriculture and agro-industry.

Previously, in mid-2019, Laos government had signed cooperation with 9 Indonesian state-owned enterprises, one of which was PT Pupuk Indonesia (Persero) for agriculture and mining.

Kittikhoun's presence is accompanied by officials of Phongsavanh Group, which is one of the largest companies in Laos managing many business units in various fields. This company has become one of business entities brought by Laos government to establish cooperation with state-owned companies in Indonesia.

The Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia (RI) to Laos, Pratito Soeharyo, who is also present at the occasion conveys that in the future Indonesia will have a lot of business cooperation with Laos.

"Cooperation with Laos is very potential for Indonesia since the country is currently active in building infrastructures to attract investment. Therefore, this expansion is also an opportunity for SOEs to expand their business abroad", Pratito said.

Meanwhile, Kittikhoun explained that Laos' geographical location, which is in the center of, close to China, Thailand, Vietnam, and not far from Japan and South Korea, is one of several factors supporting the rapid economic growth in Laos, particularly in terms of export and import.

Furthermore, Kittikhoun observes that PG is very capable to have collaboration in agriculture and agro-industry sectors, since PG is known as a pioneer of compound fertilizer and organic fertilizer in Indonesia.

"Laos is an agricultural country, but we don't have many products to support these sectors. Therefore, our visit to Petrokimia Gresik means to explore the potential in those sectors," he concluded.

As a response, PG President Director Rahmad Pribadi hopes that this visit will be the beginning of PG's collaboration with industry actors in Laos. Rahmad believes that PG is able to support products requirement for agricultural sector in Laos.

Rahmad revealed that PG's production capacity currently reaches 9 million tons per year, both for fertilizer and non-fertilizer products, completing the upstream and downstream agricultures,

starting from seeds, compound fertilizers, organic fertilizers, biological fertilizers, controlling pests, to various other development products.

"Besides fertilizer, Petrokimia Gresik is also capable of exporting other chemical products. Hopefully this will be a good start for establishing teamwork between Laos and Indonesia, Petrokimia Gresik in particular," Rahmad concluded.

PT Petrokimia Gresik

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