



Ministry of
Defense



Ministry of Public
Security

Most
protected
places in
Vietnam

Protection of Submarine Cables and Pipelines as Critical Infrastructure: Vietnam's Practice



Does Vietnam have legislation relating to critical infrastructures?

Ordinance on the protection of Important Infrastructures relating to National Security, 2008

- Infrastructures to protect state secret
- Infrastructures to store important documents and objects
- Infrastructures to store dangerous materials
- Infrastructures important to national security

Does Vietnam's legislation on critical infrastructures applies to submarine cables and pipelines?

Submarine cables and landing stations are designated as important Telecommunication Infrastructures relating to National Security



Protection Regulations

- Establishment of protection corridor:
 - Prohibition of exploration and exploitation of resources
 - Prohibition of anchorage
- Protection plan must be established
- Allocation of resources for protection



Essential Infrastructures

Land Transportation Law, 2008

- Infrastructures serving the management and exploitation of maritime activities
- ... ***telecommunication infrastructures, electricity infrastructures, oil, fuel and gas pipelines...***



Protection Regulations

- The use and maintenance of the maritime infrastructures should not be impeded by other construction works
- Fuel and gas pipelines shall not be attached to bridges
- Electric and telecommunication cables must be put into underground tunnel



Electric Infrastructures

- **Electricity Law, 2024**

- Means, machinery, equipment, construction in service of generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity.
- ***Submarine electric cables.***



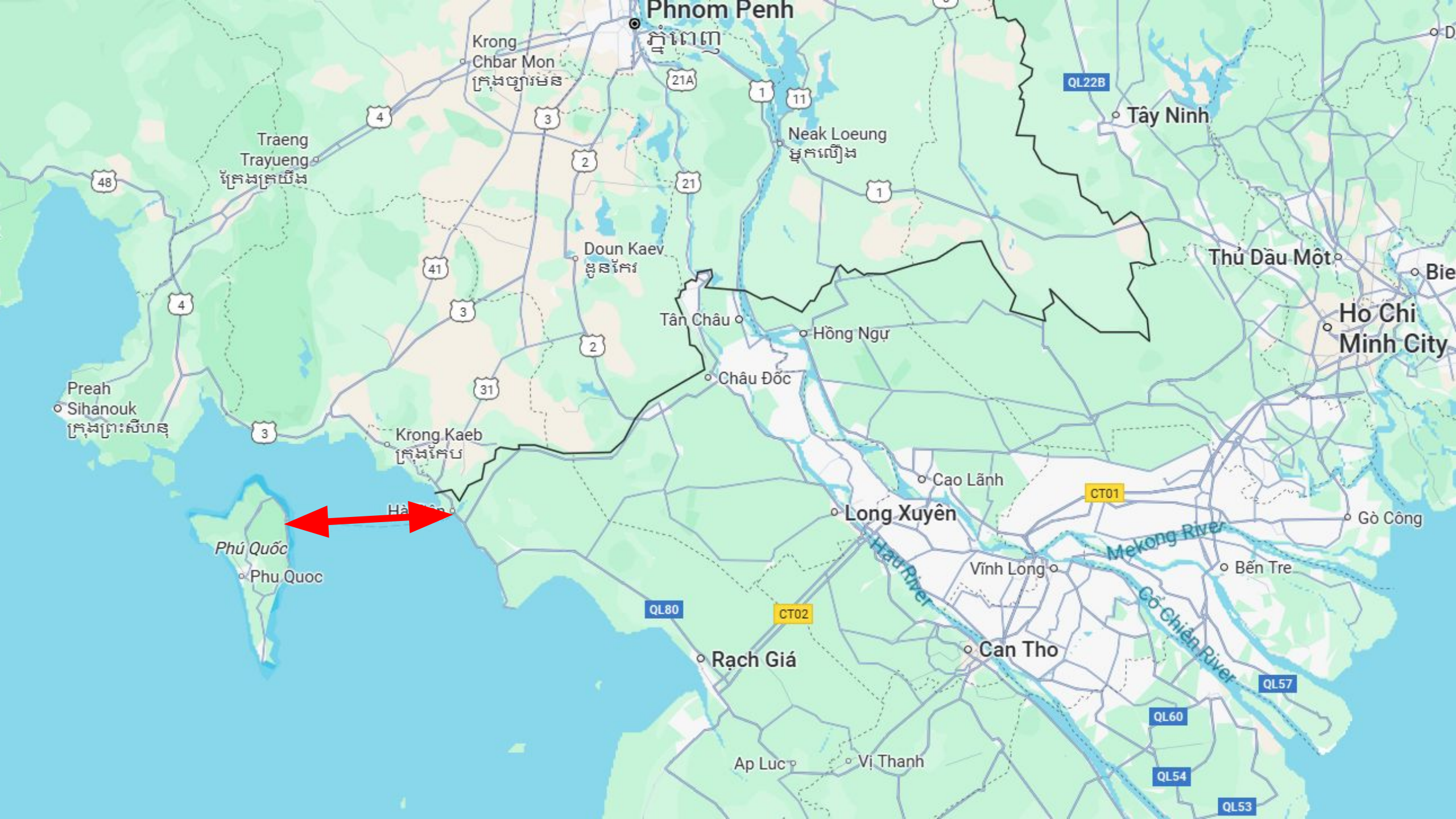
Vietnam Electricity - EVN

Edit Image



Southeast Asia's longest 220kV offshore power line put into operation

Visit



Phnom Penh

Krong
Chbar Mon
ក្រុងច្បារមន

21A

1

11

QL22B

Tây Ninh

Traeng
Trayueng
ត្រែងត្រយ៉ែង

Neak Loeung
ន្ទេកលៀង

1

2

21

Doun Kaev
ដូនកែវ

3

41

4

48

Preah
Sihanouk
ក្រុងព្រះសីហនុ

3

Krong Kaeb
ក្រុងកែប

31

2

Tân Châu

Hồng Ngự

Châu Đốc

Thủ Dầu Một

Bie

Ho Chi
Minh City

Cao Lãnh

Long Xuyên

CT01

Gò Công

Phú Quốc
Phu Quoc

Hà Tiên

Bến Tre

Vĩnh Long

Can Tho

Rạch Giá

QL80

CT02

QL57

QL60

QL54

QL53

Ap Luc

Vị Thanh

Protection Regulations

- Establishing a protection corridor for submarine electric cables
- Ensuring the safety of people engaging in other sea use activities
- Ensuring the safety of wild marine animals



Oil and Gas Infrastructures

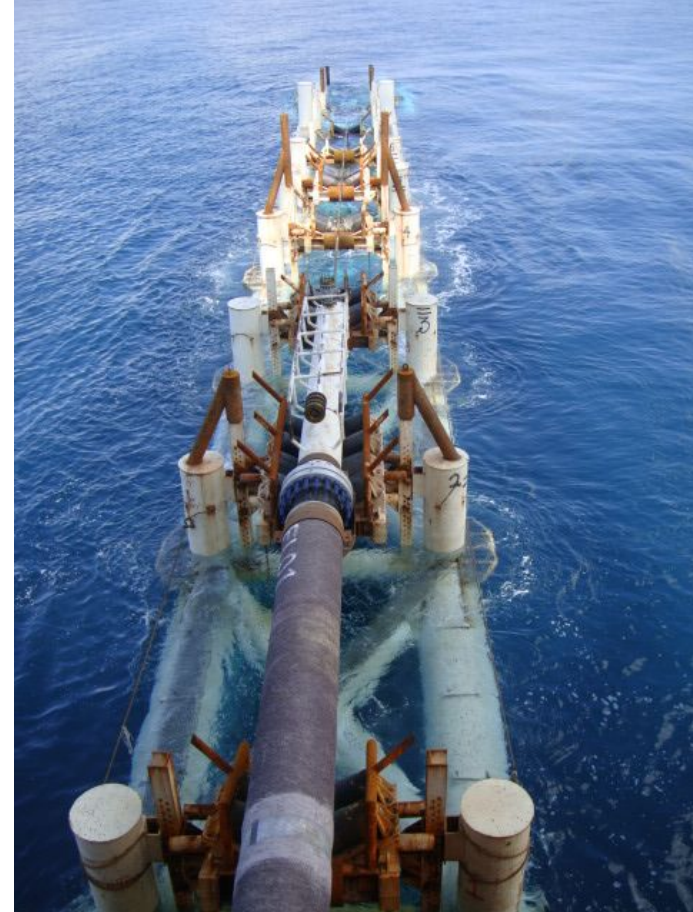
Oil and Gas Law 2022

- Means, machinery, equipment, structures manufactured, constructed, permanently buried underground or temporarily installed to serve petroleum activities
- Drilling rigs, platforms, storage, fixing buoys, wells and ***oil pipelines***



Protection Regulations

- Establishing a two-nautical mile safety corridor around submarine oil infrastructures
- No anchorage or any submarine activity in the safety corridor.
- Establishing warning system for oil infrastructures with no human presence.



Measures adopted by Viet Nam to protect submarine cables and pipelines

**Increasing
patrols in
marine areas
where cables
and
pipelines go
through**





Educating fishermen and seafarers about the safety of submarine cables and pipelines

Having guards at landing stations 24/24



Criminalising acts of violating the safety of submarine cables and pipelines

Article 303. Destruction of work, facility, equipment important for national security

1. Any person who destroys a work, facility, means of transport, means of communications, electricity work, fuel transport work, irrigation work, or another work that is important for national security, of economic, technological, or cultural and social importance, except for the cases in Article 141 hereof, shall face a penalty of 03 - 12 years' imprisonment.
2. This offence committed in any of the following cases shall carry a penalty of 10 - 20 years' imprisonment or life imprisonment:
 - a) The offence is committed by an organized group;
 - b) The offence results in damage or breakdown of the work, facility, or equipment important for national security;
 - c) The offence results in the death of ≥ 03 people;
 - d) The offence results in bodily harm to 03 people, each of whom suffers from 61% physical disability or more;
 - dd) The offence results in bodily harm to ≥ 03 people who suffer from a total physical disability of $\geq 200\%$;
 - e) The offence results in property damage of \geq VND 1,500,000,000;
 - g) The offence has a negative impact of socio-economic situation;
 - h) Dangerous recidivism.
3. A person that prepares for the commission of this offence shall face a penalty of 01 - 05 years' imprisonment.
4. The offender might also be put under mandatory supervision for 01 - 05 years.

Mastermind of undersea cable cutting case sentenced to 12 years in prison

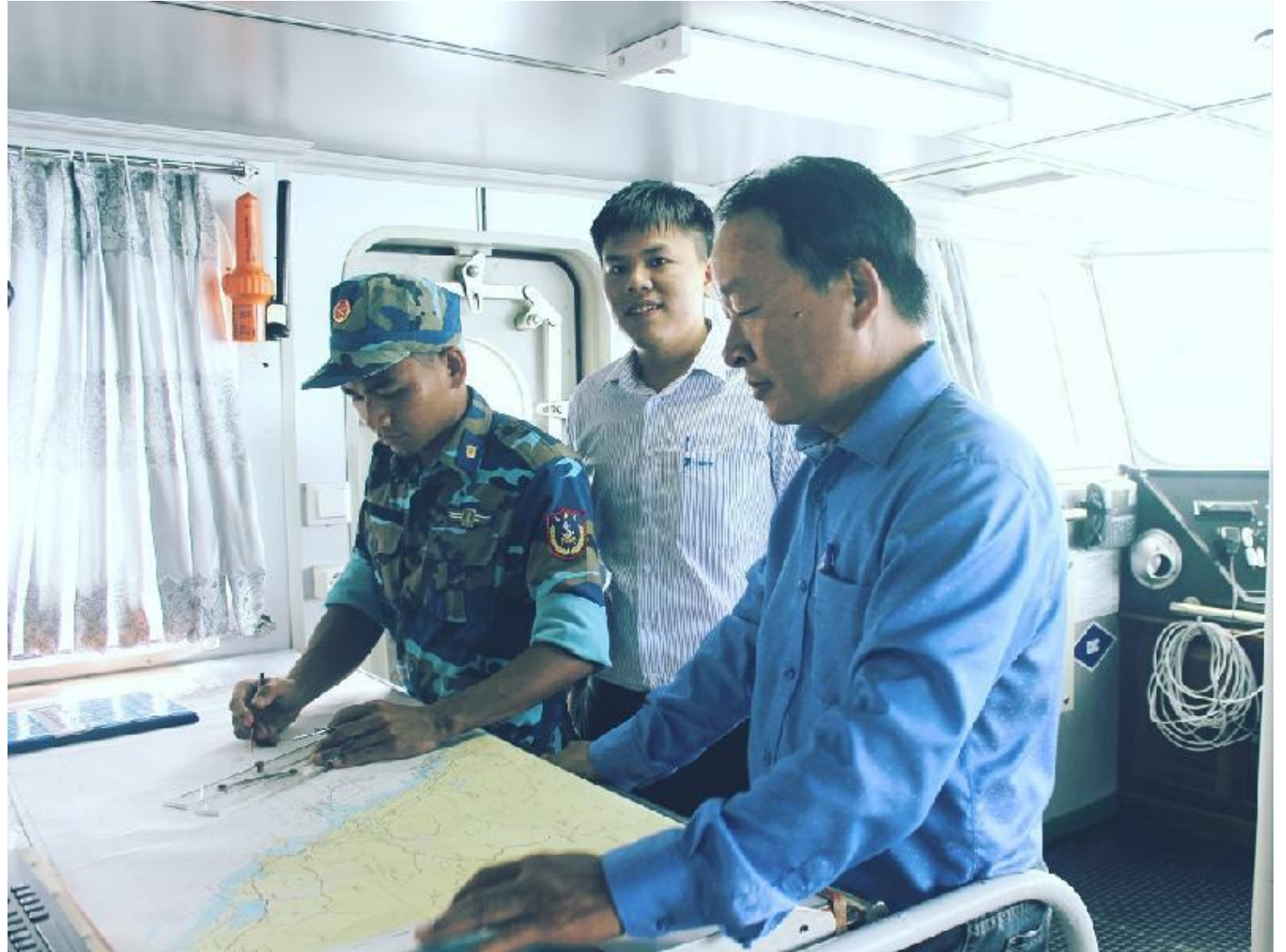
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Thích 0 Share

On April 4, the People's Court of Ba Ria - Vung Tau province tried the case of "destroying important national security facilities" led by Nguyen Thi Bich Phuong (49 years old, residing at 60/2 Bach Dang, Ward 5, Vung Tau City), along with 4 other defendants: Pham Van Ke (48 years old), Nguyen Dang Quang (41 years old), Tran Van Hoang (41 years old) and Le Van Meo (34 years old).

According to the indictment, in early 2007, Phuong's three boats committed two thefts of optical cables. The first time Phuong and his gang cut more than 30 tons of optical cables to bring to Soc Trang to sell, they were arrested but the boat was released. On the way back to Vung Tau, the defendants cut optical cables again and were discovered and arrested by the Border Guard of Con Dao District. All of the above optical cables were managed by the Vietnam Post and Telecommunications Group. The court sentenced Phuong to 12 years

Establishing
inter-agency and
public-private
partnership to
protect the safety
of submarine
cables and
pipelines



An alternative to submarine cables in Southeast Asia

First direct land cable connecting Vietnam and Singapore launched

Nhi Anh
05/08/2025, 14:15



Spanning nearly 3,900 km, the Vietnam-Singapore Terrestrial Network establishes a high-capacity data route that reduces reliance on undersea cable systems.



At the launching ceremony for the VSTN, held on August 4.

