

## Press Release

The Government of Japan has agreed to provide a grant assistance of JPY 376 million (approximately equivalent to NRs 350 million) to the Government of Nepal for implementation of the Project for Human Resource Development (JDS) Project in the year 2022/23.

Mr. Madhu Kumar Marasini, Finance Secretary and Mr. TAMURA Takahiro, Charge d'affaires ad interim of Japan to Nepal signed and exchanged the notes on behalf of their respective Governments today. On the same occasion, grant agreement to this effect was signed by Mr. Ishwori Prasad Aryal, Joint Secretary, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. TANAKA Tomoko, Senior Representative, JICA Nepal.

The Government of Japan has been providing such scholarship grant to the Government of Nepal in a phase-wise manner. Under the first phase of the project, eighty civil servants have already completed their Master's Degree and returned back to Nepal.

This grant will be utilized to administer the scholarship program, including for payment of the university tuition fee, living allowances, settlement allowances, insurances and other basic allowances as well as supply of educational materials for 22 candidates (20 for master's degree and 2 for PhD degree) to pursue their degrees in various Japanese Universities. The scholarship provides opportunity of pursuing two years' Master's Degree and three years PhD courses to young Nepalese civil servants who are academically sound and are motivated to be engaged in Nepal's socio economic development after completion of their study in Japan.

During the signing ceremony, Mr. Marasini opined that this scholarship would be instrumental in developing the capacity of civil service. He further stated that the knowledge, skills and the exposure acquired by the civil servants will be instrumental in improving the delivery of public services in Nepal and ultimately contribute to the socio-economic development of Nepal as well as in strengthening the bilateral relation between the two countries. Similarly, Mr. TAMURA expected that the JDS graduates will significantly contribute to Nepal's socio economic development as well as towards further strengthening the long standing bilateral relationship and cooperation between the two countries.

The Government of Nepal expresses its sincere appreciation to the Government of Japan for its generous and continued support to socioeconomic and human resource development of Nepal.

26 July 2022 (2079/04/10)  
Ministry of Finance,  
Singh Durbar, Kathmandu.