

PRESS RELEASE

Government of Japan has agreed to provide 1452 million Japanese Yen (approx. Rs. 1505.6 million) and 300 million Japanese Yen (approx. Rs. 303.3 million) grant assistance to the Government of Nepal for the Project for Improvement of Aviation Safety Facilities in Major Airports of Nepal and School Sector Development Program(SSDP), respectively.

The project for Improvement of Aviation Safety Facilities in Major Airports of Nepal aims at improving safety navigation and landing through installation of various safety equipment at different domestic airports as well as Tribhuvan International Airport. Similarly, the projects supports to strengthen the technical capacity of Civil Aviation Authority and Aviation Training Academy of Nepal. This project helps the flights with precise approach and safety equipment and enhances the usability of the airports in Nepal.

The School Sector Development Program (SSDP) is a continuation of School Sector Reform Program (SSRP). While SSRP was more focused on the quantity, the SSDP focuses on the quality. This program supports the comprehensive interventions in improving quality in basic education and expands the coverage of quality secondary education. The program ensures the new school construction meet all disaster risk resilience standards. Further, building on SSRP experiences, this program will be implemented in more harmonized and coordinated way through Joint Financing Arrangement among other Development Partners.

Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation will be the executing agency and the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) will be responsible for implementation of the Project for Improvement of Aviation Safety Facilities. Likewise, Ministry of Education will be the executing agency and the Department of Education (DOE) will implement the SSDP.

Mr. Lok Darshan Regmi, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Masashi Ogawa, Ambassador of Japan signed the Exchange of Notes today in the Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of Nepal and the Government of Japan, respectively. Likewise, Mr. Baikuntha Aryal, Joint Secretary and Chief, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Jun Sakuma, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Office signed the grant agreement.

Honorable Mr. Krishna Bahadur Mahara, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Government of Nepal and Honorable Mr. Nobuo KISHI, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan were also present at the signing ceremony.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of Japan for this assistance and for continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance

Singh Durbar, Kathmandu

31 August 2016

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