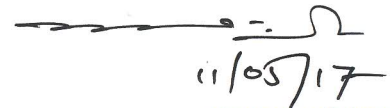


**Press Release**  
**Dhaka, 11 May 2017**

The Government of the People's Republic of China will provide grant assistance of RMB ¥ 500 Million [(Renminbi Yuan Five Hundred Million only/equivalent to Tk.667 crore. (approx.)/ US Dollar 83.00 million. approx.)] to the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, under the Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation between Bangladesh and China. The grant shall be utilized for the Construction of "The 9<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge" and "other Infrastructure Projects".

In this connection, an Agreement was signed at the NEC-2, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka today Thursday at 09:30 am, 11 May, 2017 between the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Government of the People's Republic of China. Kazi Shofiqul Azam, Secretary, Economic Relations Division (ERD), Ministry of Finance of Government of Bangladesh and His Excellency, Mr. Ma Mingqiang, Ambassador of the Government of the People's Republic China in Bangladesh signed the Agreement on behalf of the respective Governments. High officials of Embassy of China in Dhaka and senior officials of the Government of Bangladesh were present during the ceremony.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge and other infrastructure projects will be constructed under the above signed Chinese grant agreement. It will play a vital role on the economic and social development of the country as well as the communication sector. It may be mentioned here that till now 7 (seven) Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridges have been constructed by the Chinese grants. Now the 8<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge is under construction at Pirojpur-Jhalokathi road over the Kocha River (1400 meter length) at Pirojpur District. The location of 9<sup>th</sup> Bangladesh-China Friendship Bridge and other infrastructure projects will be settled later on through negotiation of two governments.



**Dr. AKM Matiur Rahman**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Economic Relations Division**  
**Ministry of Finance**  
**Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh**