

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Finance
Economic Relations Division
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka.
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PRESS RELEASE


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The Government of Japan will provide an amount of 345 million Japanese Yen (equivalent to Taka 24.8296 crore or US\$ 3.12 million) and 444 million Japanese Yen (equivalent to Taka 32.03 crore or US\$ 4.00 million) totaling amount 789 million Japanese Yen (equivalent to Taka 56.8596 crore and US\$ 7.12 million) as Grant Aid to the project titled "The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (Three Year-Cycle and Four Year-Cycle)" of Bangladesh Government. This aid will be used for the purpose of supporting the young government officials of Bangladesh for obtaining their master's degree/doctoral degree in Japanese higher educational institutions.

In this regard, 'Exchange of Notes' and 'Grant Agreement' have been signed today between the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Japan. Mr. Kazi Shofiqul Azam Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance has signed the 'Exchange of Notes' and 'Grant Agreement' on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh while His Excellency Mr. Masato Watanabe, Ambassador, Embassy of Japan to Bangladesh has signed the 'Exchange of Notes' and Mr. Takatoshi Nishikata, Chief Representative of JICA Bangladesh Office, Dhaka has signed the 'Grant Agreement' on behalf of the Government of Japan.

This project has been going on from the year 2001 and will continue till June 2020. Japanese Government allocates grant aid to this project every year and accordingly 'Exchange of Notes' and 'Grant Agreement' have been signed with Japanese Government. Total grant aid of 4,330 million Japanese Yen has been awarded to Bangladesh till 2016. BCS Cadre Officers and 1st Class Bangladesh Bank Officers are awarded scholarship to study Masters Courses in different Japanese universities under this project. The whole amount of scholarship is given to the beneficiary Officers by JICA in Japan. Total 240 Officers have achieved Masters Degrees from Japan till date under this project. At present 54 Officers are studying in Japan and 30 Officers have been selected for studying in Japan in the last batch.

Japan is the single largest bilateral development partner of Bangladesh. Japan has contributed significantly to the overall development of the country. In addition to soft loans, Japan is also providing significant amount of Grant Aid and Technical Assistance for different projects among which human resource development and environment protection are remarkable. Japan has also been supporting the important sectors in Bangladesh out of the Japanese Debt Cancellation Fund.


(Bashir Ahamed)
Deputy Secretary