

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Finance Economic Relations Division Japan-1 Branch Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka www.erd.gov.bd



PRESS RELEASE

Today on 29th March 2022, 'Exchange of Notes' and 'Loan Agreement' have been signed between the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Japan for 5th tranche of loans for financing Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project, Line 6 under 42nd ODA Loan Package (2nd batch). Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance has signed the 'Exchange of Notes' and the 'Loan Agreement' on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh, His Excellency, Mr. ITO Naoki, The Ambassador of Japan in Bangladesh has signed the 'Exchange of Notes' and Mr. Yuho Hayakawa, Chief Representative, JICA Bangladesh Office, Dhaka has signed the 'Loan Agreement' on behalf of the Government of Japan. Record of Discussions (R/D) for two technical assistance projects have also been signed between the two governments. The signing ceremony was held at NEC-2 of Economic Relations Division, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka at 3:00 p.m.

Under the 42nd ODA Loan Package (2nd batch), Government of Japan will provide 18,285 Million Japanese Yen (equivalent to Tk. 1350.39 crore/USD 158 million) for 5th tranche of Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (MRT line 6). Rate of interest of this loan will be 0.70% for construction, 0.01% for consultancy service, Front End Fee (at a time) will be 0.2%, and repayment period will be 30 years which includes 10 years grace period. While financing under technical cooperation assistance for two projects will be provided as grants.

The projects which are going to be implemented by these loans and technical assistance grants are as follows:

Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (Line 6): The objective of the project is to introduce Metro Rail System from Uttara to Kamlapur (MRT line 6). Dhaka Mass Transit Company Limited under Road Transport and Highways Division is implementing the project. So far the overall average progress of the project is 76%. However, progress of civil works from Uttara to Agargaon part is 90%. As per approved DPP, total project cost is Tk. 21,985.07 crore (GOB 5390.48 crore + PA 16,594.59 crore); however, DPP may be revised due to

extension of line from Motijheel to Kamalapur. Project implementation period is 2012 to 2024. Earlier, JICA has provided 237,513 million Japanese Yen in 4 tranches. The loan amount for this 5th and last tranche is 18,285 million Japanese Yen, which will be utilized mainly for the Motijheel to Kamalapur extension.

Fisheries Livelihood Enhancement Project in the Coastal Area of the Bay of Bengal: The aim of this technical assistance project is to improve livelihood of small-scale coastal fishers in Cox's Bazar district through aquaculture and seafood processing techniques and fisheries value chain improvement and capacity building on fisheries resource management. In addition, the project will also provide alternative income generating opportunities and address an issue on nutrition status of the fisher communities. Department of Fisheries under Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock will implement the technical assistance project.

The Project for Improvement of Comprehensive Management Capacity of Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) on Water Supply (Phase 2): The project purpose is to improve the comprehensive management capacity of Department of Public Health Engineering on Water Supply and to improve the living standard of the people through ensuring availability of safe piped water. This project is being implemented in all over Bangladesh. Department of Public Health Engineering under Local Government Division will implement the technical assistance project.

Japan has made available innumerable supports for the economic development of Bangladesh since independence. Japan is the single largest bilateral development partner providing financial support for the socio-economic development of Bangladesh. Till February 2022, the ODA commitment has exceeded to USD 27.432 Billion and disbursements to USD 17.459 Billion. Japanese loans and grants are being utilized in a wide range of areas including power, roads, bridges, telecommunication, agriculture, health, education, water supply and sanitation, rural development, environment, human resource development etc. The Japanese assistance contributed significantly in overall development of the country.

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