Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Ministry of Finance Economic Relations Division

PRESS RELEASE

Dhaka, February 09, 2016

The Government of Japan will provide an amount of 490 million Japanese Yen (equivalent to approximately Taka 31.39 crore) as Grant Aid for the "The Third Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-3)." 'Exchange of Note' and 'Grant Agreement' in this regard have been signed today between the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Japan. Mr. Mohammad Mejbahuddin, Senior Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance has signed the 'Exchange of Note' and the 'Grant Agreement' while His Excellency Mr. Masato Watanabe, Ambassador of Japan in Bangladesh has signed the 'Exchange of Note' and Mr. Mikio Hataeda, Chief Representative, JICA Bangladesh Office, Dhaka has signed the 'Grant Agreement' on behalf of the Government of Japan.

"The Third Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-3)" is under implementation during the period 2011-2017 by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education. Japan has contributed to this programme in the years 2011, 2012 and 2013 at the rate of 500 million each, totalling 1500 million JPY. This is the fourth tranche of Japan's contribution to this programme. Under this programme, the grant will be utilized in the education sector. The main objective of this programme is to improve the quality of the classroom teaching of primary school teachers through providing modern training in Science and Mathematics. Besides, supporting equipments relating to teaching of Science and Mathematics will also be provided under this programme to improve the quality of education.

Japan is the single largest bilateral development partner of Bangladesh. Japan has contributed significantly to the overall development of Bangladesh. 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.

(Khadija Parveen) Senior Assistant Chief