



Japan International Cooperation Agency Newsletter

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2022

Contents

Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

- JICA Extends Technical Cooperation for Station Area Development along Mumbai- Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor
- JICA India inaugurates the Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Project in Dehradun
- JICA and DMRC complete 20 years of successful economic partnership of Delhi Metro project
- Japan and India inaugurate partial commissioning of Guwahati Water Supply Project to provide safe, clean drinking water to the people of India's Northeast

Events/Workshops

- JICA Senior Vice President NAKAZAWA Keiichiro visits India

Special days

- JICA India to spread awareness of hand hygiene across Delhi with a four-day carnival on Global Handwashing Day
- JICA India celebrates Global Handwashing Day by sensitizing the people in Delhi about the importance of Hand Hygiene

Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

JICA Extends Technical Cooperation for Station Area Development along Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor

Aims to develop surrounding areas of MAHSR stations

New Delhi, October 12, 2022: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India and Ministry of Railways (MoR), Government of India have signed the Record of Discussions (R/D) for “Project for Station Area Development along Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project”. This Project is a Technical Cooperation (TC) project with the objective to enhance the capacities of both Maharashtra and Gujarat State Governments, Municipal Corporations, Urban Development Authorities and National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited to plan development of surrounding areas around MAHSR stations in order to enhance accessibility and convenience of commuters and other stakeholders and to promote economic activities.

Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Railway (MAHSR) Project shall cover 508 km between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, and shall include 12 stations located at Mumbai (BKC), Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad and Sabarmati. In the TC Project, Japanese experts will be dispatched to India for assisting Indian counterparts to frame the modalities for the transit function of stations and Station Area Development (SAD). It is based on the concept of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and it is envisaged to promote urban and transport infrastructure development including the access road and station plaza. Especially, Japanese experts will support Indian counterparts to prepare station area development plans for 4 stations namely Thane, Virar, Surat and Sabarmati as model stations including revision of macro level or higher level urban plans.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office** said, “MAHSR project is a symbol of Japan-India

collaboration, contributing to India’s first High Speed Rail project by introducing Japan’s High Speed Rail technology. Under MAHSR project, Indian contractors will have a technology transfer opportunity from Japan not only for High Speed Rail construction and O&M aspect, but also for Station Area Development based on Japanese experiences in its major cities. Both Maharashtra and Gujarat states have been the nation’s growth drivers, and the high-speed rail system in those is expected to further support station area development as had the system done for Japan. JICA believes that MAHSR will contribute to regional wide economic and social development which brought about job creation and income generation to local residents in future.”

JICA has been supporting the project for the Mumbai- Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail by Providing ODA loans of JPY 350,000 million (approximately INR 20,000 crore) in total since 2017. The objective of the Project is to develop a high-frequency mass transportation system by constructing the High-Speed Rail between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, using Japan’s Shinkansen technology (also known as the “Bullet Train”), thereby enhancing mobility in India and contributing to regional economic development.



Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

JICA India inaugurates the Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Project in Dehradun

Aims to promote profitable horticulture and improve farmers' income through infra development and capacity building in the state

Dehradun, December 20: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has inaugurated the Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Project, today in Dehradun. Dignitaries such as Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Uttarakhand, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhama, Hon'ble Minister, Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shri Ganesh Joshi, Hon'ble Minister, Finance, Shri Prem Chand Aggarwal and Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare cum Chief project Director(UKIHDP), Dr. B.V.R.C Purushottam were present at the ceremony, along with Mr. Jun Watanabe, Senior Representative, JICA India, along with dignitaries from Government of India and department of horticulture and food processing.

In March 2022, JICA had signed a loan agreement with the Government of India to provide Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan amounting to JPY 6,401 million (approximately INR 413 crores) for this project. Consistent with India's development issues and policies as well as the

cooperation policy and analysis of Japan and JICA, the project will contribute to promote profitable horticulture and improve farmer's income in the four target districts covered under the Project.

As Uttarakhand is a predominantly hilly terrain, it has small and fragmented landholdings and irrigation facilities are not developed properly. The objective is to promote profitable horticulture and improve farmer's income by infrastructure development and capacity development for production, processing, and marketing of horticulture crops, thereby contributing to economic and social development in the state.

This project focuses on service delivery and improvement in sustainable manner through transfer of technology and supply of quality planting material to the farmers.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India said**, "JICA is elated to inaugurate the Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Project in partnership with the Department of Horticulture. We are confident that this project will help farmers in the



Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

state overcome the existing challenges such as lack of access to services including water, technology and agricultural input and insufficient marketing facilities. At the same time, it will help them increase the productivity of the existing cultivated area as well as add value to their produces. More importantly, it will deliver on the Government of India's commitment to boost the agricultural / horticulture development in the country.

Farmers will be empowered through 1) trainings and technology dissemination, with demonstrations for skill development, 2) institutional development of FPO (Farmer Producer Organisations), 3) capacity

building of FPO, 4) creating managerial cadres for supply chain management of fruits, vegetables, spices etc., 5) establishment of centers of excellence showcasing hi-tech cultivation of fruits and vegetables, 6) rejuvenation of senile plantation, and 7) provide support to farmers for adoption of sustainable organic horticulture practices. Climate change adaptation measures shall also be strategically promoted via this project.

This Project is considered to contribute to the achievement of Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and Goal 13 (Climate Action) of the SDGs.

JICA and DMRC complete 20 years of successful economic partnership of Delhi Metro project

New Delhi, December 26, 2022: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) have completed 20 years of shining and showcasing collaboration today. To commemorate 20 years of the successful operation of Delhi Metro, a ceremony in the auspicious presence of HE Japanese Ambassador Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki and other dignitaries was held at the Welcome Metro Station, New Delhi (from where the First Metro Train was flagged off by the then Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Mr. Atal Bihari Bajpayee) to celebrate this milestone of 20 years of successful journey of Delhi Metro operations. Mr. Anuj Dayal, Principal Executive Director, Corporate Communication, DMRC delivered the welcome address, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office; Mr. Vikas Kumar, Managing Director, DMRC; Mr. Shoko Noda, UNDP Resident Representative in India, among others witnessed the said ceremony. During the occasion, an exhibition commemorating 20 years of the Operations and DMRC-JICA partnership was also unveiled.

The first Loan Agreement between the Government of India and Japan's OECF (JICA's erstwhile entity) concluded on February 25, 1997, since then, the

economic cooperation between Japan and India has flourished to newer heights despite several challenges. Today, Delhi Metro is well known as Shining Example of Indo-Japanese Cooperation globally. It is to be recalled here that the then Hon'ble Prime Minister had inaugurated the first section of 8.3 km-long on Red Line having six stations in 2002. As on date, JICA has already extended financial assistance amounting to 825.184 billion Yen (approx. INR 550.122 billion) for the development of Phase-1, 2, 3 & ongoing Phase 4. Upon completion of the ongoing Phase-4, Delhi Metro's total system route length would stretch to over 415 kms (one of the largest metros in the world).

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office, said, "It is encouraging to observe how JICA and DMRC's collaboration has evolved and expanded over these two decades. DMRC's continued efforts in the field of clean energy, and in more recent times the proactive response to COVID-19 have gained impressive results. It is a proud moment for us to note that Delhi Metro, has reported a phenomenal reduction of carbon footprint of 4.4 million tons thereby promoting environment conservation.

Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

JICA also appreciates the impact DMRC has had on women's safety and empowerment. Keeping in mind that women tend to use public transport more than men, improvement in the public transport system has shown immediate positive results with more women finding it safe to commute on the metro. This has also helped increase their ratio in the employment."

"DMRC has developed its capacity not only to create a successful model of project implementation as executer, but also provide knowledge assistance

in developing the Metro sector across the country, as well as globally. We wish to continue to have future cooperation with DMRC, but in the form of the handholding support specially in sustainability of the operations, technological innovations, environment protection, non-fare box revenue, renewable energy utilization, and helping DMRC in making world leader in Metro Rail operations and quality infrastructure development," he further added.

4 Japan and India inaugurate partial commissioning of Guwahati Water Supply Project to provide safe, clean drinking water to the people of India's Northeast

Guwahati, December 22, 2022: Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated the partial commissioning of the Guwahati Water Supply Project assisted by Japan International Cooperation Agency in the presence of Mr. Ashok Singhal, Hon'ble Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs of the Government of Assam; other dignitaries from Government of India (the Ministry of External Affairs); Mr. KAWAZU Kunihiko, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan in India; and Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office.

The Guwahati Water Supply Project has been implemented by Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water and Sewerage Board (also known as Guwahati Jal Board, or GJB), with the Government of Japan extending support of JPY 29,453 million (approximately INR 1,736 crore) through JICA to provide safe and reliable drinking water supply to approximately 142,000 households expand the existing water supply facilities and construct new ones in the South-Central and North wards of Guwahati, thereby contributing to improving the living conditions of local residents.

The facilities involved in the project – including the intake well and Water Treatment Plant (60 out of 191 MLD) for South Central Guwahati, Ramsa Hills Reservoir and Amiya Nagar Reservoir and Distribution network of 106 km in 14 out of 126

Districted Meter Areas (DMAs) in Amiya Nagar and Geetanagar distributions zones – have been completed and put into operation. These facilities are expected to provide water connection to 14 DMAs with 13,000 households, of which 1500 households have already been served.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. KAWAZU Kunihiko, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan in India said, "I am proud that Japan is contributing to such an important project. The Northeast is where India's 'Act East Policy' and Japan's vision of a 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific' converge. Japan has been supporting development in India's Northeastern regions through the Act East Forum, and the Guwahati Water Supply Project is yet another important step in this direction."

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative JICA India Office said, "JICA is committed to the infrastructure development, poverty alleviation, and environment conservation in India's Northeast. The Guwahati Water Supply Project is one of our flagship projects in this region. The project implementation had started in 2009 but it faced several challenges which have been successfully addressed by the Government of Assam. We are pleased with the progress and the outcomes of the project so far, and we expect that it will be fully completed by September 2024. It is expected that nearly 1 million people of South-

Project Updates basis signing of project agreements

Central and North Guwahati will enjoy most healthy water serving everyone's fits and better livelihoods."

Since 2008, Japan, through its funding agency JICA, has extended 314 billion Japanese Yen

(approximately INR 1850 crore*) as concessional Official Development Assistance (ODA) loans for the development of India's Northeastern regions.

*Calculated at the prevailing exchange ratio at the time of this announcement: 1 INR = 1.69649 JPY



Inaugural Ceremony for the Partial Commissioning



Cascade Aerator

Events/Workshops

JICA Senior Vice President NAKAZAWA Keiichiro visits India

New Delhi, October 28, 2022: After the pandemic, JICA India has resumed the board members' visit to India. **Mr NAKAZAWA Keiichiro, Senior Vice President, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** visited India, and met counterpart officers in Government of India and visited several project sites including Delhi metro. He exchanged views with counterparts and discussed JICA's observation about the importance of operations in India, which contributes to the Japan-India bilateral relationship and to socio economic development in

the global perspective.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr NAKAZAWA Keiichiro, Senior Vice President, JICA, said,** "I was a representative of Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan (OECF, former JICA) India office during 1991-1994, and this time I observed both what have changed and what have not changed. India's rapid development in last 15 years is far from what I experienced in those days. There has been a drastic improvement in absolute poverty

ratio from 40% to 10% in last 15 years. On the other hand, the current per capita GNI of India is less than that of Bangladesh and India is still facing lots of socio-economic challenges concerning rapid urbanization, improving social security and measures to tackle climate changes in both through mitigation and adaptation. I believe there are many areas where JICA can contribute to India's Inclusive growth."

"The Delhi Metro projects met the "inclusive growth" criteria, which is JICA's focus for investing in infrastructure. They are means not only to sustainable and inclusive growth but also to climate action. India's net zero target by 2070 was a potential investment segment for JICA. We will try to support the Indian government's efforts for this transition. There are several new technologies being discussed, including green hydrogen and clean coal by CCU and CCUS. If benefits are provided, such technologies can be available at half rates. We are happy to work with Indian government to introduce such technologies and are eager to support India as it continues to grow", he further added.

Commenting on the same, **Mr SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office** said, "All JICA's activities are aimed towards achieving the vision of 'leading the world with trust'. JICA will take the lead in forging bonds of trust across the world, aspiring for a free, peaceful, and prosperous world where people can hope for a better future and explore their diverse potential. JICA fosters trust with a range of domestic and international

partners by putting ourselves in our partners' shoes and thinking with them as equal partners. JICA, in cooperation with the Government and private sector of India, will create a world where all people and countries are bound together by trust."

During his visit, Mr NAKAZAWA met his counterparts of NITI Aayog, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Railways, National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited and donor agencies in Delhi. He also went for a ride in the Delhi Metro and visited the Okhla Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) under the Yamuna Action Plan Project.

After leaving Delhi, he went to the Mumbai–Ahmedabad high-speed rail project sites in Gujarat and Mumbai and also visited Mumbai Trans Harbour Link project site.

JICA believes that proactive involvement and strong ownership of the Government of India would be a key driving factor for the implementation of successful projects, and it has deepened the mutual trust between JICA and India. The Official Development Assistance (ODA) is one of the most important tools to further the bilateral relationship between the countries. As a principle, JICA holds up its mission of promoting "quality growth" and "human security." Based on this mission, JICA will continue to focus on securing the foundations of economic growth in developing regions, promoting human-centred development to meet basic human needs, promoting universal values, and securing a peaceful and stable society.



Special days

JICA India to spread awareness of hand hygiene across Delhi with a four-day carnival on Global Handwashing Day

New Delhi, October 11, 2022: Every year on October 15th October, over 200 million people from around the world, including governments and NGOs converge to celebrate Global Handwashing Day (GHD) and promote the habit of washing their hands with soap. To celebrate this day, JICA India is organizing a four-day carnival from October 11th to 14th at different locations in Delhi, as a part of its “Achhi Aadat (Good Habit)” Campaign. The Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT Delhi, Fukuoka Prefectural Government, Japan, and Jamghat (NGO) are supporting this event.

The four-day carnival will witness theatre, rally, and demonstration of hand hygiene. 11th October Day one would mark a live-streamed street play by the children of Jamghat, in six different locations in Delhi. On day two, October 12, six groups of 20 children each, along with supporting staff of Jamghat will take out a rally in six different locations in Delhi, where they will spread the message of importance of handwashing with soap and nail hygiene using props such as placards, face painting, slogans. The new catchphrase of JICA’s Achhi Aadat (Good Habit) Campaign AAC 2022 is: अच्छी आदत, स्वच्छ हाथ, आओ करे एक बेहतर शुरुआत (Achhi Aadat, swachha hath, Aao karein ek Behtar Shuruaat/ Good Habits, Clean Hands, Let’s Make a Better Start). This phrase is used as branding in each of these sessions. Day three, October 13, would have demonstration sessions of correct and effective handwashing with soap and nail hygiene that will be conducted in the local community.

The fourth and final day, October 14, will have the main and closing event at Veer Savarkar Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya in Kalkaji, Delhi, with activities including: viewing of GHD videos; introductory session on Achhi Aadat; Achhi Aadat Pledge; and group photograph.

A strategic collaboration with Ryohin-keikaku Reliance India Private Limited and its MUJI stores has also been undertaken, wherein MUJI has provided

a space at its Store in Select CITYWALK Mall Saket, New Delhi to celebrate Global Handwashing Day and display AAC collaterals to encourage handwashing, cleanliness and hygienic behavior among people.

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India said**, “Diseases like Diarrhea and Pneumonia, major ARIs (acute respiratory infections like COVID-19) resulting from poor hand hygiene are one of the leading causes of child mortality. As per UNICEF data, Diarrhea and Pneumonia together cause death among 5.3 million children in the world. Half of these children could be easily saved, by introducing simple behavioral changes, such as handwashing with soap and regular nail cutting. Getting into the habit of handwashing with soap before meals and after using the toilet could save many lives, cutting deaths from diarrhea by almost half and deaths from acute respiratory infections by one-quarter. We hope that this carnival will add to the effectiveness of our ongoing campaign, which is spreading awareness on the life-saving habit of handwashing for the last one year.”

About Achhi Aadat Campaign 2022

In 2021, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) launched the Achhi Aadat Campaign to spread various hygienic practices among the population in India. Amid Covid 19 situation, the campaign encouraged consistent and appropriate handwashing techniques, nail cleaning, and other hygiene practices.

In continuation this year, in 2022, JICA in partnership with its project implementing partner IJ Kakehashi Services Private Limited, collaborates with the Government of NCT of Delhi, and private Japanese companies, NGOs, and has flagged off the wonderful voyage to create awareness among people of India.

The campaign aims at reaching its target of more than 35 million people this year. In this journey,

JICA with its partners carries out such activities as two months-long carnivals of street plays, distributions of sanitation items, campaigns in schools, celebrating Global Handwashing week

and 4 days long program, promotion through Auto panel branding, and social media and mid-media campaigns.

JICA India celebrates Global Handwashing Day by sensitizing the people in Delhi about the importance of Hand Hygiene

अच्छी आदत, स्वच्छ हाथ, आओ करे एक बेहतर शुरुआत **Good Habits, Clean Hands, Let's Make a Better Start**

New Delhi, October 15, 2022: Under the aegis of Achhi Aadat campaign 2022, JICA India along with its implementation partner IJ Kakehashi Services Private Limited, conducted a series of events from October 7th to October 16th. The 10-day event was organised to commemorate Global Handwashing Day, which is celebrated globally on October 15th.

The celebration started at the MUJI Store in Select CITYWALK Mall with the display of various videos, Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials and hygiene products. The Achhi Aadat Corner is at the store until October 16th. To involve the community and children for instilling the correct way of handwashing and hand hygiene, a four-day carnival was held from October 11th to 14th. Activities such as street-plays, street rallies, and handwash demonstrations were organized in 4 days.

A grand event with the support of Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi was held for 200 children of Veer Savarkar Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Kalkaji, New Delhi. Mr. Himanshu Gupta, Director of Education, Delhi; Mr. WATANABE Jun, Senior Representative of JICA India, and senior officials of Directorate of Education and IJ Kakehashi attended the event. They conducted a fun filled session with children to sensitize them about the importance of hand hygiene. Fukuoka Prefectural Government of Japan which has a 15-year long relationship through a friendship exchange agreement with Government of NCT of Delhi also supported the event.

Apart from school children performing handwashing musical performance on stage, the participants enjoyed videos of Achhi Aadat Campaign, portable handwashing stations SATO Tap, Hello Kitty, and Fukuoka prefecture introduction. NGO Jamghat, the partner for spreading Achhi Aadat Campaign

to communities in Delhi, performed a fun and informative play.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Himanshu Gupta, IAS, Director of Education, Delhi said, "I am delighted to see the successful collaboration between JICA India and the Directorate of Education, to celebrate Global Handwashing Day as a part of JICA India's Achhi Aadat Campaign. Government of NCT of Delhi also has a Friendship Exchange Agreement with Fukuoka Prefectural Government, which has also successfully supported this pathbreaking campaign. I was impressed to see the celebrations held at the Veer Savarkar Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Kalkaji, where the children enjoyed audio visual content of Hello Kitty handwashing, Nail Hygiene and Kumamon videos. This was an interesting way to combine learning with fun to drive home an important message among children."

Speaking on the occasion, **Mr. WATANABE Jun, Senior Representative of JICA said**, "Handwashing is a powerful tool which can prevent not only diarrhea and COVID-19 but also other infectious diseases. While handwashing is a simple practice, you must do it in a proper way for maximum benefits. Through the various sessions of our event, the children learnt a step-by-step guide on how to wash their hands. I hope that they will become "Masters" of handwashing and start practicing it from today onwards to make it a good habit, or Achhi Aadat."

14 year old Laxmi, a Class 9th student, who participated in the three-day event by Jamghat at Shanti Van, Delhi, said, "I took part in all the events of the three-day GHD carnival week, including street play, rally and the handwashing demonstration activities and learnt about correct way of handwashing and hand hygiene with soap. Joining rallies made me realize the importance of spreading awareness about hand hygiene. By participating in these activities, I think I have contributed to the community at large."