

# PRESS RELEASE

## Embassy of Japan

P.O. Box 264, Kathmandu

<http://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp>

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### **Japan Constructs Classrooms for Specialized Courses in Agriculture in Gulmi District**

(Kathmandu: March 11): The Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, H. E. Mr. Masamichi Saigo, signed a grant contract for the construction of a school building for specialized courses in agriculture at Shree Nepal Rastriya Tribhuvan Secondary School, Gulmi District. The grant contract was signed between the Embassy of Japan and Mr. Tej Bahadur Mahat, Principal of the school.

The Project for the Construction of Classrooms for Specialized Courses in Agriculture in Gulmi District is funded under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) of the Japanese Government. The total grant assistance is USD 78,671 (approximately NPR 8.8 million).

The project will support the construction of one school building where students from Grades 9 to 10 can learn practical knowledge about agriculture and its management. Approximately 90 percent of the population in Gulmi District is engaged in agriculture, however, the productivity and profitability is not remarkable. Therefore, the young generation tends to go abroad. According to the Census conducted in 2018, Gulmi District generates the largest number of migrant workers.

In order to improve the situation, Shree Nepal Rastriya Tribhuvan Secondary School planned a curricula of specialized courses in agriculture. The curricula offers full-time courses for students of Grades 9 and 10. The courses are comprised of diverse subjects such as animal husbandry, sericulture, farm land management, agricultural processing, etc.

Mr. Atsushi Takahashi, a JICA Volunteer who has been working in Gulmi District since 2017, also assisted the formation of the project.

With the implementation of the project, the school aims to attract the young generation to the field of agriculture. Youth in rural areas tend to think that farming does not guarantee a stable income. However, the courses will try to shed light how to generate profit from daily agricultural activities and revitalize the district.

The Embassy of Japan expects this project will improve the lives of local farmers in Gulmi District and also promote the country's rich agricultural resources. The Embassy also hopes the assistance will further strengthen the bilateral relationship between Japan and Nepal.

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