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Food Assistance for Nepal

Japan has extended food assistance to support the Government of Nepal in meeting food security by procuring food for people living in food deficit districts. An agreement to this effect was signed on 25th January 2018.

Under the agreement signed between His Excellency Mr. Masashi OGAWA, Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, and Mr. Shankar Prasad Adhikari, Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Japan will provide a grant assistance of 350 million yen (NRs. 324.8 million), to the Government of Nepal for the Food Assistance Program.

The assistance aims to assist the Government of Nepal implement the Food Assistance Program to ensure food security to the needy Nepali people. Last year Nepal was hit by several natural calamities including floods and heavy rain that caused many agricultural products to be washed away or were left to wither in the fields resulting in food shortages.



Installation of a Radar System at Bhattedada and Tribhuvan International Airport

The installation of a Monopulse Secondary Surveillance Radar (MSSR) System at Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA) and at Bhattedanda, south of the Kathmandu Valley, constructed under grant aid of the Government of Japan, was completed and handed over to the Government of Nepal. The formal operation of these radars started from February 2018.



These radars were installed under the Tribhuvan International Airport Modernization Project (surveillance system), which aimed for the improvement of Nepal's aviation safety facilities. Most of Nepal's airspace can be monitored through these radar systems, which helps the air traffic controllers gain precise information about the position and identification of aircrafts in flight.

On January 24th 2018, prior to the formal operation, the Embassy of Japan, the Japan International

Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN), jointly organized a site visit to Bhattedada and TIA so that local media representatives could deepen their understanding of the aviation related projects conducted by the Government of Japan. Approximately thirty media representatives from twenty five media houses participated in the site visit. H. E. Mr. Masashi Ogawa, Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, Mr. Jun Sakuma, Chief Representative of JICA, and Mr. Sanjiv Gautam, Director General of CAAN also took part in the program.

In 1992, two catastrophic air accidents occurred in Nepal, in which a Thai Airways plane and a Pakistan International Airlines plane crashed within an interval of only a few weeks. Responding to a strong desire of the Government of Nepal that such accidents not be repeated, since 1994 the Government of Japan has been implementing various projects to improve aviation safety in Nepal.



Japanese NGO Project Scheme

Improving Access to Water in Sindhupalchowk District

Signing Ceremony: 9th February, 2018
Amount: USD 240,895 (NRs 24 million)
Recipient: Peace Winds Japan (PWJ)

Peace Winds Japan is an international NGO based in Hiroshima. PWJ will work with a Nepali partner NGO, the Institution for Suitable Actions for Prosperity (ISAP) for rehabilitating water supply facilities in Sunkoshi Municipality, Sindhupalchowk, that have been affected by the earthquakes of 2015.

Assistance for Earthquake Affected Schools in Nuwakot District

Signing Ceremony: 20th February, 2018
Amount: USD 591,810 (NRs 60 million)
Recipient: Shanti Volunteer Association (SVA)

Shanti Volunteer Association, an international NGO based in Japan, will work with a Nepalese partner NGO, Community and Rural Development Society Nepal (CARDSN), seeking to assist Strengthening the Resilience of Earthquake Affected Schools in Nuwakot District.

Assistance for Post-Disaster Psychosocial Care

Signing Ceremony: 21st February, 2018
Amount: USD 267,745 (NRs 27 million)
Recipient: Japan IsraAID Support Program (JISP)

JISP, an international NGO based in Japan, will work with Nepali partner Transcultural Psychosocial Organization (TPO) to implement the project.

Assistance for Building a Training Center and Providing Skills Training

Signing Ceremony: 26th February, 2018
Amount: USD 310,940 (NRs 32 million)
Recipient: Institute of Cultural Affairs Japan (ICA Japan)

The grant will be used to build a training center at Sangachowk, Sindhupalchowk District. ICA Japan, an international NGO based in Japan, will work with a Nepali partner NGO, The Institute of Cultural Affairs Nepal (ICA Nepal) to implement the project.

Assistance for Improving Agriculture and Marketing

Signing Ceremony: 28th February, 2018
Amount: USD 380,327 (NRs 39 million)
Recipient: AMDA Multisectoral and Integrated Development Services (AMDA-MINDS)

AMDA-MINDS will work with a local partner NGO, SAGUN on the project support income generation program for local people in Roshi Rural Municipality in Kavrepalanchowk District, who were severely affected by the earthquake of April 2015.



Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP)



The Government of Japan has been implementing Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) through the Embassy of Japan since 1992. GGP projects largely aim to support local efforts for development in collaboration with stakeholders. The Embassy of Japan has extended support for the following GGP projects in 2018:-

Assistance to Manmohan Memorial Polytechnic

Signing Ceremony: 16th January, 2018
Amount: USD 75,167 (NRs 7.7 million)
Recipient: Manmohan Memorial Polytechnic at Hattimuda, Morang District

The project will support the installation of a set of high quality technical equipment such as digital theodolites, a universal testing machine, air and oil circuit breakers, and a model micro hydro at the polytechnic.

Assistance to an Earthquake Affected School in Gorkha District

Signing Ceremony: 25th January, 2018
Amount: USD 90,760 (NRs 9.4 million)
Recipient: Shree Akala Secondary School in Gorkha District

The fund will be used to rebuild school buildings. Gorkha District was the epicenter of the 2015 earthquake.

Signing Ceremony: 22nd February, 2018
Amount: USD 90,027 (NRs 9.3 million)
Recipient: Sarswati Foundation

This support is intended for building a two-storey building with eight classrooms in Sarswati Peace School, in Arughat Rural Municipality of Gorkha District, which had been severely affected by the earthquake that occurred in 2015.

Support for Embankment Construction on the Kali Gandaki River

Signing Ceremony: 25th January, 2018
Amount: USD 90,596 (NRs 9.2 million)
Recipient: Ward No. 2 office of Gharapjhong Village Municipality, Mustang District

The project will be used to build a 420-meter long embankment in Kali Gandaki River in Marpha to prevent erosion of agricultural lands and adjacent school along its banks.



Support to Community Health Center

Signing Ceremony: 2nd February, 2018
Amount: USD 82,514 (NRs 8.5 million)
Recipient: Laborer Women and Child Welfare Council (LWCWC) at the Valley Health Center in Bhaktapur District.

The project seeks to support the installation of cutting-edge equipment such as an echocardiography (ECG) machine, hematology analyzer, a mobile X-ray machine, ultrasound machine, etc. for use by the center.

Assistance to an Earthquake Affected School, Dhading District

Signing Ceremony: 8th February, 2018
Amount: USD 90,909 (NRs 9.2 million)
Recipient: HEED Nepal Organization

The grant assistance will be used to reconstruct two school buildings, which was damaged by 2015 earthquake in Shertung, Dhading.

Diagnostic Equipment for the Nepal Cancer Hospital and Research Centre

Signing Ceremony: 15th February, 2018
Amount: USD 84,551 (NRs 8.6 million)
Recipient: International Concern Center

The assistance will support installation of portable ultrasound with an ECG machine for diagnosis, diagnostic devices for pancreatic duodenum cancer (ERCP), and a bronchoscope for diagnosis of lung cancer to the Nepal Cancer Hospital and Research Center in Harisiddhi, Lalitpur.

Assistance for Building a Rehabilitation Center

Signing Ceremony: 16th February, 2018
Amount: USD 89,236 (NRs 9.0 million)
Recipient: Nepal Disabled Women Association

The project will support construction of a first floor on an existing building that will have a multi-purpose room, a kitchen, a dining room, storage space, office space, and toilets.

Medical Equipment for a Community Health Center

Signing Ceremony: 21st February, 2018
Amount: USD 32,708 (NRs 3.3 million)
Recipient: Rural Community Health Service Centre (RCHSC), in Bhotechaur, Sindhupalchowk District

The grant will support the installation of medical devices such as a portable X-ray machine, CR laser imager, biochemistry analyzer, microscope, and centrifuge etc., as well as furniture at the health center.

Mediation Centers in Lalitpur and Bhaktapur Districts

Signing Ceremony: 21st February, 2018
Amount: USD 38,388 (NRs 3.9 million)
Recipient: Nepal Bar Association

The grant will be used to set up mediation centers at the Patan High Court, and one each at the Lalitpur and Bhaktapur District Courts, which will provide free mediation services to people in the community who cannot afford legal services.

Reconstruction of a Dilapidated Remote School in Myagdi District

Signing Ceremony: 12th March, 2018
Amount: USD 88,193 (NRs 9.0 million)
Recipient: Shree Deurali Basic School

The project will rebuild eight classrooms and upgrade the dilapidated school infrastructure.

Construction of Rehabilitation Center for Visually Impaired People in Gorkha District

Signing Ceremony: 15th March, 2018
Amount: USD 85,315 (NRs 8.8 million)
Recipient: Gorkha Association of the Blind

The grant will support the construction of a two-storey rehabilitation center that will also serve as a care home.

Community Center Handed-Over

The Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, H.E. Mr. Masashi Ogawa, handed over a community center, a set of furniture, computers, and visual audio equipment to Mr. Prakash Man Singh, President of the Ganesh Man Singh Foundation on 9th February 2018. The project was funded under the GGP grant in 2016.

Girls Hostel Handed-Over

On 8th March 2018, the Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, H.E. Mr. Masashi Ogawa, handed over a hostel for female students of Triveni Multiple Campus in Parashuram Municipality, Dadeldhura District. The project was funded under the GGP grant in 2017.

Community Learning Center in Talinchowk, Gorkha District, Handed-Over

The Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, H. E. Mr. Masashi Ogawa, handed over a community learning resource center for students of the neighboring areas in Talinchowk, Gorkha District on 14th March 2018. The project was funded under the GGP grant in 2015.



Japanese Support for Improvements to ANFA Facilities



The Government of Japan is providing financial assistance of USD 71,581 (NRs. 7.4 million) to the All Nepal Football Association (ANFA) for building and improving facilities at the Satdobato Football Stadium.

The support was provided under the Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Project (GCGP) and Japan's "Sport for Tomorrow" initiative, which promotes sports to more than 10 million people in over 100 nations until 2020, the year when Tokyo will host the summer Olympic and Paralympic.

H.E. Mr. Masashi Ogawa, Ambassador of Japan to Nepal, and Mr. Dhirendra Kumar Pradhan, General Secretary of ANFA signed and exchanged the grant contract on 28th February 2018.

ANFA will use the grant to renovate the players' locker room, to furnish the technical training room and office space, and to build toilet facilities in the stadium premises. The upgrading of facilities at Satdobato will add to the convenience for sports women and men, and the public, and also contributes towards improving ANFA's services and training programs.

Shoko Ito Japanese Solo Theatre Performance

On 23rd and 24th March 2018, the Embassy of Japan and Theatre Village, in cooperation with Kunja Theater, organized the Japanese solo-theatre "Master Shoko and Margarita" by Shoko Ito in Kathmandu. Ms. Ito is a renowned Japanese solo theatre artist who founded the ITO-GUMI theatre company in 1987 and has performed her art in 62 countries around the globe. She has worked in theatre more than 30 years as a director, a writer and an actress. Her performances are highly regarded and awarded in various countries such as the Netherlands, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA, and Germany. In 2016, she performed her solo play "Samurai Grandma" in Nepal.



The first performance took place at the Nepal Tourism Board Auditorium on Friday, 23rd March, and the second performance was on Saturday, 24th March at the Kunja Theater, New Baneshwor. On the first day, government officers, members of diplomatic missions, journalists and artists were invited, whereas on the second day most of the audiences were young theatre artists and literary persons. Members of the audiences commented that they enjoyed the play as well as the Japanese dance and would like to thank the Embassy of Japan who made such wonderful opportunity possible, introducing the solo-drama play to Nepali people.

Japanese Film Festival 2018

The Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation in support with the Japanese Language Teachers' Association Nepal (JALTAN) organized a Japanese Film Festival in February 2018. Separate screenings were organized in Pokhara (9-10 February) and Kathmandu (23-24 February). Four movies were screened in Pokhara and five in Kathmandu.

Japanese art on screen is manifested in films that are recognized for excellence by both Japanese and international audiences. Japanese films are typically paced differently that those produced in other countries and silent shots are used to deliver significant messages.

This year's film festival was dedicated to showcase the finest dramas covering popular genres such as history, contemporary subjects, animation, comedy, etc. About 2500 people enjoyed watching Japanese films during this year's film festival.

**Japanese
Film Festival 2018**

Pokhara: 9-10, Feb. 2018
Pokhara Chamber of Commerce & Industries Hall, Gaira Patan

Kathmandu: 23-24, Feb. 2018
Tribhuvan Army Officers' Club, Tundikhel

Japanese Language Speech Contest

On 17th February 2018, the Japanese Language Teachers' Association (JALTAN) held 37th All Nepal Japanese language speech contest in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, and with support from the Japan Foundation. The program was held in Kathmandu where contestants were required to showcase their language skills.



There were nine participants in the senior group and eleven in the junior group. Ms. Sushil Paudyal (Japanese Language and Education Culture Centre) came first in the contest in the senior group, and Ms. Bithika Joshi (Campus of International Languages) stood first in the junior group. The contestants were evaluated on their overall performance, including grammar, delivery, pronunciation and confidence on stage.

JALSAN Speech Contest



On 10th March, a Japanese language speech contest was organized by the Japanese Language School Association of Nepal (JALSAN). JALSAN has organized speech contests from 2013, and this year was the 5th such contest. Altogether 15 participants took part in the contest and contestants showcased their Japanese language skills before the audience through different titled speeches. Ms. Sharmila Bajracharya from the Innovative Japanese Language Institute stood first in the competition.

JENESYS 2nd Batch Visited Japan



A team of seventeen young men and women related to the transportation, infrastructure and energy fields visited Japan under Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) program. They were selected for the Japan-SAARC Network Program of People-to-People Exchange, SAARC Countries 2nd Batch-Sectoral Connectivity Program from 22nd February to 30th February, 2018.

During their stay in Japan, the Nepali delegation joined with other participants from SAARC countries. The team observed various infrastructure and technological fields in Japan. Through the homestay program they had very wonderful experiences of Japanese life styles. One of the participants, Mr. Shakar Bhattarai, told us that he learned many new things in terms of technology, Japanese culture, lifestyle and way of thinking. He recalled his observation of the Tokyo Gas Station, where the methane gas produced from households and industrial wastes is used to heat water and ultimately used for temperature regulation purposes for corporate offices, among other things. He found that a sense of diligence is directly connected to productivity in Japan. He also emphasized that these kinds of exchange programs through the Japanese Government provide a sound foundation for strong solidarity within Asia.



JAPAN DESK

(INVESTMENT BOARD OF NEPAL - IBN)



IBN Japan Desk has been established in January 2018 with the full support of JICA. The main purpose is to facilitate investment in Nepal by sharing relevant up-to-date information with interested Japanese investors at this one-stop service station.

MAJOR FUNCTIONS OF IBN JAPAN DESK

- Provision of information for establishment of an office in Nepal
- Support Japanese Companies operating in Nepal
- Support in business of Japanese companies entering Nepal
- Assistance with Nepalese government agencies
- Proper response to various queries

All communications will be handled in Japanese

Email address: japandesk@ibn.gov.np

Representative: Mr. Mikio TAMADA, JICA Expert

In charge: Mr. Rajiv SHAKYA, Consultant

MEXT Scholarship Students Departed to Japan

On 1st April 2018, four Nepali under-research students namely, Ms. Shrijana Shakya (Hiroshima University), Ms. Bidhya Subedi (Kyoto University), Mr. Manoj Khania (Kyoto University), and Mr. Samundra Kumar Thapa (The University of Tokyo) and an undergraduate student, Mr. Bipul Panthi (Osaka University) departed to Japan for their studies. Another research student, Mr. Sijan Thapa (International University), is scheduled to depart to Japan in September.

The orientation program for these six students under the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship for 2018 was held at the Embassy of Japan on 9th March 2018. Members of the Japanese Universities Alumni Association, Nepal (JUAAN) conducted the orientation and consulted with the students prior to their departure.



Announcement: Japanese Government MEXT Scholarship for 2018

The Embassy of Japan announces the competition for Japanese Government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) Scholarships for Nepalese students for the academic year 2019 in the fields of Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences.

Program	Qualifications
1. Research Student	Must be under 35 years of age (as of April 1, '19) and have completed at least 16 years of education (15 years is also accepted if the undergraduate course is designed for only 3 years) and secured 70% marks for Natural Sciences and 60% for Humanities and Social Sciences in average in all levels of exams.
2. Undergraduate Student and 3. Specialized Training College Student	Must have been born between April 2, 1994 and April 1, 2002 and have secured 75% marks for Natural Sciences and 65% for Humanities and Social Sciences in average in SLC and Plus 2 exams. Deserving students waiting the results for Class XII exams are also eligible to apply.

The Embassy will accept completed applications in person at the following times only:

1.	Research Students	May 14 –18	09:30 – 12:30
2.	Undergraduate Students	July 9 – 13	09:30 – 12:30
3.	Specialized Training College Students	July 9 – 13	14:30 – 16:30

Written Examinations for undergraduate students will be held on July 21, 2018

The field of study must be the same as the applicants' previous study leading to their final graduation. Applicants need to attest copies of certificates and mark-sheet along with the application. Application forms are available at:

http://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html

12th Japan International Manga Award

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan founded the International MANGA Award in 2007 for the purpose of expanding international exchange and mutual understanding through the MANGA culture which is widely accepted around the world.

This award honors the MANGA artists who are contributing to the development of MANGA culture in the world. The application period for the 12th Japan International MANGA Award is from April 2nd 2018 to June 15th 2018. For details, please visit at: http://www.manga-award.mofa.go.jp/index_e.html



Embassy of Japan

Tel. 4426680, E-mail: cultural-emb@km.mofa.go.jp, URL : <http://www.np.emb-japan.go.jp>