

On World Day for Safety and Health at Work, JICA commits to make construction sites safer, appoints MASUDA Koji as Construction Safety Advisor

New Delhi, 28 April 2022: World Day for Safety and Health at Work is focused on Investment in Resilient Occupational Safety and Health Systems. The purpose of this day is to garner international attention on emerging trends in the field of occupational safety and health including work-related injuries, diseases, and fatalities worldwide.

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been striving to support and improve the safety and healthcare facilities in India including the workplaces of each project site. To enhance this further, Mr. MASUDA Koji has been appointed as the Advisor on Construction Safety stationed at JICA India office, who would be investigating Construction Safety of various Infrastructure projects.

His main role would be to conduct Site Construction Aspect Survey in order to provide project implementation agencies with advices to improve safety at sites. JICA is currently supporting tons of infrastructure construction projects by JICA ODA loans etc., such as Western Dedicated Freight Corridor project (Freight railway construction between Delhi and Mumbai, 1,500km), Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway project, Metro construction in the several major cities, Highways construction, and construction of Water and Sewerage facilities in the whole country. In the Survey, the implementation status of the project is investigated in terms of Construction Safety in order to know if the works are being carried out in conformity to the requirements, as JICA aims to provide High-Quality Infrastructures.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India, said, *“Construction safety is one of the most overlooked things during project execution. At construction sites, accidents have the potential to be life-threatening. With every new story about environmental disasters, earth-shattering explosions, and trapped laborers, construction sites become less and less appealing even as the population grows and demands new, updated structures increases. But All employers have a responsibility in protecting the health and safety of their staff, regardless of their occupation or industry. For construction workers, who are exposed to high risk environments, must have an opportunity of proper construction safety training in order for them to avoid and eliminate potential risk at construction sites. JICA would like to extend our support to project executing agencies to establish resilient occupational safety and health systems in our supported projects. I welcome Mr. MASUDA to take forward the important activities that JICA is currently undertaking. I hope his support will be fruitful to the projects in the long run.”*

Speaking on his appointment, Mr. MASUDA Koji, Advisor on Construction Safety at JICA India Office, said, *“Construction Safety is of utmost importance to JICA. As an expert for the construction safety, I will investigate and evaluate if the works are being implemented in compliance with the safety law and regulations and suggest measures to be taken by the Executing Agency, the Contractor and the Consultant involved in the project to improve the safety situations, if necessary. In case of emergency, I will immediately take charge and assist project implementation agencies in order for them to sort out the countermeasures to prevent the works from the recurrence of the similar accidents. I am hopeful these actions will reduce the mis happenings at construction sites and create a safer environment for all.”*

Another role of Mr. MASUDA is to provide all concerned persons with Safety Seminar which includes basic knowledge on construction safety, on how to proceed with the daily safety management to promote the safety awareness.



About JICA

Established, by a specific law, as an incorporated administrative institution under the Government of Japan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) aims to contribute to the promotion of international cooperation, as a sole Japanese governmental agency in charge of ODA implementation. JICA is the world's largest bilateral donor agency. JICA works as a bridge between Japan and emerging countries, and provides assistance in forms of loan, grant and technical cooperation so that the emerging countries can strengthen their capabilities.

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JICA India Brochure:

https://www.jica.go.jp/india/english/office/others/c8h0vm00004cesxi-att/brochure_20.pdf

JICA Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/jicaindiapr/>

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