



**JAPAN
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION
AGENCY
NEWSLETTER**

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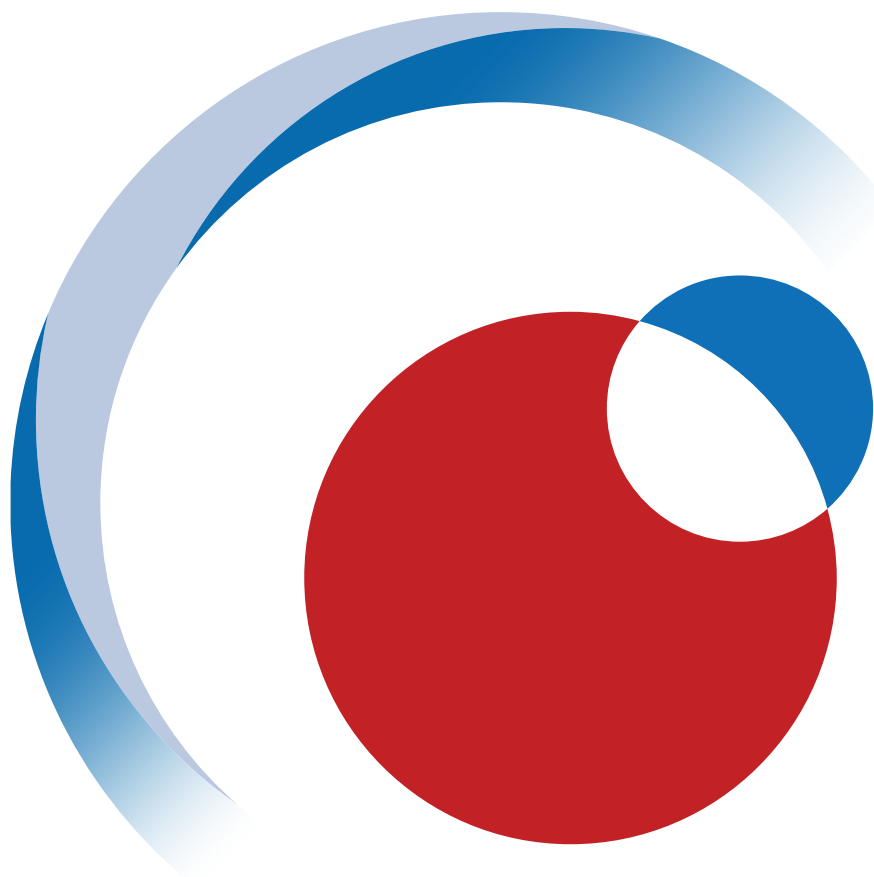
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EVENTS / WORKSHOPS

1. Workshop on JICA's Technical Cooperation for Station Area Development along Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor

Delhi, May 8, 2023: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Ministry of Railways (MoR), Government of India and National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) held the first workshop under Technical Cooperation (TC) Project for Station Area Development along Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project. The objective of this TC is to enhance the capacities of both Maharashtra and Gujarat State Governments, Municipal Corporations, Urban Development Authorities and NHSRCL 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. This seminar was organized by MoHUA to provide a common forum to all the stakeholders involved in this TC project to come together, understand the approaches, concepts and ways forward for this TC project.

Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Railway (MAHSR) Project shall cover 508 km between Mumbai and Ahmedabad, and shall include 12 station located at Mumbai (BKC), Thane, Virar, Boisar, Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Vadodara, Anand, Ahmedabad and Sabarmati. In the TC Project, Japanese experts will share Japanese experience and assist Indian counterparts to plan the modalities for the transit function of stations and Station Area Development. 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. It is expected that this partnership would lead not only to development of surrounding areas around MAHSR stations, but also to promotion of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) and Station Area Development in India.

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 the project, Japan can provide not only engineering and construction technology of High Speed Rail, but also share various experiences of Japan regarding new city planning and development around high speed rail stations. In Japan, we have various successful experiences of developing Smart and Vibrant urban area around the stations by harmonious coordination and planning amongst different stakeholders such as railway

operators, local governments, private companies and citizens in the area. Under this TC project, we would like to share these Japanese experiences and knowledge with our Indian counterparts. I am confident that both Indian and Japanese side could work together closely for successful completion of this project."

JICA has been supporting the project for the Mumbai - Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail by Providing ODA loans of JPY 650,000 million (approximately INR 40,000 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.

Coverage:

Centre, JICA ink deal for station area development

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a bid to develop areas flanking high-speed rail stations, the Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry and the Railway Ministry have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for "station area development along Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail (MAHSR) project" (SMART).

The MoU was inked for four high-speed stations – Sabarmati and Surat in Gujarat, and Virar and Thane in Maharashtra – out of the 12 stations planned in the route.

The project – SMART – envisages to develop surrounding areas of MAHSR stations to enhance accessibility and convenience of commuters and other stakeholders as well as to promote economic activities in the vicinity of station areas.

Centre inks MoU with Japan agency to develop high-speed rail stations

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

THE Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and the Ministry of Railways have jointly signed a memorandum of understanding with Japan International Cooperation Agency for "Station Area Development along Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (Project-SMART).

Out of 12 stations on the route, the MoU was inked for four high-speed rail stations – Sabarmati, Surat in Gujarat and Virar and Thane in Maharashtra. Surat, Virar and Thane are greenfield while Sabarmati is a brownfield development.

Under the Project-SMART, the authorities have envisaged developing surrounding areas of stations under the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway (MAHSR) to enhance accessibility and convenience of commuters and other stakeholders and also to promote



economic activities in the vicinity of station areas.

"The project would facilitate and enhance institutional capacity of state governments, municipal corporations and urban development authorities to plan, develop and manage surrounding areas of MAHSR stations," stated the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

The ministry, along with the state governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Japan International Cooperation Agency is organising a series of seminars and field visits for the Project-SMART in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Mumbai.

The first seminar of the series was organized at Nirman Bhawan on Monday, wherein officers from Japan Embassy, JICA HQ, JICA India Office, JICA experts' team, National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited, ministries and Town and Country Planning Organisation (TCPO) deliberated.

The New Indian Express

The Hindu

2. Mumbai Trans Harbour Link Project – Connecting Mumbai to Mainland

Mumbai, Maharashtra, May 24, 2023: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) joined the ceremony organized by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA), celebrating the establishment of the connection between the island of Mumbai and mainland of Navi Mumbai through the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL), the new marine road across the Mumbai Bay. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Government of Maharashtra Shri Eknath Shinde and Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Shri Devendra Fadnavis graced the event with their presence. JICA has been providing funds for the approximately 22km long trans-harbour link, and MTHL is expected to be completed and operational by the end of 2023.

Speaking on this occasion, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India said, "The MTHL Project is one of the most important and iconic JICA supported projects, connecting the island of Mumbai to Navi Mumbai. This project has been the dream of the people of Mumbai, a complete game-changer which not only reduces the travel time between the two sides of the bay to one-fourth but also increases socioeconomic opportunities for the people.



We are elated to have worked with MMRDA and be part of this project of the century which uses advanced engineering solution from Japan, and we look forward to the day we can enjoy and celebrate the new Trans Harbour Link with the people of Mumbai."

The MTHL Project entails the construction of a 22 km-long marine and land approach road that will connect central Mumbai with Navi Mumbai across the Mumbai Bay. In order to address environmental and navigational challenges in the bay area, orthotropic steel deck, which has lighter self weight but stronger structure compared to concrete or composite girders, was implemented for the first time in India with the involvement from Japanese companies, namely IHI Infrastructure Systems Co. Ltd. and JFE

Engineering Corporation. The road is expected to reduce the travel time between the two sides from about 60 minutes to 16 minutes, contributing to smooth traffic flow, accelerating growth in Navi Mumbai, and creating greater economic integration in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region. JICA has signed loan agreements with MMRDA in three tranches, respectively on March 31, 2017, March 27, 2020, and February 27, 2023, and has extended a cumulative total of 242,459 million Japanese yen in ODA loans (approximately INR 15,100 crore) for the MTHL Project.

Coverage:

CM, deputy drive on MTHL to mark completion of construction work

Maathank Mehta
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Chief minister Eknath Shinde and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis took a test drive on the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) on Wednesday to survey work on the 22-km-long bridge which has attained end-to-end connectivity.

Seventy long Orthotropic Steel Decks (OSDs) with span lengths varying from 60m to 180m form a major part of the link. They have been stitched together along with girders made of concrete.

With this, the construction of MTHL's superstructure on sea and shore connecting Mumbai to the mainland has been achieved. Completion of the deck work ensures a vehicle can travel from one end of the bridge to the other.

Fadnavis took the steering wheel while Shinde was seated besides him in the car



CM Eknath Shinde and Dy CM Devendra Fadnavis on the Mumbai Trans Harbour Link, the deck work of which was completed on Wednesday

during the trip held to mark the completion.

The deputy chief minister drove towards Navi Mumbai from a point 10 km on the bridge from the Sevre end. He travelled almost 14 km (both ways, 7 up + 7 down) in 40 minutes.

Acknowledging cooperation of the Central govern-

ment, Shinde said, "The bridge when ready will be inaugurated at the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi." Shinde said it will be a "gamechanger" and will help spur socio-economic growth in the region, especially Navi Mumbai.

Fadnavis said the Prime Minister's cooperation ensured easy access to loans from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and faster environmental clearances as the bridge was built in eco-sensitive areas which had mangroves and flamingoes.

He said the bridge will help achieve the target of a trillion dollar economy besides providing an impetus for Maharashtra's growth for the next 20 years.

Metropolitan commissioner SVR Srinivas pointed out that in two years nearly 56% progress was achieved in the execution of the bridge against the target of 35%.

The Times of India



Maharashtra CM Shinde, Deputy CM Fadnavis inspect Mumbai Trans-Harbour Link work

ANI | Updated: May 25, 2023 03:12 IST

Mumbai (Maharashtra) [India], May 25 (ANI): Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis on Wednesday inspected the under-construction Mumbai Trans Harbour Link (MTHL) and flagged off the first bus to cross the MTHL.

The Hindu

3. 12th edition of the Annual Workshop of JICA Assisted Forestry & National Resource Management Projects held in Shimla

Shimla, May 25, 2023: The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) participated in the 12th edition of the Annual Workshop of JICA Assisted Forestry & National Resource Management Projects in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

The workshop was organised by the Himachal Pradesh Forest Department, under their Project for Improvement of Himachal Pradesh Forest Ecosystem Management and Livelihoods (PIHPFEM&L) to foster partnerships and cooperation in sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, livelihood development, and digital transformation to contribute to climate change mitigation.

Esteemed dignitaries from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India; and senior officers from various states graced the occasion. Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA along with the forestry and NRM sector team also attended the event. The national workshop served as a platform to unite speakers of international and national repute, who engaged in insightful deliberations on significant subjects such as sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem services, digital transformation, and creation of livelihood opportunities.

The workshop fostered a spirit of collaboration and knowledge-sharing through a series of expert-led technical sessions. Additionally, the event provided opportunities for cultural exchanges, field excursions, and a special session on stress management, all of which highlighted the importance of sustainable forestry and preserving biodiversity.

Apart from that, Mr. SAITO also inaugurated the HIM Tradition outlet, which is a registered brand of the JICA-assisted project for the improvement of Himachal Pradesh forest ecosystems management and livelihoods where products like edibles, apparel, handicrafts developed by SHG's are being sold.

Speaking on the occasion Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India said, "For the last three decades, JICA's collaboration with the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, Government of India and with various states across the country has been immensely fruitful. As we continue to grow in the forestry sector, more emphasis needs to be given to addressing climate change issues by promoting sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem

services, livelihoods and digital transformation. I acknowledge the efforts of the Forestry Department and the Government of Himachal Pradesh to ensure that some of the project activities were kept going during the difficult times of the pandemic. I am pleased that the annual workshops are now resuming and look forward to the deliberations and recommendations that will be made during these workshops, and to the recommencement of work at a pace that is progressive and methodical."

Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh said, «We thank JICA and Chief Representative SAITO Mitsunori for holding this annual workshop in Shimla. Himachal Pradesh is a store house of biotic diversity with around 8% of the country's flora found in diverse habitats ranging from sub-tropical to alpine zone, along with a variety of medicinal plants. At a time when the world has turned to forest conservation to battle climate change, JICA's investment in Forestry Projects paves a new path for the sustainable use of forest ecosystems. We are happy to see that JICA initiatives have resulted in skill development and employment generation for the local population as well. Together, we will strive to make Himachal Pradesh a 'Green State', with the use of modern technology and improving the quality of natural resources.»

The International Day for Biological Diversity, celebrated each year on May 22, raises awareness about the significance of biodiversity conservation in resolving several sustainable development challenges.

JICA has been actively working towards sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, and forest ecosystem services for over three decades. JICA's cumulative commitment to the Forestry & the National Resource Management (NRM) sector in India stands at JPY 313.80 billion, covering 31 ODA loan projects and 2 Technical Cooperation projects. Furthermore, JICA's recent Project for Forest and Biodiversity Conservation for Climate Change Response in West Bengal (WB-FBCCCR) aims to bolster forest management, encourage sustainable utilisation of resources, and uplift livelihoods in the state. Additionally, it addresses the detrimental effects of climate change by preserving biodiversity, increasing forest carbon stocks, and enhancing ecosystem resilience. By involving local communities and raising public awareness, JICA intends to create a more participatory and inclusive approach to forest management.

Workshop on quality control held at NHRCL office

A one-day workshop on "Quality Control of Concrete Structures and Achieving Durability of Assets" was held at NHRCL office at Surat on May 11, 2023, wherein experts from India and Japan participated. The workshop was organised by ADBI, Tokyo; Japan Railway



Technical Service (JARTS) and NHRCL with JICA as supporting partner. Participants from Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI), East Japan Railway, and Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) were also present during the workshop along with faculties from IIT

Kanpur, IIT Madras, NIT Surat and representatives of contractors and consultants engaged in Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor project

Himachal Pradesh to raise green cover upto 30%: CM

The JICA-funded Forestry and NRM Projects have been instrumental in enhancing the green cover

ASHWANI SHARMA

SHIMLA: Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu on Wednesday set out a target of increasing the state's green cover from existing 28 per cent to 30 per cent by 2030 and making Himachal Pradesh a green energy state by 2026.

Addressing the 12th Annual Workshop of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) assisted Forestry and Natural Resource Management (NRM) Projects, from Dharamshala via video conference, he highlighted the importance of increasing the green cover as forests are vital to arresting the adverse impacts of climate change.

"The state has a green cover of about 28 per cent and the goal was to raise it to 30 per cent by 2030," he said.

The JICA-funded Forestry and NRM Projects have been instrumental in enhanc-

ing the green cover to achieve this objective. Plantation has been done on more than 4,000 hectares of land have been covered with the help of advanced techniques and technological interventions over the past two years.

The projects have also focused on developing nurseries and improving planting stock with an aim to produce over 60 lakh quality seedlings of various useful species for community and forestry purposes. Additionally, the modernization of 72 nurseries across the state is underway, Sukhu said.

The Chief Minister acknowledged the significant role of forests in an agrarian state like Himachal Pradesh, where the population heavily relies on forest resources for their livelihoods and ecosystem services. He emphasised the need to preserve and enhance forest wealth, especially in the context of global concerns over



Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu reviewing development works at Dharamshala in Kangra

climate change and the search for environmentally friendly solutions.

The Chief Minister commended the project's efforts in strengthening joint forest management activities through

the formation of 460 Village Forest Development Societies (VFDS) and over 900 Self Help Groups (SHGs) across seven districts. The project has also prioritized skill upgrading and capacity building for

forest-dependent communities and forest field staff. More than 15,000 individuals have been trained in livelihood activities and forest regeneration with the aim of minimizing the risks posed by climate change and related disasters, he said.

Expressing the government's commitment to the green and sustainable development of the state, the Chief Minister stated that making Himachal a Green State is one of the key pillars of the new state government's agenda. The state government has launched several initiatives in this regard and expects them to yield positive results in the future. He said that the JICA-funded project aligns well with the state's vision for a Green State.

The Chief Minister asked the forest department to begin preparations for the second phase of the project, ensuring that areas not currently covered are included.

Earlier Singh Sukhu directed the departments to disseminate the welfare schemes of the government so that people could be made aware of the same and be benefited.

He said that the state government presented a 'Green Budget' this year under which 2 MW solar power projects would be set up in two Panchayats of each assembly constituency which also includes all the 15 assembly constituencies of Kangra district as well. He directed that the site selection for setting up the Solar projects should be completed at the earliest.

He said that the state government has set a target of producing 500 MW of solar power this year. Besides, the state government has approved Rajiv Gandhi Swarnajayanti Yojana to provide a 40 per cent subsidy for setting up solar power projects ranging from 250 KW to 2 MW.

Millenium Post

The Times of India

4. The First Achhi Aadat (Good Habit) Campaign Session in Bodh Gaya with Yakult and FC Nono

Bodh Gaya, May 26-27, 2023: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) will collaborate with Yakult Danone India Private Limited, which manufactures the world's leading probiotic beverage 'Yakult,' a probiotic fermented milk drink; and FC Nono, a football organisation which is supporting and empowering children through football activities in Bihar, and conduct a kick off session of Achhi Aadat (Good Habit) Campaign (AAC) for children in Bodh Gaya, Bihar on May 26 -27, 2023 as the first event of AAC in Fiscal Year 2023. The main sessions are going to be held for more than 150 children of an orphanage and local schools and their family in Bodh Gaya. Through the sessions, Yakult will deliver its lecture for sharing the importance of nutrition and nutritional management methods that lead to good health, FC Nono will teach football to share the importance of proper physical activity through sport and JICA India will share the importance and the proper ways of the hygiene practices such as hand washing and nail clipping, so that children will learn the daily health management for their future long-term health.

JICA launched AAC in January 2021, to raise awareness on the importance of hygiene practices for preventing the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. The campaign focuses on introducing an easy and

practical approach to the hygiene and sanitation issues by promoting handwashing, nail cleaning and other hygiene practice. The campaign reached out to 12.4 crore people by the end of March 2023, either directly through physical and online educational sessions, indirectly by word of mouth and through media outreach including conventional mass media and social media.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India said, "We are happy to collaborate with Yakult and FC Nono to conduct the first session of 'Achhi Aadat Campaign' in Fiscal Year 2023 in Bodh Gaya. Through the campaign, we will work together to promote hygienic practices, nutritional management and physical activities for the health and welfare of people of India. 'Hygienic practices', 'Nutritional Management' and 'Playing Sports' are important elements for the healthy life, none of which should be missing. We hope that this session will help more children to learn the importance of each of these important elements and continue to make them a habit in their daily lives for living better."

बच्चों के लिए अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन का आयोजन बोधगया में 27 मई को

मुख्य सत्रों का आयोजन एक अनाथालय के करीब 150 बच्चों और स्थानीय स्कूलों तथा उनके परिजनों के लिए किया जाएगा

मीडिया डरान/पटना : जापान इंटरनेशनल कॉन्फेरेंस एजेंसी (जाएफका) दुनिया के दिग्गज प्रोबायोटिक बेबरेज ब्रैंड याकुल्ट, जो कि प्रोबायोटिक फर्मेंटेटेड मिल्क ड्रिंक है, के निमातां याकुल्ट डैनीन इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड तथा बिहार में फुटबॉल संबंधी गतिविधियों के जरिए बच्चों को सहयोग देने के साथ-साथ उनके सशक्त बनाने वाले संगठन एफसी नोनो के साथ मिलकर बोध गया, बिहार में 26-27 मई, 2023 के दौरान बच्चों के लिए एक अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन का आयोजन कर रहे हैं। यह वित्त वर्ष 2023 में अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन के तहत पहली गतिविधि है। इसके तहत, मुख्य सत्रों का आयोजन एक अनाथालय के करीब 150 बच्चों और स्थानीय स्कूलों तथा उनके परिजनों के लिए किया जाएगा। इस अवसर पर श्री सहायि मिश्रबोरी, मुख्य प्रतिनिधि, जाएफका इंडिया ने कहा, हम बोध गया में वित्त वर्ष 2023 के पहले 'अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन' के पहले सत्र के आयोजन के लिए याकुल्ट तथा एफसी नोनो के साथ भागीदारी करते हुए बेहद प्रसन्नता का अनुभव कर रहे हैं। इस कैम्पेन के माध्यम में, हम सफ़-सफ़ाई की आदतों, पोषण प्रबंधन तथा लोगों के स्वास्थ्य एवं कल्याण के लिए शारीरिक गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने के माकसद से मिल-जुलकर काम करेंगे। खुशहाल जीवन के लिए इनमें से किसी भी पहलु को नजरअंदाज नहीं करना चाहिए। हमें आशा है कि यह सत्र बच्चों को इन महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं के महत्व को समझने तथा बेहतर तरीके से जीवन बिताने के लिए उन्हें अपनी दैनिक आदतों में शामिल करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करेगा। इन सत्रों के माध्यम से, याकुल्ट पोषण के महत्व तथा पोषण प्रबंधन के उन सौर-तरीकों को जानकारी देगा जो अच्छी सेहत को बढ़ावा देते हैं, जबकि एफसी नोनो खेल-कूद के जरिए समुचित शारीरिक गतिविधियों का महत्व समझाएगा और जाएफका इंडिया बच्चों को हाथों को धोने तथा नाखूनों को कटने जैसी सफ़-सफ़ाई की आदतों का पालन करने के सही तरीकों को जानकारी देगी ताकि ये बच्चे अपने दैनिक जीवन में स्वच्छता को अपनाते के लिए प्रेरित हो सकें। पहला सत्र 26 मई, 2023 को मोछरिम, बोध गया, बिहार-824231 में अपराह्न 4.00 से 6.00 बजे तक आयोजित किया जाएगा। दूसरे और तीसरे सत्रों का आयोजन 27 मई, 2023 को क्रमशः सवेरे 7.00 से 9.00 बजे तथा 10.30 से 12.30 बजे कोमल पूजन पब्लिक स्कूल, सिलौजा, बोध गया, बिहार-805131 में किया जाएगा।

Media Darshan

जाएफका ने किया याकुल्ट और एफसी नोनो के साथ बोध गया में

▶ अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन के पहले सत्र का आयोजन ▶ स्वच्छता, पोषण प्रबंधन तथा खेल-कूद को अच्छी आदतों को दिया प्रोत्साहन

बोध गया: जापान इंटरनेशनल कॉन्फेरेंस एजेंसी (जाएफका) दुनिया के दिग्गज प्रोबायोटिक बेबरेज ब्रैंड याकुल्ट, जो कि प्रोबायोटिक फर्मेंटेटेड मिल्क ड्रिंक है, के निमातां याकुल्ट डैनीन इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड तथा बिहार में फुटबॉल संबंधी गतिविधियों के जरिए बच्चों को सहयोग देने के साथ-साथ उनके सशक्त बनाने वाले संगठन एफसी नोनो के साथ मिलकर बोध गया, बिहार में 26-27 मई, 2023 के दौरान बच्चों के लिए एक अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन का आयोजन कर रहे हैं। यह वित्त वर्ष 2023 में अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन के तहत पहली गतिविधि है। इसके तहत, मुख्य सत्रों का आयोजन एक अनाथालय के करीब 150 बच्चों और स्थानीय स्कूलों तथा उनके परिजनों के लिए किया जाएगा। इस अवसर पर श्री सहायि मिश्रबोरी, मुख्य प्रतिनिधि, जाएफका इंडिया ने कहा, हम बोध गया में वित्त वर्ष 2023 के पहले 'अच्छी आदत कैम्पेन' के पहले सत्र के आयोजन के लिए याकुल्ट तथा एफसी नोनो के साथ भागीदारी करते हुए बेहद प्रसन्नता का अनुभव कर रहे हैं। इस कैम्पेन के माध्यम में, हम सफ़-सफ़ाई की आदतों, पोषण प्रबंधन तथा लोगों के स्वास्थ्य एवं कल्याण के लिए शारीरिक गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने के माकसद से मिल-जुलकर काम करेंगे। खुशहाल जीवन के लिए इनमें से किसी भी पहलु को नजरअंदाज नहीं करना चाहिए। हमें आशा है कि यह सत्र बच्चों को इन महत्वपूर्ण पहलुओं के महत्व को समझने तथा बेहतर तरीके से जीवन बिताने के लिए उन्हें अपनी दैनिक आदतों में शामिल करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करेगा। इन सत्रों के माध्यम से, याकुल्ट पोषण के महत्व तथा पोषण प्रबंधन के उन सौर-तरीकों को जानकारी देगा जो अच्छी सेहत को बढ़ावा देते हैं, जबकि एफसी नोनो खेल-कूद के जरिए समुचित शारीरिक गतिविधियों का महत्व समझाएगा और जाएफका इंडिया बच्चों को हाथों को धोने तथा नाखूनों को कटने जैसी सफ़-सफ़ाई की आदतों का पालन करने के सही तरीकों को जानकारी देगी ताकि ये बच्चे अपने दैनिक जीवन में स्वच्छता को अपनाते के लिए प्रेरित हो सकें। पहला सत्र 26 मई, 2023 को मोछरिम, बोध गया, बिहार-824231 में अपराह्न 4.00 से 6.00 बजे तक आयोजित किया जाएगा। दूसरे और तीसरे सत्रों का आयोजन 27 मई, 2023 को क्रमशः सवेरे 7.00 से 9.00 बजे तथा 10.30 से 12.30 बजे कोमल पूजन पब्लिक स्कूल, सिलौजा, बोध गया, बिहार-805131 में किया जाएगा।

Satta Ki Khoj

SPECIAL DAYS

1. On World Earth Day, JICA reiterates its commitment to investing in quality solutions for a sustainable future

New Delhi, April 21, 2023: India ranks itself last out of 180 countries, according to the Environmental Performance Index 2022, highlighting the pressing need to invest in the planet. As India moves towards a greener future, stakeholders must unite and invest in the planet's health. Aligning with this year's theme of the World Earth Day, 'Invest in Our Planet,' Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) India continues to play a crucial role in supporting India's efforts to improve its environmental performance. We believe that sustainable development is the keystone for creating a better future for all. Our efforts towards environmental conservation are a testament to our commitment to promoting a greener and more sustainable future.

Speaking on the occasion of the World Earth Day, Mr. SAITO Mitsunori, Chief Representative, JICA India Office, said, «The time to act is now. Investing in sustainable practices and technologies is not just the need of the hour, but also the need of the future. We aim to improve the quality of life while ensuring the preservation and protection of the environment. The idea remains to work for a greener and sustainable future.»

JICA has been focusing on sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation, and forest ecosystem services since 1991. One of JICA's notable forest conservation projects is the Project for Forest and Biodiversity Conservation for Climate Change Response in West Bengal (WB-FBCCCR). The project strives to strengthen forest management, promote sustainable use of natural resources, and improve livelihoods in the state. It further mitigates the impacts of climate change by conserving biodiversity, enhancing forest carbon stocks and ecosystem resilience.

JICA actively improves agricultural productivity and income for farmers, while prioritizing environmental sustainability. The Rajasthan Water Sector Livelihood Improvement Project (II), for instance, is the second tranche of the Rajasthan Water Sector Livelihood Improvement Project (I) which seeks to enhance agricultural productivity and environmental sustainability through efficient water management. In addition to this, the Uttarakhand Integrated Horticulture Development Project (UIHDP) aims to promote sustainable horticulture practices and environmental sustainability in Uttarakhand, through water harvesting, agroforestry, and biodiversity conservation. It grants a loan of JPY 6,401 million, aims to benefit 100,000 farmers, and has improved farmers' income by up to 50% through high-value



The nursery of West Bengal Forest and Bio-diversity Conservation Project

crops. The focus on sustainable horticulture practices also strives to reduce the usage of harmful pesticides and chemicals, improve soil health, and promote efficient water management.



Mango farms under the Rajasthan Water Supply Livelihood Improvement Project

Japan's expertise in devising modern and efficient metro rail systems contributes to robust and sustainable development. The idea is to improve urban transportation and reduce traffic congestion for a more reliable and affordable public transportation option. JICA grants ODA loans in several metro rail system projects in Delhi, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Patna, Mumbai, Chennai and Ahmedabad, exceeding JPY 3,350,374 million. The Patna Metro Rail Construction Project (I), funded by JICA, is a first-of-its-kind project

introduced in Tier 2 cities, which aims to integrate sustainable development principles and minimize environmental impact in planning and execution. Likewise, the JICA India Chennai Metro Project (Phase 2) (II) is an extension of the Chennai Metro Rail System, which aims to provide a modern and sustainable transportation option to the people of Chennai. It also includes using energy-efficient trains, rainwater harvesting, and solar panels for station lighting to minimize the impact.



Chennai metro Project using energy-efficient trains, rainwater harvesting, and solar panels for station lighting to minimize the impact.

In compliance with its commitments, JICA supports projects in India's public, health, and medicine since 1991, extending ODA loans of JPY 101,894 million. The projects focus on improving healthcare access and quality in the country, while also promoting environmental sustainability through measures such as improving water and sanitation facilities, controlling vector-borne diseases, and using renewable energy sources. They aim to reduce the disease burden and strengthen public health systems in India, while also minimizing their impact on the environment by promoting sustainable practices and technologies.

JICA endeavors to support India's progress toward comprehensive growth by focusing on environmental, social, and economic domains in all its projects.

Coverage:

विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के मौके पर, जाएका ने सस्टेनेबल भविष्य के लिए स्तरीय समाधानों पर निवेश की प्रतिबद्धता दोहरायी

भास्कर समाचार सेवा
नेएडा। एन्वायरनमेंटल परफॉरमेंस इंडेक्स 2022 के अनुसार, दुनिया के 180 देशों की सूची में भारत सबसे निचले पावदान पर है। यह इस बात का संकेत है कि देश को इस ग्रह की सेहत के लिए निवेश करने की आवश्यकता है। अब जबकि भारत अधिक हरे-भरे भविष्य की ओर बढ़ रहा है, सभी हितधारकों को एकजुट होकर धरती ग्रह को अधिक अनुकूल बनाने के लिए निवेश करना चाहिए। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के इस वर्ष के थीम 'इन्वेस्ट इन आवर प्लेनेट' के मद्देनजर, जापान इंटरनेशनल कॉपरेशन एजेंसी जाएका इंडिया ने भारत को पर्यावरण के मोर्चे पर प्रयासों में सुधार करने में मदद देना जारी रखा है। हमारा मानना है कि सस्टेनेबल विकास सभी के लिए बेहतर भविष्य का निर्माण करने की दृष्टि से बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है। पर्यावरण संरक्षण की दिशा में हमारे प्रयास अधिक हरे-भरे और सस्टेनेबल भविष्य को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में हमारी प्रतिबद्धता का समूत हैं। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के

अवसर पर साएतो मित्सुनोरी, मुख्य प्रतिनिधि, जाएका इंडिया ऑफिस ने कहा कुछ ठोस कदम उठाने का समय है। सस्टेनेबल कार्य प्रयासों और टैकनोलॉजी पर निवेश न सिर्फ मौजूदा वक्त का तकाजा है बल्कि भविष्य के मद्देनजर भी जरूरी है। हम जीवन की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के साथ-साथ पर्यावरण के संरक्षण और उसकी सुरक्षा को भी सुनिश्चित करने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं। कुल-मिलाकर, हमारा प्रयास अधिक हरे-भरे और सस्टेनेबल भविष्य के लिए काम करना है। जाएका टिकाऊ सस्टेनेबल वानिकी प्रबंधन, जैव-विविधता संरक्षण तथा वानिकी पारिस्थितिकी सेवाओं पर 1991 से ही जोर देती रही है। जाएका के उल्लेखनीय वन संरक्षण परियोजनाओं में से एक पश्चिम बंगाल में फॉरेस्ट एंड बायोडायवर्सिटी कंजर्वेशन फॉर जाएका कृषि उपज में सुधार लाने के लिए सक्रियता से प्रयास करते हुए किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ाने पर जोर देती है और साथ ही, पर्यावरण के मोर्चे पर सस्टेनेबिलिटी पर भी ध्यान देती है।

Dainik Bhaskar

विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के मौके पर, जाएका ने सस्टेनेबल भविष्य के लिए स्तरीय समाधानों पर निवेश की प्रतिबद्धता दोहरायी

पापनियार समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली
एन्वायरनमेंटल परफॉरमेंस इंडेक्स 2022 के अनुसार, दुनिया के 180 देशों की सूची में भारत सबसे निचले पावदान पर है। यह इस बात का संकेत है कि देश को इस ग्रह की सेहत के लिए निवेश करने की आवश्यकता है। अब जबकि भारत अधिक हरे-भरे भविष्य की ओर बढ़ रहा है, सभी हितधारकों को एकजुट होकर धरती ग्रह को अधिक अनुकूल बनाने के लिए निवेश करना चाहिए। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के इस वर्ष के थीम 'इन्वेस्ट इन आवर प्लेनेट' के मद्देनजर, जापान इंटरनेशनल कॉपरेशन एजेंसी (जाएका) इंडिया ने भारत को पर्यावरण के मोर्चे पर

प्रयासों में सुधार करने में मदद देना जारी रखा है। हमारा मानना है कि सस्टेनेबल विकास सभी के लिए बेहतर भविष्य का निर्माण करने की दृष्टि से बेहद महत्वपूर्ण है। पर्यावरण संरक्षण की दिशा में हमारे प्रयास अधिक हरे-भरे और सस्टेनेबल भविष्य को बढ़ावा देने की दिशा में हमारी प्रतिबद्धता का समूत हैं। विश्व पृथ्वी दिवस के अवसर पर साएतो मित्सुनोरी, मुख्य प्रतिनिधि, जाएका इंडिया ऑफिस ने कहा, कुछ ठोस कदम उठाने का समय है। सस्टेनेबल कार्य प्रयासों और टैकनोलॉजी पर निवेश न सिर्फ मौजूदा वक्त का तकाजा है बल्कि भविष्य के मद्देनजर भी जरूरी है। हम जीवन की गुणवत्ता में सुधार लाने के साथ-साथ

पर्यावरण के संरक्षण और उसकी सुरक्षा को भी सुनिश्चित करने का लक्ष्य रखते हैं। कुल-मिलाकर, हमारा प्रयास अधिक हरे-भरे और सस्टेनेबल भविष्य के लिए काम करना है। जाएका टिकाऊ (सस्टेनेबल) वानिकी प्रबंधन, जैव-विविधता संरक्षण तथा वानिकी पारिस्थितिकी सेवाओं पर 1991 से ही जोर देती रही है। जाएका के उल्लेखनीय वन संरक्षण परियोजनाओं में से एक पश्चिम बंगाल में फॉरेस्ट एंड बायोडायवर्सिटी कंजर्वेशन फॉर जाएका कृषि उपज में सुधार लाने के लिए सक्रियता से प्रयास करते हुए किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ाने पर जोर देती है और साथ ही, पर्यावरण के मोर्चे पर सस्टेनेबिलिटी पर भी ध्यान देती है।

The Pioneer (Hindi)

Japan to fund pvt sector RE projects

Rituraj Baruah

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NEW DELHI

Japan is looking at financing private sector renewable energy projects in India, the India head of the country's development agency said in an interview. Saito Mitsunori, chief representative in India of JICA, or Japan International Cooperation Agency, said in an interview that so far the agency has provided lines of credit to state-run Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA) and India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL) for renewable energy capacity of 8 GW. Now, with a strong focus on renewable energy in the country, the agency plans to finance projects in the private sector as well. Mitsunori also said that JICA recently signed an MoU for developing four railway stations along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train route. These are Sabarmati and Surat in Gujarat, and Virar and Thane in Maharashtra.

Edited excerpts:

How was the last financial year for JICA in terms of



disbursals in India?

In the last fiscal year, 2022-2023, we were able to make new commitments totalling nearly around \$6 billion, which is a record high. When we look back, during the past decade our average annual commitment was \$3-4 billion. Thanks to the progress of Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed rail, we were able to make additional financial commitment to that project and to other new projects and ongoing projects combined, we came up with \$6 billion of commitment.

We signed 7 projects in total last year. There are a couple of parameters to assess our work.

While making commitments we need to get go-ahead (approval) for the projects and actual work needs to be done. We did disbursements of \$5 billion in last fiscal.

Will JICA increase its presence in the green energy space?

We do have a lot of projects to increase renewable energy generation capacity. We have kind of a line of credit to IREDA and IIFCL.

Over the years, our total contribution in terms of renewable generation capacity is around 8 GW. We are in active discussion with our frequent customers to have more credit lines to enhance their capacity. On the other hand, the increase in renewable capacity brings more fluctuation and instability of the grid. So, stabilization of a transmission and distribution network is also another important pillar of the whole thing. So, we are working with various state transmission compa-

nies to increase transmission capacities. We are in talks with Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Haryana and we are ready to take up more states. We also have communication with Gujarat and Rajasthan.

We have sovereign landing schemes, but also we have private lending window. We are ready to mobilize that window to support private players in the sector.

Though we don't have much track record in the past, we are in talks with various players, but the talks are in the initial stage. We do not have direct financing of a

In the last fiscal year, we were able to make new commitments totalling nearly around \$6 billion, which is a record high

Saito Mitsunori

Chief Representative of JICA in India

project at this moment, but we are always looking to... When we talk about renewable energy, generation and grid stabilization are two important pillars. In terms of stabilization we also have another activity which is promotion of pumped storage. Currently, we have one ongoing project in West Bengal, with almost 1 GW capacity.

 **INTERVIEW**