

JICA Extends ODA Loan of INR 1,627 Cr to establish All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Madurai, Tamil Nadu

AIIMS, Madurai will contribute to universal health coverage (UHC) in India

New Delhi, March 26, 2021: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has supported the new AIIMS in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu for JPY 22,788 million (approximately INR 1,627 crores).

The objective of the project is to finance the establishment of the Medical institution to enable an improvement of the quality of medical services and enhance access of high-end medical services to the marginalised and excluded.

The ODA loan agreement was signed between Dr. C.S. Mohapatra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Mr. MATSUMOTO Matsumoto, Chief Representative, JICA India.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. MATSUMOTO Katsuo, Chief Representative, JICA India said, “In response to various health related challenges including COVID-19 pandemic, this project will establish a new and comprehensive medical institution in Madurai city for medical services, medical personnel development and other academic activities. With this project, quality tertiary care hospital with 900 beds will be established and it will provide additional capacity of 5,000 outpatient and more than 100 inpatients in the city of Madurai. The project not only aims to improve access to high quality medical services, but also to develop academic facility for 1,500 healthcare professionals and researchers of high standards, who will contribute to universal health coverage in India. I believe this project will contribute to mitigate the huge pressure by COVID-19 on the health sector and to improve the quality of the medical services provided to Indian people in needs”

The Government of India launched the Prime Minister's Health and Safety Program “Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana” (PMSSY) in 2003 to improve access to and quality of public advanced medical services to all. With the aim of correcting regional disparities and expanding international standard medical colleges and educational institutions, the regions with limited medical access is selected and "All India Institute of Medical Sciences" (AIIMS) has been constructed nationwide. AIIMS is a national institution that has (1) the highest level of medical service provision, (2) training function for high-educated medical personnel (doctors, nurses, etc., total 4,000 people / year), and (3) medical and clinical research centre. The first AIIMS was established in Delhi in 1956, as of 2020, seven AIIMS has been set up and is in operation.

Currently there is only one public tertiary medical institution in Madurai, which accepts middle- and lower-class patients who cannot afford expensive private medical services. The limited access to affordable tertiary medical institution causes 95% bed occupancy in the existing institution. Also there are 2.2 health workers per 1,000 population in Tamil Nadu, which is less than half of 4.5 per 1,000 population recommended by WHO. AIIMS Madurai will strengthen the tertiary medical function in Tamil Nadu state and regional medical network in Southern India by both increasing the capacity and providing health workers. This project is a part of “JICA’s Initiative for Global Health and Medicine” ,which JICA launched last year committing to strengthen its effort to enhance the activities in health sector. Moreover, the project will also contribute to SDG’s Goal 3: “ensuring healthy lives and promoting welfare for all people of all ages” and realisation of universal health coverage (UHC) in the region.



JICA has extended 438,780 million (approximately INR* 29,000 crores) Japanese Yen through ODA loans since 1981 for comprehensive development efforts of Tamil Nadu state. The initiatives facilitated through the ODA loans include the Chennai Metro, Tamil Nadu Investment Promotion Program to expedite domestic and foreign investments, power transmission system enhancement across the states, provision for safe water supply and sewerage facilities across the states, water supply enhancement and fluorosis mitigation in Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri districts, enhancement of Chennai port operations, and biodiversity conservation and greening across the states, among others.

Exchange Rate: INR 1/-=JPY 1.5/-

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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For further information, please contact:	
JICA India Office	Edelman India
Shusaku Takada / Vini Sharma	Rakhi Aurora
+91 11 49097000	(+91) 9599067185
Takada.Shusaku@jica.go.jp	Rakhi.Aurora@edelman.com
Sharmavini.id@jica.go.jp	