

# Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge Project



Jamuna Multipurpose Bridge

## Outline of Loan Agreement

Loan Amount/ Loan Disbursed Amount	¥21,562 million / ¥21,290 million
Loan Agreement	June 1994
Terms and Conditions	Interest rate: 1.0%, Repayment period: 30 years (grace period: 10 years)
Final Disbursement Date	August 2000

## Project Profile

The project was to construct a multi-purpose bridge on the Jamuna River to handle increasing traffic between the eastern and western parts of the country, to solve transport problems and also to stimulate economic activity on the west bank, in order to correct regional disparities and to contribute to the country's economic development.

## Results and Evaluation

Traffic volume exceeded the estimated figures for buses, motorcycles and auto-mobiles, as a result, the total traffic volume exceeded the plan by 70%. Truck traffic initially fell below the estimated volume because the bridge toll was higher than the toll charged by ferries, which are the alternative transport option. But these figures gradually increased, almost reaching the estimated volume by 2000, and further growth in truck traffic is anticipated. Before the bridge was constructed, ferries were the only means of crossing the river. A ferry crossing takes 2.5 hours, for which vehicles often waited from 8 to 48 hours. The bridge reduces the crossing time to about 10 minutes.

The project encouraged east-west distribution of goods, and the gas pipeline and electric transmission lines etc. laid with in the bridge structure linked two sides in a network, helping to correct east-west disparities and stimulate economic activity.

There are no notable problems at present with the maintenance of the bridge.