

## 28 Sri Lanka

### Sri Lanka - Japan Friendship Bridge Widening Project



The New Sri Lanka – Japan Friendship Bridge constructed under this project

#### Outline of Loan Agreement

Loan Amount / Disbursed Amount	2,929 million yen / 2,164 million yen
Loan Agreement	August 1993
Terms & Conditions	Interest rate 2.6% p.a. Repayment period 30 years (Grace period 10 years)
Final Disbursement Date	January 2002

#### Project Outline

Removal of the outdated Victoria Bridge spanning the Kelani River which runs through Colombo City and the construction of “The New Sri Lanka – Japan Friendship Bridge” similar in type to the existing Sri Lanka – Japan Friendship Bridge, in response to the increasing traffic volume of people, goods and consequent traffic congestion.

#### Results and Evaluation

In this project, in order to respond to the unanticipated volume of traffic crossing the river, the project scope was expanded during the course of construction, and the New SL-J Friendship Bridge was constructed with two lanes for each direction (total four lanes) of the planning stage being expanded to three lanes for each direction (total six lanes). Additionally, the existing Friendship Bridge (two lanes for each direction) also had its lanes widened to three lanes for each direction (total six lanes).

The actual river-crossing traffic volume was almost close to the value that had been predicted (compared with the predicted value of 119,456 vehicles/day, the actual results were 117,431 vehicles/day), thus this project has realized the effects which had been anticipated, and it can be said that it has been supporting the increasing volume of traffic crossing the river.

In interviews in the surrounding villages and transportation industry, the comments reported were that, the amount of fuel consumption has been saved thanks to the alleviation of traffic congestion; the time taken from the suburbs to Colombo Port has been shortened approximately by one hour; noise, air pollution, and the frequency of traffic accidents has also been reduced.

In terms of the operation and maintenance of the bridges, the executing agency has kept the bridge properly.