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On April 27, 2017, Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project (Phase 2) (OFSDP-2) was inaugurated by Shri Naveen Patnaik, Hon’ble Chief Minister (CM), Government of Odisha at the ceremony organized by the Forest and Environment Department, Government of Odisha.

Shri Patnaik acknowledged the support of JICA in the state of Odisha and mentioned how JICA’s cooperation has contributed to the progress of the local communities in Odisha especially in the forestry sector.

Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office gave a keynote address at the unveiling of ceremony. He stated that Odisha Forestry Sector Development Project (Phase 1) (OFSDP-1) was successfully implemented and was a perfect example of replicability and promotion of sustainability. He mentioned that after the success of OFSDP-1, the Government of Odisha replicated a similar program and introduced it as “AMA Jangala Yojana”. He further stated that with the launch of OFSDP-2, JICA’s further involvement in providing assistance to enhance forest ecosystem along with sustainable livelihood of local people will strengthen in the state of Odisha. He emphasized on the Japanese concept of socio-ecological production landscape “Satoyama” that would also be piloted in some protected areas of Odisha among other several new initiatives. Mr. Sakamoto highlighted that the major role of JICA’s cooperation is to improve sustainable forest management, sustainable biodiversity conservation and community development, which will ultimately enhance the socio-economic status of the local communities to sufficient levels so as to meet their basic needs and will ultimately lead to improvements in the standards of living.

The Project consists of similar strategies and approaches of its previous phase, OFSDP-1. OFSDP-2 has included mechanisms to strengthen the project with a comprehensive method. Project Management Unit (PMU) will establish an exclusive unit, Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC), under PMU to provide specialized business promotion support for business planning, marketing, product development and facilitating linkages with financial institutions and other resource organizations and also to provide financial support to cluster SHGs. The partnership ecosystem will further be nurtured by LRC and will make it more sustainable. Additional components have been added to strengthen the Project in OFSDP-2 with an all-inclusive approach. Some of them are enhanced support of cluster business development, gender mainstreaming, climate changes through scientific monitoring methods and needs based strategic funding.

JICA had signed the Loan Agreement of 14,512 million Japanese Yen (approximately INR 850 crores) for OFSDP-2 with the Government of India on March, 31 2017.
Strides in Public Health and Environment: JICA Supports for Enhancing Sewerage Treatment Capacity in Bengaluru

On May 15, 2017, the JICA-assisted newly constructed Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) at Koramangala and Challaghatta (K&C) Valley STP was inaugurated by Mr. Siddaramaiah, Hon’ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka with a treatment capacity of 60 Million Liters per Day (MLD). The STP is expected to treat the sewerage generated by around 5 lakh people in Bengaluru, and improve the sanitation and environmental condition of the rapidly growing city to promote better life and prosperity.

The ceremony was graced by Mr. Siddaramaiah, Hon’ble Chief Minister and attended by dignitaries including Mr. K.J. George, Hon’ble Minister for Bangalore Development, Town Planning and District Incharge, Government of Karnataka; Mr. Tushar Girinath, Chairman Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB); Mr. Kenko Sone, Minister, Embassy of Japan in India; Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Consul General, Consulate-General of Japan in Bengaluru and, Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office, among others.

Mr. Sakamoto addressed the audience mentioning that cooperation is not just about lending money to lay more water supply and sewerage pipes or to construct WTPs and STPs in Bengaluru, but to improve the standards and quality of water and sanitation services including effectiveness and efficiency, and engage in institutional development of BWSSB. He stated that stable service delivery with good operation and maintenance to realize a better quality of life is the key to success of the project. Mr. Sakamoto further stated that JICA will render its continuous support and engagement for betterment of water and sanitation services in Bengaluru through its various schemes, including ODA Loans, Technical Assistance, Citizen Partnership and Public-Private Partnership Programs, etc.

JICA Boosts Urban Mobility in Bengaluru through Completion of Entire Stretch of Namma Metro

On June 17, 2017, the North-South Corridor (Green Line) of Bangalore Metro (Namma Metro) implemented through Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of JPY 65 billion (approximately INR 4,000 crore) from JICA was fully inaugurated to boost the mobility in Bengaluru. With the completion of the stretch from Majestic Station to Yelchelahalli Station, the entire Namma Metro Green Line from Nagasandra to Yelchelahalli has become fully operational for the passengers.

Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office said “JICA looks forward to the Namma Metro growing into punctual, safe, clean and comfortable travel mode with high reliability of metro services in Bengaluru, thus inspiring social innovation for the people’s lifestyle in Bengaluru”.

JICA supported Bangalore Metro will cater to the dense population in Bengaluru, to move with ease towards their destinations. It will also contribute to environmental improvement through mitigating traffic congestion and emission of pollutants via promotion of modal shift from private transportation to mass rapid transit.

Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office at the Inauguration Ceremony

Newly Inaugurated Stretch of Namma Metro
JICA Promotes Smoother Travel and Boosts Prosperity through Chennai Metro Project (Phase 1) Underground Section Inauguration

The much awaited Chennai Metro Project (Phase 1) underground section from Thirumangalam to Nehru Park implemented through ODA loan assistance from JICA was inaugurated on May 14, 2017. The flag off ceremony was attended by many dignitaries such as Shri. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and Shri Venkaiah Naidu, Hon’ble Union Minister for Urban Development.

The newly constructed underground stretch will cover a distance of 7.4 kms between Thirumangalam and Nehru Park comprising of five important stations; 1) Anna Nagar Tower, 2) Anna Nagar East, 3) Shenoy Nagar, 4) Pachayappa’s College and 5) Kilpauk Medical College.

The underground segment will mitigate the difficulties caused by mounting traffic in Chennai such as increased traffic congestion, air pollution, road accidents and journey time.

At the inauguration ceremony, Mr. Takena Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office sent his messages that the newly inaugurated underground section will promote smoother travel and will boost prosperity in Chennai, and will be one of the shining examples of mutual cooperation between India and Japan.

52nd Annual Meeting of African Development Bank-2017, Gandhinagar

The 52nd Annual Meeting of the African Development Bank (AfDB) was held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 22 to 26 May 2017. This was the first time that the Annual Meetings of AfDB were held in India. These Meetings were the AfDB’s largest annual event and serve to raise the profile of the institution on the global stage.

A Special Session on “India-Japan Co-operation for Development of Africa” was also organized. At this session, Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC), Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and JICA, in cooperation with their partner organizations in India and Africa, including the AfDB, discussed the promotion of African business through private-public partnerships between Japan and India, in order to contribute to the development of the African economy. In the session, Mr. Takao Toda, Vice President JICA, made a presentation titled “JICA’s Cooperation for Regional Integration in Africa”. In the presentation, Mr. Toda emphasized following 3 points: “Human Development”, “Regional Integration” and “Enabling Environment”, as key factors of JICA’s assistance in Africa with showing examples of assistance on project for Economic Development Corridor and One Stop Border Post.
JICA’s Exceptional Work Showcased at FICCI’s SMART Railways Conclave

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organized the SMART Railways Conclave, on June 6, 2017 in New Delhi. The conclave highlighted the various SMART initiatives supported by the Government of India, which included Smart Railway Station via Railway Station Redevelopment, Smart Safety Solutions, Smart Financing, Smart Freight Corridors & Infrastructure, Smart Customer Interaction & Services, Smart Trains and High Speed Rail Corridors.

Key dignitaries who attended the conclave included Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon’ble Minister for Railways, Government of India; Mr. Nalin Jain, Co-Chairman, FICCI National Committee on Infrastructure, President & Chief Executive Officer, South Asia, GE Transportation & Aviation and Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office.

Mr. Sakamoto participated in a panel discussion on ‘SMART Financing Models for Railways: Evolving a Promising Future’ and shared JICA’s experience and perspective on railway infrastructure development.

Mr. Sakamoto addressed the panel on how JICA is one of the largest donors to the Transport Sector in India and has been contributing to its infrastructure development. He highlighted the necessity of ensuring enough investment fund and streamlining operations in a more efficient and effective manner for Railway development in India. He emphasized on actual public participation focussing on balanced risk sharing with the timely preparation for projects in the railway sector to encourage further participation and investment from the private sector.

Mr. Sakamoto further stated that there is huge space for Indian Railways to be innovated. He mentioned that electrification and freight corridor development can develop the Indian transport sector and more frequent train operation can be realized through capacity development, and it can increase non-transportation revenue as well.

JICA believes that through such initiatives new avenues can open for development of the railway sector in India.

JICA India Office Relocated to Hindustan Times House, K.G. Marg, New Delhi

JICA has moved to a new location at 16th Floor, Hindustan Times House, 18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi -110001, India.

It has been an exciting 8 years for JICA at its old office, and JICA looks at this new location as the start of another chapter in its history in India.

Please reach JICA on its new phone numbers at +91-11-49097000

JICA India Office’s New Location: https://www.jica.go.jp/india/english/office/

Pooja Ceremony Performed by JICA’s Senior and Chief Representative at New Office

Contact us

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