



# JICA Nepal Office

## Quarterly Newsletter

Vol 74

September 2017

## JOCV RETREAT.....UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN!



Parting Volunteers during their final presentation in JICA Nepal Office.

Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) program was founded in 1965 as part of JICA's grass root level technical cooperation. The major objectives of the program are to contribute to the socioeconomic development of the recipient countries. JOCV program in Nepal started in 1970 and so far more than 1,300 volunteers have been assigned to various fields across the country. JICA volunteers spend 2 years in Nepal adapting themselves to the local life, by speaking local languages, eating local food, and working together with the local counterparts. Therefore volunteer program at large have promoted cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between the two countries.

Recently 5 of JICA's volunteers completed their assignment in Nepal and left for Japan. Here are some excerpts of their parting statements regarding their work and association with Nepal.



Ms. Fukunishi demonstrating methods to prepare organic fertilizer

**MS. MARI FUKUNISHI**  
Vegetable Growing,  
Nepal Agriculture Cooperative Central Federation



Ms. Fukunishi in Pharping Village

"During my 2 & half years stay in Nepal I worked in 10 different villages with 700 farmers in Dakshinkali Agricultural Cooperative, Pharping. I focused on improvement of existing cultivation methods, imparting knowledge about innovative practices for making fertilizers and conducted organic

cultivation workshops periodically. Local people in Pharping were very cooperative and active; they applied new methods mainly for tomatoes, cauliflower, cucumber etc. which resulted in increased production for organic farmers good enough for selling purpose as well.

I had a very pleasant stay in Nepal, all thanks to my host family, the villagers and all the farmers.

I consider Nepal to be agriculturally rich country where every household is capable of farming, to feed themselves and their family and I am glad I contributed to this tradition. I wish more young people are engaged in this industry for ensuring sustainable income generation so that migration to foreign land for employment is minimized. I go back to Japan with lots of memories especially the positive energy and good family values from Nepal."



**THREE**  
Emergency Housing  
Reconstruction Project.



**SIX**  
Strengthening Capacity  
of the Court.



**SEVEN**  
Phase II Local level  
elections observation.



**EIGHT**  
Emergency Relief Goods  
handover to Government of  
Nepal in Response to the  
Damages Caused by Heavy  
Rainfall.

## JOCV Retreat... ..contd from pg 1



**MR. TSUBASA YOSHIDA**

Vegetable Growing,  
District Agriculture Development Office, Bhaktapur

"As I prepare to leave for Japan post completion of my volunteer work here in Nepal, the question that pops my mind constantly is when will I be coming back again? Such is the experience I gather from my work, the people and my stay here in Nepal. The last two years has been a very good learning exercise for me as well working with DADO office in Bhaktapur. My area of work with DADO included teaching techniques to prepare methane fermented liquid fertilizer to farmers which lead to successful implementation and effective outputs during farming, supporting farmers to sell the locally produced ground apple tea in popular farmer's market and various shops in town, I also taught methods to cultivate strawberry and leek and initiated new vegetable product farming in Bhaktapur. My most satisfying activity however is the agriculture related training I conducted in a local school. I want to disseminate the things I learnt here back in Japan as part of my knowledge sharing and exchange programs; I shall continue the teaching job there as well".



**MR. KEI KAWAKITA**

Community Development, District Agriculture Development Office, Lalitpur

"My posting in Nepal as a volunteer was during the aftermath of April 2015 earthquake. The situation was tense and chaotic but it was very pleasing to see the hospitality of Nepalese people as I was warmly welcomed in Lalitpur. I worked with Lalupate Woman Agriculture Co-operative office, Mulpani mainly to support sales of their production- sweet

snacks Pushtakaari (Caramel) and Lapsi Candy by establishing appropriate channel to reach the market. Basically I supported the group to identify innovative strategies to sell their products by managing planned production, seeking buyers and creating demand for the products so that it resulted in sustainable business generating, good income. The sales of products gradually increased during my tenure which I consider a remarkable achievement.

However, I felt the production was limited; it would be beneficial if the production were diversified to jam and pickles, as I witnessed a lot of potential in the working groups. Therefore in coming days the office can collaborate with food processing factories and also undertake trainings to learn new methods of production for which I believe DADO's intervention is essential to create favorable environment and provide appropriate opportunities. This shall empower the locals both socially and economically."



**MS. SAYAKA HASHIMURA**

Community Development, Women and Children Office, Syangja

"I am very thankful for being given an opportunity to work closely with Women's group in Syangja. Being a woman it was

a very fulfilling experience as I got to learn about the culture, traditions, behavioral attributes and position of women in Nepalese society. Although the situation here seems very different than in Japan, I observed some similarity i.e. women struggling to identify one's strengths in order to raise their status. I feel education and opportunities for employment could make a huge difference in the lives of women hence I worked closely with the groups to promote this principle. I conducted workshops on approaches to gender equality, orientation for minimizing social taboos, exchange programs between Nepalese and Japanese women for exposure and organized training classes for developing entrepreneurship skills which eventually lead to a local village women opening an accessory shop of her own. I am hoping such innovative practices gain momentum with the additional support of Women and Children Office in order to secure better position of women in the village."



**MR. HIRONORI NISHIKAWA**

Community Development, Waling Municipality Office, Waling, Syangja.

"Based on Local Governance and Community Development Program I visited 11 wards in Waling Municipality and supported execution of a new program "Purna Sarsafai Chhetra", to motivate local people and households for solid waste management. Hence the collected wastes are now sent for recycling purpose in cooperation with Local NGO's and Waling Municipality. Proper sanitation and good hygiene are essentials to healthy lifestyle along with management of waste and awareness regarding clean environment which are equally significant. I strongly believe Economic Development is

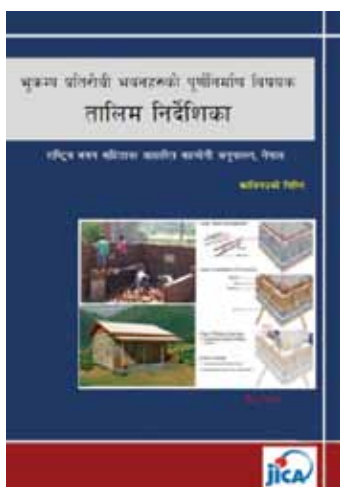
possible only if one capitalizes the strength and features available which holds true for Waling as well because of their human capital. Therefore more young engineers and officers should be involved in development projects so that the younger generation can reinforce local issues. Besides my project work, I also volunteered as a football coach for the local Club where the girl's football team were winners of the U-16 Coca Cola Cup in western region and were placed 5th in national match. Working in Nepal has been very satisfying and enriching, I wish I could contribute more."



# EMERGENCY HOUSING RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

One sector that suffered major damage demanding huge financial requirements from the Gorkha Earthquake in 2015 is the Private Housing. The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) report prepared within two months from the earthquake suggests 49.6% loss in private housing sector alone out of the total financial loss of NPR 706.46 billion. Similarly, the Post Disaster Recovery Framework (PDRF) prepared exactly a year later depicts the housing sector financial requirements of NPR 376.12 billion out of the total financial requirements of NPR 837.74 billion. These reports reveal how vulnerable the houses are in Nepal to withstand the earthquake hazard.

The Government of Nepal has decided to provide a reconstruction grant of NPR 300,000.00 to the eligible house owners as a support to rebuild their houses. The latest data (as of July end 2017) from Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development – Central Level Project Implementation Unit shows 749,875 houses entitled for the reconstruction grant from all 31 affected districts. Ministry of Urban Development – Central Level Project Implementation Unit record shows that the total number of houses under construction or already completed (as of July end 2017) is 162,720 (24.97% of the total eligible representing 14 districts). These figures underline several challenges in order to



EHRP Technical Handbook for Masons

successfully reconstruct private houses and elevate the affected population. The major challenges lie in two fronts;

(i) Meeting those financial requirements needed to reconstruct and



EHRP Masons training in Chautara, Sindhupalchowk.

(ii) Supporting the house owners to build safer houses.

JICA Nepal has been extending its cooperation in both aspects through the financial assistance of Japanese Yen 12 billion (equivalent to USD 96 million) under the ODA loan scheme and technical assistance under the grant scheme. Being a living lab for earthquake disaster and from its home-grown learning, JICA has been advocating for Build Back Better (BBB) and extending its technical cooperation to realize the concept of at the ground level. Subsequently, JICA extended its technical cooperation project named Transitional Project Implementation Support for Emergency Reconstruction Project (TPIS-ERP) since September 2015.

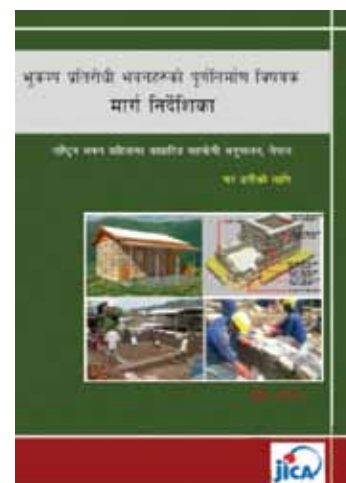
The TPIS-ERP has been assisting the concerned government agencies in preparing the design standards, guidelines, manuals, and conducting trainings to the house owners, masons and engineers. Initially, TPIS project was designed for one year but based on the necessity, the urgency to expedite the reconstruction process and to fulfill the compliance for minimum technical requirements; the project has been further extended and shall continue until March 2018. Highlighted below are some of the outputs from the project in numbers;

Number of house owners oriented for safer construction	6,518
Number of masons trained	2,157
Number of masons attending refresher training	1,595
Number of engineers trained for ToT and inspection	894

Number of Community Based Reconstruction Committee (CBRC) supported for formation	537
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Number of CBRC workshops conducted for reactivating them for reconstruction support	33
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Very recently, another initiative has been started through TPIS-ERP to reactivate CBRCs in order to expedite the reconstruction process. The content of reactivation was Community Based Reconstruction Committee's workshop to discuss about the collective problems and formulation of action plans to address those problems with support from social mobilizer, engineer and mobile mason. The preliminary indications are quite encouraging. This initiative can be claimed as the Community-Driven Support to the Owner-Driven housing reconstruction approach.



EHRP Technical Handbook for House Owner

## POST-EARTHQUAKE RECOVERY IN NEPAL- WORLD RECONSTRUCTION CONFERENCE 3



Team Nepal at the World Reconstruction Conference

The 3rd edition of the World Reconstruction Conference (6-8 June 2017) was held in Brussels, Belgium to promote resilience through post-crisis recovery.

Mr. Kozo Nagami Senior Representative of JICA Nepal was one of the panelists during the Nepal Session, where he presented JICA's experiences in rebuilding after the Nepal earthquake and also highlighted JICA's 3 major priorities of recovery efforts in Nepal –

- i. Effective transition from Pledge to Implementation mobilizing JICA's own financial sources at the initial stage.
- ii. Future Risk Assessment with recovery assistance to secure 'Build Back Better' principle.
- iii. Significance of Community Based Approach.

Mr. Nagami during his presentation further stressed on JICA's commitment and efforts towards Building Resilient Nepal and expressed belief that Nepal will come out stronger post

the recovery phase overcoming all the hardships, towards a brighter future.

During the conference, Dr. Gobinda Raj Pokharel CEO of NRA (National Reconstruction Authority) presented key notes regarding post-earthquake recovery in Nepal and highlighted the experiences over the last two years and way forward for achieving sustainable and resilient recovery efforts.

JICA in cooperation with the Government of Nepal has been effectively conducting its recovery activities in Nepal ever since the 2015 EQ. Till date JICA has dispatched more than 200 experts in Nepal for supporting swift execution of reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts and emphasizes on accomplishing desired outputs for ongoing reconstruction works for housing, school, infrastructure etc., and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and recovery planning.

Please refer to the link below for article on the topic- *Lessons Learned: Japan's Contributions to the World Reconstruction Conference 3.*  
<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2017/06/27/lessons-learned-japans-contributions-to-the-world-reconstruction-conference-3>

## JICA IN History

### KULEKHANI HYDROPOWER STATION

The Kulekhani cascade project is the country's only reservoir based power station of 60MW (Kulekhani I) and 32 MW (Kulekhani II) that supplies reliable peak power in an integrated power system during the dry season by utilizing the seasonally regulated water in Kulekhani reservoir.



Kulekhani Reservoir, Makwanpur

#### Kulekhani - I

- This project was constructed under the financial assistance of World Bank, The Kuwait Fund, OPEC Fund, the UNDP and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan and Government of Nepal. The total project cost was US\$ 117.843 million.
- The construction period of the project was between 1977 and 1986 and was operational from 14th May, 1982.

#### Kulekhani - II

- This project was constructed under the financial assistance of Government of Nepal and OECF of Japan. The total project cost was NPR 124 million.
- The construction period of the project was between 1982 to 1986 and was operational from November 1986.

Kulekhani hydropower station is the country's primary power backup plant and has been continuously producing and supplying electricity since last 3 and a half decades. It has also managed to provide employment opportunity to number of locals and have facilitated improvement of economic condition of hundreds of households in Makwanpur District. Lately, Kulekhani has emerged as a popular tourist destination. Just 21 kms away from the Capital city Kathmandu, the Indra Sarobar (reservoir created by the dam) surrounded by the green hills seems to be the main attraction

## JICA PROVIDES OFFICE EQUIPMENT TO CBS

### FOR SUPPORTING PILOT SURVEY OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC CENSUS 2018



Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Mr. Jun Sakuma handing the Office Equipments to Mr. Suman Raj Aryal Director General of CBS in CBS office

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Nepal and Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) signed an agreement on February 2016 to implement the technical cooperation project named "Project on Capacity Development for the implementation of Economic Census 2018 in Nepal". The objectives of the Project are to develop the capacity of CBS officials to conduct National Economics Census 2018 and to enhance skills in conducting other related statistical surveys. The duration of the project will be for five years from March 2016.

The National Economic Census 2018 aims to strengthen the statistical infrastructure by establishing statistical business register containing information of all establishments and enterprises and providing with the fundamental statistics on the current status of business activities of the economic units in Nepal. The statistical results will be further used for planning and implementation of policies, plans and strategies of line ministries, province level, and local governments, universities, research institutions and private sector.

Currently, CBS is implementing the Pilot Survey 2017 of National Economic Census 2018. For the successful implementation of the pilot survey, especially to realize e-Census, Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI), Enumeration Area Map Database with satellite imagery, and the decentralization of data processing, JICA Nepal has provided equipment worth of NPR 57,728,650.45 to CBS under the ongoing project. The supported equipment includes 14 laptop computers, 39 sets of desktop computers, 78 sets of tablet computers, smart phones, printers, computer software, LCD projector sets, screen, air conditioners, GIS Software and satellite imagery, solar power generation system and plotter.

Please visit the link for more details of the Project.  
<http://www.stat.go.jp/english/info/meetings/nepal/nepal.htm>

## COMCAP & JPP VIDEOS

### 1. JPP (Video)

*"Together for Safer and Happier Child Birth"*

Safe Motherhood Program is JICA's Partnership Program (JPP) that promotes regular maternity checkup and delivery to provide grass-root support by promoting birth preparedness through awareness, encouraging women for institutional delivery and by strengthening hospital service quality. The program is implemented in Matrishu Miteri Hospital in Pokhara and fund for the program is managed jointly by Pokhara Lekhnath Metropolitan City and Citizen's Association for Nepal Exchange of Japan's Komogane city. The hospital works not only for controlling and reducing infant deaths but also motivating expectant mothers for regular medical checkup.



<https://www.facebook.com/jicanepal/posts/388895358172656>

### 2. COMCAP (Video)

Community Mediation Capacity for Peaceful and Harmonious Society Project (COMCAP) is supported by JICA and executed by Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development (MOFALD). It is implemented to enhance the capability and mechanism for the dispute management in Nepal. The main objective of the project is to increase the access to the justice at community level. The project has supported in developing the draft Community Mediation Guidelines based on its working experience in Sindhuli and Mahottari, however the guideline is yet to be approved by the Cabinet. The project started to pilot the draft guideline in three districts; Dhanusha, Morang & Tanahun.

The docudramas of COMCAP Project portray the Community Mediation mechanism in two different storyline - Family Feud and Neighbor's Feud. The videos are very popular amongst the people in rural communities where the project is implemented as it is very basic and easily understood by all.



<https://www.facebook.com/jicanepal/videos/391946677867524/>



# SINDHULI ROAD RECOVERY



Collapsed Road

Vehicular movement along Sindhuli Road (BP Highway) resumed on 30 June 2017, four months post recovery operations. This swift recovery was enabled with tireless contributions from project office, Department of Roads and supervising experts from JICA, who contributed in an organized manner to expedite and monitor the progress. The damaged highway surface was repaired at a cost of Rs. 20 million with the technical assistance of JICA.

The BP Highway came into operation from March 2015 and was constructed with Japanese Grant of Rs.21.5 billion.

A 37m stretch of the highway had collapsed due to landslide in Feb 2017 disrupting vehicular movement. Following the incident, Department of Roads had immediately opened the diversion road for traffic movement.



Post Repairing



Repair Work-in-progress



Repair Work-in-progress during night time as well

## STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF THE COURT



Supreme Court Nepal

With the Technical Assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Supreme Court of Nepal is implementing "The Project for Strengthening the Capacity of Court for Expeditious and Reliable Dispute Settlement" from Sept. 2013 to March 2018. The project's objective is to establish the foundation to improve the court's function for promoting expeditious and reliable dispute settlement.

To support the objective, JICA provided assistance to Supreme Court to draft the Case Management Guideline. Chief Registrar of Supreme Court Mr. Nahakul Subedi unveiled the Case Management Guideline on July 23, 2017 in Supreme Court office amidst a program and mentioned that "the drafting of Case Management Guidelines is instrumental for

strengthening the judicial system in Nepal". Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Mr. Jun Sakuma during the occasion reaffirmed JICA's continuous support to Supreme Court for establishing harmonious society in Nepal by ensuring access to justice for all public. Supreme Court's full court has approved the Case Management Guideline and has now come into effect in all the 75 districts. The Guideline will help to understand the court procedure especially for Judges, court officials and lawyers.

JICA Nepal together with Supreme Court of Nepal organized 5 days training program on "Training of Trainers on Mediation" conducted by Prof. Kazuto Inaba an authority of Japanese court referred mediation. Upon completion Former Chief Justice and Chairperson of Former Judges Forum Nepal (FJFN) Mr. Kedar Nath Upadhaya distributed certificates to all the 30 participants representing Former Judges Forum Nepal (FJFN) and Nepal Bar Association (NBA) affiliate's lawyers. This training will play a vital role to enhance the quality and importance of Court referred Mediation in Courts throughout Nepal.

## FOREIGN INVESTMENT ADVISOR AT IBN



**MR. MIKIO TAMADA**  
JICA Expert to the Investment Board of Nepal (IBN)

Mr. Mikio Tamada-JICA Expert commenced his work with the Investment Board of Nepal (IBN) as an advisor from July 2017. His tenure in IBN is up to Feb 2019 where he will advise IBN to produce investment guide for Nepal. Prior to Mr. Tamada, Mr. Hiroo Iwazaki assisted IBN as Foreign Investment Advisor for 3 years.

# LOCAL LEVEL ELECTION - PHASE II OBSERVATION



The observation team visited Morang Regional Election Commission where Mr. Pram Prasad Sanjel- Regional Election Officer welcomed the team and explained about the preparation in the district.

*\* The observation team comprised of Embassy of Switzerland, Embassy of Japan and JICA Nepal.*



At the end of the voting day the Election Commission staff secured and sealed the ballot boxes. In the picture, the observation team being briefed about the process.



The observation team visited 9 polling stations. The team were allowed to observe entire voting process. In the picture, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal watches how a ballot paper are handed to the voters for voting.

Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Mr. Jun Sakuma observed the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of elections in Biratnagar on 27 June 2017.

## GRANT ASSISTANCE OF 300MILLION FOR SCHOOL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (SSDP)

Government of Japan extended Grant Assistance of three hundred million Japanese yen (JPY 300,000,000), equivalent to approximately 300 million Nepalese Rupees to the Government of Nepal for the 2nd year of the 'School Sector Development Program (SSDP)'.

The SSDP started implementation from July 2016 that aims to consolidate gains from previous reform programs and continue crucial reforms needed in the school education sector through the SWAP modality. The primary mission of SSDP for schools in Nepal is to produce the needed human resources to elevate the country's status from a least developed country to the middle income country by 2030. The goal is thus to provide all citizens with the opportunity to become functionally literate and numerate, and to develop the life skills and knowledge required to enjoy a productive life, taking into account the diversity of context and the federalization of the country. Purpose of the SSDP is to improve the equity, quality, efficiency, governance and

management of the education sector. SSDP focuses on capacity and knowledge enhancement of both students and teachers by developing relevant teaching and learning methods and materials that ensures quality development. Lately, SSDP also focuses on strengthening school-level disaster management and resilience to develop school as a conflict free zone.

JICA Nepal joined the pool funding (SWAP modality) in education sector from 2014 along with other development partners to assist the Government of Nepal in the implementation of the School Sector Reform Program (SSRP) and now the School Sector Development Program (SSDP).

Development of Education sector in Nepal is JICA's top priority and it assures to continue its support to this sector for effective implementation and output.



## EMERGENCY RELIEF GOODS HANDOVER TO GOVERNMENT OF NEPAL IN RESPONSE TO THE DAMAGES CAUSED BY HEAVY RAINFALL



His Excellency Mr. Masashi Ogawa hands over the emergency relief materials to the Hon'ble Home Minister Mr. Janardan Sharma.

Ambassador of Japan to Nepal Mr. Masashi Ogawa handed over emergency relief goods to the Hon'ble Home Minister Janardan Sharma, Government of Nepal amidst a ceremony at the Humanitarian Staging Area - Tribhuvan International Airport on 23rd Aug 2017 Wednesday.

The relief goods from Japanese Government include 3,000 blankets, 100 plastic sheets, 2,000 sleeping pads, 100 tents and 10 water tanks, weighing almost 10.4 tons in response to the damages caused by heavy rainfall since August 11 in the southern part of Nepal. The relief supplies provided are worth around

25 million Japanese Yen (about NRs. 23.4 million).

At the event, signing of the letter of delivery and acceptance was exchanged between Mr. Jun Sakuma, Chief Representative, JICA Nepal Office, and Mr. Kedar Neupane, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

During the occasion, Mr. Ogawa extended his heartfelt condolences to the victims of the unfortunate natural disaster and said, "The Japanese Government and Japanese citizens have not forgotten the friendship and compassion given to Japan during the Great East Japan Earthquake in March 2011 and the Kumamoto

Earthquake in April 2016 by the government and people of Nepal. Likewise, the Japanese Government and JICA are happy to be able to implement emergency assistance ahead of other governments and international organizations, which is an indication of the cordial relationship between our respective governments and citizens."

The Government of Japan sincerely hopes that these goods will be delivered promptly to the victims and will somehow help in improving the lives of those affected and that restoration work will go ahead steadily in the disaster-affected areas and the victims will be able to go back to their normal and peaceful lives as quickly as possible.



Emergency Relief Materials arrives at the Humanitarian Staging Area - Tribhuvan International Airport

### GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP : JDS

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) shall extend grant assistance up to 282 million JPY (approx. NPR 257 million) under the Grant Aid scheme of "The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship: JDS" for FY 2017/18.

JDS offers 2-year scholarship to 20 government officials of Nepal who are engaged in formulating and implementing socio-economic development planning and to study at a graduate school in Japan for Master's Degree, with an objective to resolve development challenges in Nepal. JDS is implemented in 13 countries since 1999 for supporting the human resource development of the countries targeting highly capable, young government officials and others who are potential future leaders of the partner countries. More than 3,700 officials have studied in Japan under this scholarship.

"We are hopeful all the scholars will contribute to the development process of Nepal once they come back after completing their education in Japan." says Mr. Jun Sakuma - Chief Representative, JICA Nepal. This assistance is expected to expand and enhance the foundation for bilateral relations between Japan and Nepal.

### PR GRAND PRIX 2017 !

JICA Nepal office received the award for PR Grand Prix 2017 from JICA Headquarter. The award was presented to Nepal office in the category of outstanding event management for two of its major activity-1st Earthquake Anniversary Commemoration Seminar 2016 and Volunteer Activity Observation & Study Tour 2016.



JICA Nepal team with the Award.



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