

RECONSTRUCTION OF BIR HOSPITAL AND PAROPAKAR MATERNITY & WOMEN'S HOSPITAL IS NOW COMPLETE !



Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital, Thapathali, Lalitpur



Bir Hospital, Kathmandu



THREE
4th Commemoration Seminar
of Nepal Earthquake: Sharing
of Experiences and Lessons
Learned on BBB Recovery



FIVE
Barpak and Sanepa
School Handover



SIX
Japan Overseas
Cooperation Volunteer
(JOCV) Study Tour



EIGHT
Pokhara Water
Treatment Plant
inauguration ceremony

The reconstruction of Bir Hospital and Paropakar Maternity & Women’s Hospital is now complete and handed over to the Ministry of Health and Population.

JICA Nepal supported the reconstruction of both the Hospitals in Kathmandu along with provision of part of required medical equipment. The reconstruction work falls under JICA’s Grant Assistance ‘Program on Rehabilitation and Recovery from Nepal Earthquake’. After the earthquake in 2015, health services at these public hospitals were severely affected due to damages to their infrastructure.

The new 3-storey building of Bir Hospital will be used for ICU and cardiology department whereas the Paropakar Maternity Hospital will be using the new building for its multiple medical services and educational purposes.

Through reconstruction of these infrastructures JICA aims to support the provision of safe and quality health services to the general public in Nepal. The project was based on the concept of “Build Back Better” for creating a resilient society to cope with future disasters.

Paropakar Maternity and Women’s Hospital, Thapathali, Lalitpur



Bir Hospital, Kathmandu



4TH COMMEMORATION SEMINAR OF NEPAL EARTHQUAKE: SHARING OF EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED ON BBB RECOVERY



National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) jointly organized a seminar “Sharing of Experiences and Lessons Learned on BBB Recovery” to commemorate the 4th year of the Gorkha Earthquake on 26 April 2019. About 200 participants representing the government, development partners, civil society, academia and media actively took part in the discussions.

The seminar highlighted the progress and achievements in reconstruction and recovery based on the principle of Build Back Better (BBB) in the last four years. Mr. Sushil Gyewali, Chief Executive

Officer of the National Reconstruction Authority (NRA) emphasized the past efforts by the Government of Nepal to expedite the reconstruction process have been yielding results. CEO Gyewali’s statement was backed by the NRA’s subsequent presentation about reconstruction progress in the key sectors. As per NRA 80%

progress has been made so far in reconstruction of private houses, out of the 7,553 schools that needs to be rebuilt 85% progress has been achieved, and 66% progress achieved so far in reconstruction of health facilities etc. Further, Dr. Kozo Nagami, Senior Representative of JICA Nepal, explained how the core principle of ‘Build Back Better’ has been integrated into the wide array of reconstruction and recovery support provided by Japan.

This year’s seminar was enriched by the invaluable contributions by two distinguished speakers from Japan. Mr. Shu Oyama, Deputy Mayor of Higashimatsushima City, shared

experiences and lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake, which hit the northern part of Japan in March 2011. He shared the City’s efforts in developing its recovery plan and highlighted the importance of ensuring bottom-up, participatory process by involving residents in every step of recovery. Prof. Satoru Nishikawa from the Disaster Mitigation Research Center of the Nagoya University explained Japan’s long history of coping with natural disasters, and shared how Japan reduced its vulnerability to disasters by investing in disaster risk reduction over the years.

The presentations made during the seminar are available in the following link; <https://www.jica.go.jp/nepal/english/office/topics/190426.html>

Ms. Yumiko Asakuma, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal, concluded the seminar by reaffirming JICA’s continuous support for rebuilding lives, economies and institutions affected by the earthquake. This year marks the 50 years of Japanese cooperation in Nepal (1969-2019) and commemorating this occasion Ms. Asakuma further assured to strengthen JICA’s partnership and cooperation with Nepal.

JICA in History

BRIDGES IN KATHMANDU!

JICA Nepal undertook the reconstruction of 10 bridges in Kathmandu valley (1989 to 1992) with Phase I and II projects through its Grant Assistance program. The reconstructed bridges were built to withstand the effects of probable flooding and increased traffic loads.

Bridges reconstructed were as follows;

Phase I

1. Bishnumati River (Dallu)
2. 3 in Dhobi River (Kalo pul, Handi Gaon and Baber Mahal)
3. Mahadev River
4. Manmatta in Manohara River

Phase II

1. Bagmati River
2. Kodku River, Kodku River
3. Sankhamul, Bagmati River
4. Mahadev River, Lambagar

The primary objectives of the reconstruction were;

- To maintain effective road network and to improve the movements of traffic in Kathmandu valley
- To contribute in the promotion and enhancement of Kathmandu city and surrounding areas
- To gather positive impacts on the socioeconomic developments in the capital region

The bridges until date have been providing efficient services to the commuters thereby contributing to the improvement of regional transportation and economic development in Kathmandu Valley.



Dhobi River Bridge, Anamnagar, Kathmandu



Bagmati River Bridge, Sankhamul, Lalitpur

JICA VOLUNTEER: GOALKEEPER COACH IN ANFA



Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV) Mr. Toshihiro Mitsumaru is extending his advisory activities as a goalkeeper coach in All Nepal Football Association (ANFA), since July 2018. He provides training to goalkeepers from the National football team as well as professional FC team (Division 1).

Recently, Mr. Mitsumaru trained 20 goalkeepers (age 15 to 23) selected from 10 various districts in Nepal. This extensive professional 19 days training program proved highly beneficial and was a first opportunity for all the boys, as they learnt new techniques both in theory and in the field.

"I am very happy and satisfied as it helped me develop my skill in the game and my personal capacity as well. I am very thankful to Coach Hiro (Mr. Mitsumaru) who came all the way from Japan and trained us as per international standards in goalkeeping," claims Manoj Dahal (15 yrs), Uurlabari, Morang. Likewise, Karan Karki (23 yrs) from Biratanagar says, "I



Mr. Mitsumaru with the trainee

coach students from various schools and colleges in my hometown but now I can say I am better equipped and more knowledgeable both as a goalkeeper and a trainer to assist others in an appropriate manner. I shall definitely transfer this learning to others in my football career."

During the closure ceremony of the training event, ANFA president Mr. Karma Tsering Sherpa reiterated ANFA's support to programs as such in order to boost the level of the game as well as produce well-equipped players in Nepal. He personally expressed his appreciation towards Mr. Mitsumaru and JICA Nepal for their support in creating a platform to encourage and develop the young players who are likely to be the future stars in Nepalese football scene.

Mr. Mitsumaru on the other hand states that, "This was also a unique experience for me personally as I was only given few days' time to train the boys. The short span was a big challenge and I accepted it wholeheartedly although I knew 19 days was not enough. Nevertheless, I am very happy with their performance and am impressed with their dedication and determination to learn what was taught to them. I strongly hope they continue this spirit and develop the skills in due courses of time as well as transfer their learning to others."



Trainees and Mr. Mitsumaru with ANFA officials.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR

JICA had commenced the “Data Collection Survey on Urban Transport in Kathmandu” to develop the technical/financial assistance programs for improvement of urban transport sector in Kathmandu valley since Jan 2019. This survey aims to find the future potential projects to be discussed for JICA technical/financial assistance as follows;

1. Short-term: Traffic management schemes which are suitable for JICA technical assistance, Small and medium size enterprise (SME) supporting scheme and Grant-aid scheme.
2. Medium-term: Flyover/Underpass which are suitable for prompt Japanese ODA loan in near future, and
3. Long-term: Urban railway system for ensuring the compatibility with flyover/underpass.

JICA organized a seminar on April 12, 2019 to disseminate findings and proposals about the data collection survey on Urban Transport in Kathmandu Valley. Officials from government and private sectors, representatives of development sector, academic institutions and media attended the seminar for exchanging opinions and building networks for supporting the development of urban transport and to introduce solutions and technologies applied to short, medium and long-term development of urban transport sector.

COMPLETION OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN BARPAK, GORKHA AND SANEPA LALITPUR

CLPIU through financial assistance from JICA Nepal completed construction of school buildings in Barpak and Sanepa and handed over to the school management amidst official ceremonies this month. The newly constructed buildings are built under Emergency School Reconstruction Project (ESRP). The Project is being implemented by Central Level Project Implementation Unit, National Reconstruction Authority under Japanese ODA loan assistance.

The old school buildings were severely damaged during the earthquake in 2015. And since then had faced difficulties in managing the classrooms and education for the students. The new buildings are constructed with multihazard resilient structures, which are environment,

child, gender and disable friendly and is expected to provide improved learning environment for the students.

SHREE HIMALAYA SECONDARY SCHOOL, BARPAK, GORKHA

The newly reconstructed buildings- 7 new blocks (Administration Block, three Academic blocks, Practical Block, Multipurpose hall and Toilet blocks) were jointly inaugurated by Chief Minister of Province no. 4. Honorable Prithivi Subba Gurung, Chief Executive Officer of National Reconstruction Authority Mr. Sushil Gyewali and Ms. Yumiko Asakuma, Chief Representative of JICA Nepal on June 6, 2019. The school with altogether 600 students was established in 2017 B.S. The school in Barpak is situated close



Shree Tika Vidhyashram Secondary School, Sanepa, Lalitpur

to the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake epicenter which caused massive damages to the old building.

SHREE TIKA VIDHYASHRAM SECONDARY SCHOOL, SANEPAL LALITPUR

The newly reconstructed buildings- 3 new blocks (Academic block, Practical Block and Toilet blocks) were jointly inaugurated by Honorable Minister for Education, Science & Technology Mr. Giriraj Mani Pokharel, His Excellency Ambassador of Japan to Nepal Mr. Masamichi Saigo and Director General, South Asia department JICA Mr. Shohei Hara on June 12, 2019. The school with altogether 586 students was established in 2008 B.S. During the inauguration ceremony Mr. Chhibabu Maharjan, Mayor of Lalitpur stated that “We have two ways to pay back

to Japanese people and their cooperation, first by enhancing the quality of education and secondly by maintaining the newly constructed buildings in an appropriate manner.

EMERGENCY SCHOOL RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (ESRP)

Altogether 236 schools are being built at a total cost of JPY 14 billion (about NPR 12.7 billion) to support the reconstruction of disaster resilient schools in Gorkha, Dhading, Nuwakot, Makwanpur, Rasuwa and Lalitpur Districts, based on the earthquake-resistant type design guidelines formulated by JICA under the principle of “Build Back Better (BBB)”. The rebuilt schools are expected to serve as potential regional hubs for improving the quality of education.



Shree Himalaya Secondary School, Barpak, Gorkha

JAPAN OVERSEAS COOPERATION VOLUNTEER (JOCV) STUDY TOUR

JICA Nepal organized JOCV activity study tour for the Nepal government and media officials on 12 and 13 March 2019 in Tanahu and Pokhara region, primarily for understanding and observing the volunteer program. The tour included activities of volunteers working in various sectors, as follows;

MS. RUTSUKO ONIZUKA, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, GANDAKI PROVINCE SOIL AND WATERSHED MANAGEMENT OFFICE, TANAHU.

"One village One product"
Ms. Rutsuko Onizuka supports the local women's group in Ghiring, Tanahun through SABIHAA (Community Development and Greenery Project) to develop income generation and natural resource conservation activities. The group is involved in producing grass brooms with the available local natural grass "Babiyo", which can be put to multiple use. Ms. Onizuka also supports in promoting the local product both in Kathmandu and in Pokhara market.



JOCV Ms. Onizuka presenting her activities



Broom designed by Ms. Onizuka

MR. TAIKI NAGIRA, PUBLIC HEALTH, VYAS MUNICIPALITY TANAHU.

Mr. Nagira is involved in awareness building activities regarding sanitation and environment for children and residents of Vyas Municipality, for which he has also developed various information materials highlighting the importance of good hygiene and sanitation. In order to increase his outreach Mr. Nagira frequently collaborates with FCHVs (Female Community Health Volunteers) in the community.

In addition, Mr. Nagira is working with local authorities to develop solid waste management system in Vyas Municipality mainly medical waste disposed by local hospitals since January 2019.

"I am very satisfied with the cooperation and support received from the locals; it encourages me to contribute my best efforts. Besides my regular work I seek to teach environmental education in schools and community as well" – Mr. Nagira.

MR. MORIAKI SAKAMOTO (SENIOR VOLUNTEER) AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE CENTRE, SYANGJA.

Mr. Sakamoto's expertise lies in vegetable cultivation, he therefore is involved in educating farmers about new technologies required for improving production of vegetables. In addition, his engagement lies in finding out the problems in tomato cultivation and teaching grafting method along with transferring skills to local farmers regarding control of disease and pest control.

The observation team visited one of the nearest site of Mr. Govinda Budha and Dev Kumar Shrestha's farm where tomatoes, beans and bitter gourd are grown adapting Japanese technology. Both the farmers have succeeded to earn good income from its sales and seemed happy with the technical support provided by Mr. Sakamoto and the changes they experienced from it.



Seeds and plants ready for grafting

MR. KENJI ISHIHARA, HANDBALL COACH, NEPAL HANDBALL ASSOCIATION (NHA), POKHARA.



Greeting program organized by Nepal Handball Association for the visitors



Practice session

JOCV Mr. Ishihara is currently coaching school students and teachers in Pokhara. He aims to increase the standard of the game to prepare the National Team for the upcoming South Asian Games to be held in 2019 in Nepal.

Mr. Tej Bahadur Gurung, President of NHA expressed his appreciation to JICA for dispatching Mr. Ishihara to NHA to enhance the Handball game in Nepal. JICA has dispatched more than 1,400 volunteers in the field of sports since 1965 all over the world.

OVERALL IMPRESSION

The tour further strengthened the credibility of volunteers and commitment towards their work. It further justified the sole intention of improving lives of local people by furnishing them with skills that will only reap benefits for them during their lifetime. Since all the activities witnessed were successful in terms of generating progressive outcomes, such initiatives were encouraged for implementation in other communities as well to establish sustainable development work. The various activities undertaken by volunteers benefitted not only the local residents but also the associated organizations in terms of exchange of experience and enriched information. "Volunteer program is citizen level partnership and operated by Government to government basis. Volunteers help for the social economic development of Nepal. Their contribution is highly valued and am very impressed with their dedication"-Mr. Tek Bahadur Khatri, Under Secretary from Ministry of Finance



Mr. Khatri delivering his speech during the interaction program

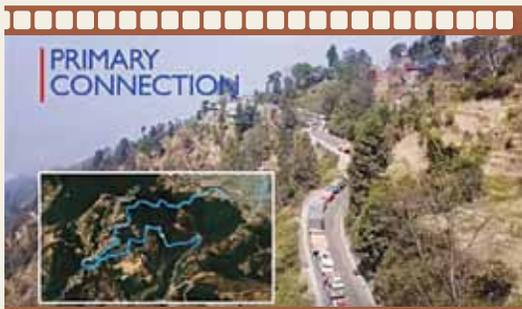
JICA Videos



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stR6zPztsO8&feature=youtu.be>

JOCV PROFILE

In the year 2020, JICA Nepal will be celebrating 50 years anniversary of JOCV establishment in Nepal. To commemorate the event, JOCV profile videos (two versions: up to 26 minutes and 8 minutes) of JOCV activities in Nepal is developed. The video incorporates both the past and the present contribution and achievements of Volunteer program in Nepal. The video was produced primarily to promote JOCV's efforts mainly related to development of Agriculture, Education, Health, Community Development and Sports. The video also incorporates the essence of JOCV's support activities and way forward, the contribution and the positive changes which were/are brought about by JOCV's activities along with the voices of the JOCV's, beneficiaries and various other stakeholders.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u-5FyyIIFRTO&feature=youtu.be>

NAGDHUNGA TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION - AN OVERVIEW.

On December 22, 2016, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a loan agreement with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal in Kathmandu, to provide a Japanese ODA loan of up to 16.636 billion yen for the Nagdhunga Tunnel Construction Project. The detailed design of the Project was finalized in May 2018. To disseminate the information on the Project, a profile video (approx. 5 minutes) is developed to display JICA's efforts in transport sector and ODA loan assistance.

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY OF POKHARA WATER SUPPLY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Government of Japan and Government of Nepal signed Bilateral Agreement regarding 'Project for Improvement of Water Supply in Pokhara' on Feb 15, 2017 according to which the Government of Japan extended a grant assistance of up to 4.813 billion JPY (equivalent to 4.834 billion NPR) for the implementation of the project, which is the first water treatment plant to be constructed in Pokhara. The Implementing Agency for the project is Nepal Water Supply Corporation under Ministry of Water Supply who will facilitate the construction of water treatment plant as well as distribution networks improving the quantity and quality of the water supply services in Pokhara.

The groundbreaking ceremony/foundation stone laying event of the Project was held on June 11, 2019 amidst an official ceremony in Pokhara where the Honorable Minister for Water Supply Ms. Bina Magar graced the occasion as the chief guest. His Excellency Ambassador of Japan to Nepal Mr. Masamichi Saigo, Chairman of Nepal Water Supply Corporation Mr. Jiulal Chaudhary, Province Ministers, Mayor of the city and Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Ms. Yumiko Asakuma was also present during the event.

During the ceremony Minister Magar expressed special appreciation towards Government of Japan and JICA for its long and consistent support in water sector, she further stated "Safe drinking water is embedded in the constitution thus this project is significant in order to ensure improved water facility contributing to meet the SDG's goals on water supply".

Despite being the second largest city after Kathmandu and the top most tourist destination of Nepal, Pokhara does not have water treatment facilities and water is supplied to people without adequate treatment. Considering this situation the Project for Improvement of Water Supply in Pokhara is perceived as urgent and needful project that ensures safe supply of treated water to all.

This project will install a water treatment plant, transmission and distribution pipes with the objectives of meeting the drinking water quality standards of Nepal supplying all target households with water seven days a week. At the same time, the project will reduce water leakage, adjust the water supply pressure, reduce the non-revenue water ratio and take other measures to increase the collection rate of water tariffs and improve the operation system.

The water treatment plant site is situated along Mardi River, while other distribution facility is installed across Pokhara metropolitan city. Construction of the Project is expected to complete by 2021. The Project aims to enhance the conditions of living environment of Pokhara city residents and also contribute towards development of tourism industry there.

JICA has been a long and consistent partner of Government of Nepal in water supply and sanitation sector since 1970s. Since then JICA has been supporting Government of Nepal to improvise the sector via several infrastructure projects as well as institutional in strengthening projects through several cooperation scheme like grant assistance, technical cooperation and concessional loan. Chief Representative of JICA Nepal Ms. Yumiko Asakuma reiterated that JICA would remain as reliable and consistent partner of development for Government of Nepal contributing to strengthen good relations between the two countries and its people.



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