

**North-South Commuter Railway Extension (NSCR-EX) Project
Contract Signing Ceremony for Contract Package NS01-Electro-
mechanical Systems & Track works**

Malacanang Palace, City of Manila

03 March 2023 10:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M.

Message from JICA Philippines Office Chief Representative

SAKAMOTO Takema

- His Excellency President of the Republic of the Philippines, Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr.
- VIPs, Guests, Colleagues and all Participants,

Magandang umaga po Mister President, at sa lahat nang dumalo sa pagtitipong ito.

(Good morning, Mr. President, and those who attended today's event).

Today marks another important milestone for "Quality infrastructure" development of the Philippines.

I am extremely honored to speak before you today, in the presence of His Excellency the President, at Malacanang Palace, to witness the signing of the Contract Package NS01 for the Electro-mechanical system and Track Works.

As everyone knows, during the very successful Presidential state visit to Japan in February, JICA and the Philippine government concluded the two Loan Agreements.

They are for the 2nd Tranche Loans for both NSCR Project and NSCR-Extension Project, with a total amount of JPY 377,017 million.

This agreed package is the biggest-ever loan JICA has ever extended to the Philippines.

This likewise signifies JICA's ever-stronger commitment to contributing to the country's big ticket projects.

JICA is more than happy to support you to achieve the success of the BBM Program under the strong leadership of His Excellency President Bongbong Marcos Jr.

I am confident that, with the appropriate helm of DOTr Secretary Bautista, Undersecretary Chavez and their team, the project will be able to overcome difficulties along the way, such as land acquisition and budget appropriation, and to gear up towards its successful completion full speed ahead.

At the same time, as the most reliable partner of the Philippines, JICA reiterates our full cooperation to realize “Japan-quality” public transportation systems in the Philippines.

Now, Mitsubishi Corporation is on board for NS01 Contract Package.

It is the largest single contract amount to be awarded throughout the country’s history and truly critical and fundamental part of the modern railway system.

We are sure that Mitsubishi Corporation, as one of the renowned 1st-class Japanese companies, will fully demonstrate really high-quality works.

Once completed, this NSCR will be ① safe, ② reliable, ③ comfortable and ④ environmental-friendly railway system.

The train along the NSCR system will shorten the commuting time less than one hour between Clark International Airport to Manila, from present over two hours.

This is a dramatic improvement in both living and business environment.

We are changing the world.

We are opening up the new history!

Let's move full speed ahead!

You can do it! We can do it!

JICA is always with you!

Kasama nyo kami!

Maraming salamat po, at Mabuhay kayong lahat.

Arigato Gozaimashita.

[End]