

Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

—Using Japanese Technology to Support Transportation Network Improvements in Rapidly Developing Colombo—

On March 28, 2014, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a Japanese ODA loan agreement with the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to provide an ODA loan of up to a total of 35.02 billion yen for assistance for the New Bridge Construction Project over the Kelani River.

Since internal armed conflict came to an end in 2009 after lasting more than 25 years, Sri Lanka has experienced a significant growth period, including economic growth exceeding an average of 7 percent per year. Particularly rapid development has been achieved in Colombo, the economic core of the country, with a construction boom in hotels, commercial facilities and the like.

However, the urban transportation network infrastructure in Colombo has not kept pace with that rapid development, resulting in serious traffic congestion, especially during the morning and evening work and school commute hours. Of particular concern is the New Kelani Bridge, which spans the Kelani River on the north side of the city, as it cannot accommodate the significant increase in traffic demand. A key point in the transportation network, the New Kelani Bridge is the entryway to Colombo from major trunk roads, such as National Highway A1 which connects to Kandy, Sri Lanka's second largest city, and the Colombo-Katunayake Expressway, which provides access to the international airport.



Signing ceremony

This project will construct a new bridge adjacent to the New Kelani Bridge along with expressway access roads to meet the rapidly increasing traffic demand on the bridge, thereby dispersing traffic and improving the chronic traffic congestion. The Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) will be applied to this project as outstanding technologies from Japanese companies will be employed in the construction, including rapid construction techniques to minimize the impact on existing traffic and engineering techniques for narrow-width construction to enable construction in narrow urban areas. For the bridge, extradosed bridge construction will be employed, a technology developed and first employed in Japan. As the gateway to Colombo, the economic core of Sri Lanka, the bridge design will incorporate appropriate aesthetic considerations.

JICA's policy is to utilize its types of assistance—technical cooperation, ODA loans and grant aid—to support nation-building in Sri Lanka for development that all residents can enjoy, including improvements to the socioeconomic infrastructure toward raising Sri Lanka to the rank of an upper middle income country.

Reference

1. Terms and Amount of Loan

Project title	Amount (million yen)	Annual interest rate (%)		Repayment period (years)	Grace period (years)	Procurement
		Project	Consulting services			
New Bridge Construction Project over the Kelani River.	35,020	0.10*	0.01	40	10	Japan tied

* Special Terms for Economic Partnership (STEP) apply to the project.

2. Executing Agency

Ministry of Highways, Ports and Shipping
Address: 9th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla, Sri Lanka
Phone: +94 (0) 11 2871821-30, fax: +94 (0) 11 2863296

3. Planned Implementation Schedule

- (i) Completion of project: November 2019 – when the facilities are put into service
- (ii) Issuing of letters of invitation for consulting services (including detailed design work and construction supervision): May 2014
- (iii) Tender announcement for initial procurement package for international competitive bidding on project construction:
Procurement package title: Main civil works: construction of the main bridge (380 meters), elevated road (1,050 meters) (international competitive bidding)
Release date: August 2015

4. JICA Contact Information

For further information about the procurement schedule, please contact the party listed below.
Contact Point for Transport Sector, JICA Sri Lanka
Address: 10th Floor, DHPL Building, No. 42, Navam Mawatha, Colombo 02, Sri Lanka
Phone: +94-11-230-3700, 94-11-230-0470
Fax: +94-11-230-3692, 94-11-230-0473