

(Attachment 2)

July 14, 2005

Training Programme for the People of Bangladesh at Private Companies in Japan

On July 14, 2005, the Record of Discussion (R/D) was signed by H. E. Major (Rtd.) Mohammad Quamrul Islam, State Minister of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment of Bangladesh, and Mr. Toshio Takano, Representative of the Japan International Training Cooperation Organization (JITCO). The signing ceremony was held at the Tokyo Kaikan, where the Bangladesh Business Seminar was being held, with the attendance of H. E. Begum Khaleda Zia, the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

The R/D provides the people of Bangladesh with trainings at private companies in Japan. The scheme is expected to benefit not only trainees but also development in Bangladesh as a whole. It is ensured by obliging trainees to be engaged in jobs that require technology, skills and/or knowledge which they acquire in Japan upon their return to Bangladesh.

In addition, it is extremely valuable in enhancing friendship and mutual understanding between Japan and Bangladesh that the two countries promote human exchanges through dispatching and accepting trainees and transferring technical expertise.

The JITCO was established in September, 1991 under the joint jurisdiction of five Ministries of the Japanese Government: Justice; Foreign Affairs; Economy, Trade and Industry; Health, Labour and Welfare; and Land, Infrastructure and Transport.

Bangladesh has become the fifteenth recipient country of this training program. The JITCO has already extended its support to China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Thailand, Peru, Laos, Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Cambodia and Nepal.