

Remarks by Mr. ANDO Toshihide, Charge d’Affairs, Embassy of Japan in India, at the Inauguration of the Section of between the Mayur Vihar Pocket 1 and Trilokpuri - Sanjay Lake of Pink Line of Delhi Metro

Date: 6 August 2021

H.E. Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon’ble Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs,
Mr. Arvind Kejriwal, Hon’ble Chief Minister of Delhi,
Dr. Mangu Singh, Managing Director, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Ltd.,
Honourable Ministers, Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly, Officials of Delhi Metro and other organizations concerned,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to offer my sincere congratulations on the successful inauguration of the Delhi Metro’s Trilokpuri section between the Mayur Vihar Pocket 1 and Trilokpuri - Sanjay Lake of the Pink Line. The successful completion and commencement of the operations of the Trilokpuri section are expected to have substantially positive impact on the intra-Delhi connectivity. This section eliminates a missing link and makes the Pink Line complete. This “Pink Line Link” would seamlessly connect those who live in suburban areas of the east bank of Yamuna to the vibrant commercial centres, including Lajpat Nagar and South Extension, as well as Nizamuddin and Sarai Kale Khan, where a future mega inter-modal transit hub is expected.

I was deeply impressed to learn that civil construction on the Trilokpuri section was concluded within the set deadline, even though the work was repeatedly impeded by the pandemic-induced lockdowns and shortage of the workforce. I would like to express my deepest appreciation and gratitude to all those who have been working so hard to make the completion and inauguration of the section possible.

With the completion of the Trilokpuri section, Phase 3 of the Delhi Metro Rail Project is almost completed. It is our great honour that Japan has supported the construction of an approximately 116 km section out of a total of 159 km length of Phase 3 through its ODA.

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to learn that DMRC has already started work on Phase 4 of the Delhi Metro Project. Japan is always pleased to support the efforts of the progressively expanding Delhi Metro, as the only foreign development partner of the Delhi Metro from its inception. Japan’s decision to support Phase 4 of the Delhi Metro is part of our consistent involvement in the Delhi Metro Project and a clear example of the friendship between our two countries. The notes for the provision of an ODA loan for Phase 4, amounting to approximately 120 billion Japanese Yen, or 8,157 crore Indian Rupees, were signed and exchanged in March this year. In Phase 4, the Pink Line will further be extended from Majlis Park to Maujpur, making it the longest single Metro corridor in India at approximately 70 kilometres.

After completion of Phase 4, the Pink Line will also become the only Ring Corridor of all the Metro systems in the country. The other two lines to be constructed in Phase 4 will link the South and North-West of the city more smoothly to other parts of the city with many interchanges. Phase 4 of the Delhi Metro Project will expand its rail network, further deepening the cooperation and friendship between Japan and India.

The coming year, 2022, will be a remarkable one, as it is the year of the 75th Anniversary of India's independence. At the same time, the year also marks the 20th Anniversary of the inauguration of the Delhi Metro, as well as the 70th Anniversary of the Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India. The ceremony today ushers us into the golden year of 2022 for India, the Delhi Metro and Japan. I am really delighted to join such a memorable ceremony today.

I shall conclude my remarks by saying this once again, that the Delhi Metro Project is the Shining Example of the long-lasting friendship between India and Japan. The Delhi Metro has been demonstrating the BEST OF THE BEST in the long history of our economic cooperation.

Thank you very much.

(End)