

Embassy of India
Tokyo

Background/Additional information

According to Indian Ambassador to Japan Sujan R. Chinoy, ***“Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit to the Kawasaki Heavy Industries factory in Kobe in November 2016 has given a boost to cooperation between the two sides in the railway sector. The collaboration between BHEL and KHI will support India’s “Make In India” programme and lend impetus to the modernisation of the Indian Railways and development of Metro trains and High Speed Rail connectivity in India. This will serve to achieve the objectives of India’s rapid economic growth and transformation in the coming decades”.***

India and Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation on High Speed Railways on 12 December 2015 to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the railway sector and confirmed to cooperate on the development of the Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project.

The financial and technical assistance for the MAHSR project will be provided by relevant Japanese institutions (*approx. 81% of the funds will be provided by the Japanese side*). The repayment period will be 50 years (with a grace period of 15 years with a rate of interest of 0.1% p.a.). A High Speed Rail (HSR) Training Institute will also be established in India apart from human resources/training of Ministry of Railway officials dealing with the operation of the HSR.

A Joint Committee on MAHSR has been formed between the two sides to implement this mega project (*led by Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on the Indian side and Dr. Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Japanese side*). Till date five meetings of the Joint Committee have been held.

A National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited has been established on Indian side to oversee the MAHSR.

Make In India and Transfer of Technology are important elements of co-operation between India and Japan in the railway sector.

Japan is committed to train 300 officials from the Indian Railways in Japan over a period of five years in the domain of HSR. The training of officials has already commenced.

A Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Railway Safety was signed between the Ministry of Railways of India and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure & Transport & Tourism (MLIT) of Japan in February 2017.

Kawasaki Heavy Industries (KHI) is one of Japan's most advanced manufacturers of railway coaches, rolling stock etc, for metro trains and High Speed Rail. BHEL and KHI have agreed on (1) technical cooperation on stainless steel railway coaches, and (2) collaboration on high-speed railway coaches. On (1), KHI has concluded a Technical Cooperation Agreement with BHEL and will provide technical assistance for the construction of the coach factory planned by BHEL. At the same time, KHI will also transfer technology to BHEL. For (2), KHI has concluded an MOU with BHEL. The two companies will collaborate on railway coach procurement projects for high-speed rail projects planned in India, including the Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project promoted by both governments. KHI will also consider the manufacture of railway coaches in India.

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