## Press Release

Government of Japan, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), has agreed to provide 754 million Japanese Yen (approx. NRs.692 million) grant assistance for the Project for Improvement of Medical Equipment in Tribhuwan University Teaching Hospital (TUTH); and a grant assistance of 350 million Japanese Yen (approx. NRs. 321 million) to the Government of Nepal under the grant assistance scheme in Japan's Fiscal Year 2016.

The project for Improvement of Medical Equipment in TUTH aims to improve the quality and quantity of medical services and education to be provided by TUTH through procurement of medical equipments thereby contributing to the enhancement of medical services and education in Nepal. Ministry of Education will be the executing agency and the TUTH will be responsible to implement this project.

The Japanese Food Assistance Program aims to support food security program of the Government of Nepal. This grant shall be used by the Government of Nepal for the purchase of the products and/or services necessary for the implementation of the program. The grant shall also be used for purchase of rice and its transportation up to Nepal. Ministry of Supplies will be the executing agency and Nepal Food Corporation will be responsible to implement this project.

Mr. Shanta Raj Subedi, Secretary, Ministry of Finance and His Excellency Mr. Masashi Ogawa, Ambassador of Japan signed the Exchange of Notes today in the Ministry of Finance on behalf of the Government of Nepal and the Government of Japan, respectively. Likewise, Mr. Baikuntha Aryal, Joint Secretary, International Economic Cooperation Coordination Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Hiroyasu Tonokawa, Senior Representative of JICA Nepal Office signed the grant agreement.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the Government of Japan for this assistance and for continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance Singh Durbar, Kathmandu 28 December 2016 १३ पौष २०७३