

PRESS RELEASE

The Government of Switzerland has agreed to provide a grant assistance of Swiss Francs 16.2 million (equivalent to Nrs. 1.2 billion) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of (i) Motorable (local road) Bridge Program, Phase I, and (ii) Trail Bridge Sub-sector Support Program, phase III.

The objective of the motorable local bridge program (Swiss Francs 9.3 million) is to help improve access to services and opportunities for rural people in Nepal by assisting the government of Nepal to construct and pilot up to 80 numbers of motorable bridges on local roads. The motorable bridge program is also expected to help transfer Swiss technological know-how to Nepal in a way to building national capacities at various sub-sectors.

Similarly, the objectives of the Trail Bridge Sub-sector Support Program (Swiss Francs 6.9 million) is to contribute towards poverty reduction through improved access to social and basic services and economic resources and opportunities of the local people by building trial bridges.

Two separate grants assistance agreements were signed and exchanged by Mr. Rameshore Prasad Khanal, Secretary, Ministry of Finance, and Mr. Thomas Gass, Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland on behalf of their respective Governments.

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

Ministry of Finance
Singhadurbar,
Kathmandu, Nepal
23rd March, 2011