



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Hands Over School Bus to Suva Special School

The Government of Japan provided FJ\$104,350 to Suva Special School for the procurement of a school bus under Japan's Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme. First Secretary and Head of Development Cooperation at the Embassy of Japan Mr. Genta Yamada will hand over the bus at 10 a.m. on **Thursday 22 November 2018** at **Suva Special School**.

You are most welcome to the ceremony. For further queries, please contact Mr. Peni Saurara on email address: peni.saurara@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and phone number: 3304633.

Details for the Project Provision of School Bus to Suva Special School

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

The new bus procured under Japan's Grant Aid for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) will replace the school's 17-year old bus that has not been operational since July 2017. The school regularly faces a high rate of absenteeism due to unavailability of transport for students with special needs. There have been cases of students not reaching their destination because they boarded the wrong bus, and other cases of students who suffer the unfortunate incident of seizures in a public transport and are often left traumatized as they are stared at and many times teased or ridiculed. A safe and reliable mode of transportation to and from school is important for students with special needs, hence, the Government of Japan decided to implement this project.

2. Basic Information

- (a) Donor: Government of Japan
- (b) Recipient: Suva Special School
- (c) Total funding: US\$53,846 (FJ\$104,350)

3. Long term benefit of the project

- 1.) The bus will improve the attendance of students at the School;
- 2.) The bus will also save time as it will provide safe and faster travel to and from school;
- 3.) The bus will also encourage parents to invest more on academic resources of their children from the money previously used for transportation; and
- 4.) Students with learning disabilities can be more independent and be able contributors to their families and to society as well.

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people from the grassroots level. The GGP Programme in Fiji has been widely implemented in areas such as education, water supply, health, transportation, agriculture and fisheries since 1990. To date, 365 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value exceeding USD 24.6 million.

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