



From
the People of Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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Japan Hands Over Special Bus to Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and Golden Age Home, Lautoka in Western Disability Centre

The Government of Japan provided funding worth FJ\$279,000 to the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, under its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme for a new 35-seater wheelchair accessibility bus. Mr. TANAKA Kenichiro, Counsellor & Deputy Chief of Mission of Embassy of Japan to the Republic of Fiji, will hand over the special bus to Hon. Rosy Sofia Akbar, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, **at 02:00 p.m on Wednesday, 15th June 2022.**

You are most welcome to attend the ceremony. For further queries, please contact Ms. Mele Raturaga on email address: mele.raturaga@fj.mofa.go.jp or eojeconomics@fj.mofa.go.jp and phone number: 3304633.

Details for The Provision of Special Bus to Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Golden Age Home, Lautoka

1. Basis for Implementing the Project

Since 2017, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation has been operating the Golden Age Home in Lautoka. The Golden Age Home has been facing many difficulties in terms of transporting senior residents for medical treatments, recreational activities and support services. In addition, the current worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and the recent Omicron outbreak in Fiji, the pressure on the health sector and emergency medical services across the globe and Fiji has drastically increased and also pressured the home in terms of ensuring the elderly receive timely medical treatment and clinics when needed..

Recognizing the difficulties faced by the home, the Embassy decided to assist them based on our development cooperation policy of supporting the improvement of the quality service delivery system in Fiji.

The first-hand specialized bus will assist the Golden Age Home to minimize its transportation issues such as making embarking and disembarking easy for the residents with special needs, ensuring senior citizens are receiving timely medical treatment, and increased recreational activities which will help improve their physical well-being, emotional health, as well as enhance cognitive functioning

2. Basic Information

- (a) Donor: Government of Japan
- (b) Recipient: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation
- (c) Total funding: FJ\$279,000 (US\$139,947)

The GGP Programme is part of the overall Japanese ODA implemented by the Embassy of Japan in order to empower the people at the grassroots level. The GGP Programme in Fiji has been widely implemented in areas such as education, water supply, health and transportation since 1990. To date, 403 projects have been implemented under the GGP Programme which amount to an approximate value of USD 29 million.

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