

SUCCESSFUL VISIT OF HON'BLE MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION THIRU M.K. STALIN TO JAPAN: JBIC SANCTIONS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MUCH NEEDED HOGENAKKAL WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development and Local Administration Thiru M.K. Stalin met Mr. Tetsuo Shioguchi, Senior Executive Director of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) today (06.02.2008) at Tokyo, Japan. The Hon'ble Minister is on a visit to Japan to study the working of Tokyo Metro Rail System. The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to implement the Metro Rail Project for the City of Chennai at a project cost of about Rs.9,700 crores and approached JBIC for financial and technical assistance to the project.

The Chairman, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL), Thiru Syed Munir Hoda, IAS, Chairman, Thiru T.V. Somanathan, IAS, Managing Director and Thiru K. Deenabandu, IAS, Secretary to Government, MA & WS Department were also present during the meeting. The Hon'ble Minister explained the project to Mr.Tetsuo Shioguchi, Senior Executive Director and expressed the desire of the Government of Tamil Nadu to approach JBIC for financial and technical assistance for the project. Mr.Tetsuo Shioguchi, Senior Executive Director assured the Hon'ble Minister that the JBIC would be happy to be associated with the project.

High level official teams from the Government of Tamil Nadu and Government of India are already in Tokyo negotiating the loan agreement of the Hoganekkal Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project and the Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Project. The Hoganekkal Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project at a project cost of Rs.1340 crores, is meant for providing safe drinking water to fluoride-affected rural habitations and urban towns in the districts of Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri. This project is a long standing demand of the people of these two districts and the project so far could not be taken up for want of financial tie-up. The Hon'ble Minister impressed upon the officials of JBIC on the need for the project. The Senior Executive Director of JBIC accepted the views of the Hon'ble Minister and informed the Hon'ble Minister of JBIC's decision to approve financial assistance to the project and added that the commitment to this effect will be given during this month itself and the formal loan agreement will be signed between JBIC and Government of India by March 2008. He added that JBIC has also decided to approve financial assistance to Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Project for implementation of Trichy Water Supply Augmentation Project and Under Ground Sewerage Schemes in six Municipalities.

PHOTO

The Hon'ble Minister holding discussion with Mr.Tetsuo Shioguchi, Senior Executive Director and senior officials of JBIC at Tokyo, Japan



