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LOAN NUMBER 3964 - IND

GRANT NUMBER 9210 - IND(EF)

PROJECT AGREEMENT

(Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System Investment Project – Project 1)

between

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

and

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORT CORPORATION

DATED 08 September 2020

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IND 51073-002

## **PROJECT AGREEMENT**

PROJECT AGREEMENT dated 08 September 2020 between ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK ("ADB") on the one part and MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS ("MOHUA") acting by its President, and the NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TRANSPORT CORPORATION ("NCRTC") on the other part .

### **WHEREAS**

(A) by a Loan Agreement of even date herewith between India ("Borrower") and ADB, ADB has agreed to make to the Borrower a loan of five hundred million Dollar (\$500,000,000) on the terms and conditions set forth in the Loan Agreement, but only on the condition that the proceeds of the loan be made available to MOHUA and through MOHUA to NCRTC, and that MOHUA acting through NCRTC agrees to undertake certain obligations towards ADB set forth herein; and

(B) by a Grant Agreement of even date herewith between the India as the Recipient and ADB, ADB has agreed to administer a grant financed by the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, in an amount of three million Dollars (\$3,000,000) ("Grant") on the terms and conditions set forth in the Grant Agreement, but only on the condition that the proceeds of the Grant be made available to MOHUA and through MOHUA to NCRTC, and that MOHUA acting through NCRTC, agrees to undertake certain obligations towards ADB set forth herein; and

(C) the MOHUA and NCRTC, in consideration of ADB entering into the Loan Agreement and the Grant Agreement, have agreed to undertake the obligations set forth herein;

NOW THEREFORE the parties hereto agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE I**

### **Definitions**

Section 1.01. Wherever used in this Project Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires, the several terms defined in (i) the Loan Agreement and in the Loan Regulations (as so defined); and (ii) Grant Agreement and the Grant Regulations (as so defined) have the respective meanings therein set forth.

## ARTICLE II

### Particular Covenants

Section 2.01. (a) MOHUA and NCRTC shall carry out the Project with due diligence and efficiency, and in conformity with sound applicable technical, financial, business, and development practices.

(b) In the carrying out of the Project and operation of the Project facilities, MOHUA and NCRTC shall perform all obligations set forth in the Loan Agreement and Grant Agreement to the extent that they are applicable to MOHUA and NCRTC respectively, and all obligations set forth in the Schedule to this Project Agreement.

Section 2.02. MOHUA and NCRTC as applicable shall make available, promptly as needed, the funds, facilities, services, land and other resources as required, in addition to the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant, for the carrying out of the Project.

Section 2.03. (a) In the carrying out of the Project, MOHUA and NCRTC as applicable shall engage competent and qualified consultants and contractors, consistent with ADB's procurement and consulting guidelines, to an extent and upon terms and conditions mutually satisfactory to ADB and the Borrower.

(b) Except as ADB and the Borrower may otherwise agree, MOHUA and NCRTC as applicable shall procure all items of expenditures to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 4 to the Loan Agreement. ADB may refuse to finance a contract where any such item has not been procured under procedures substantially in accordance with those agreed between the Borrower and ADB or where the terms and conditions of the contract are not satisfactory to ADB.

Section 2.04. MOHUA and NCRTC shall carry out the Project in accordance with plans, design standards, specifications, work schedules and construction methods mutually acceptable to ADB and the Borrower. NCRTC shall furnish, or cause to be furnished to ADB, promptly after their preparation, such plans, design standards, specifications and work schedules, and any material modifications subsequently made therein, in such detail as ADB shall reasonably request.

Section 2.05. (a) MOHUA and NCRTC as applicable shall take out and maintain with responsible insurers, or make other arrangements satisfactory to ADB for, insurance of Project facilities to such extent and against such risks and in such amounts as shall be consistent with sound practice.

(b) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, MOHUA and NCRTC as appropriate undertakes to insure, or cause to be insured, the Goods to be procured including imported for the Project against hazards incident to the acquisition, transportation and delivery thereof to the place of use or installation, and for such insurance any indemnity shall be payable in a currency freely usable to replace or repair such Goods.

Section 2.06. MOHUA and NCRTC shall maintain, or cause to be maintained, records and accounts adequate to identify the items of expenditure financed out of the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant, to disclose the use thereof in the Project, to record the progress of the Project (including the cost thereof) and to reflect, in accordance with consistently maintained sound accounting principles, its operations and financial condition.

Section 2.07. (a) ADB, MOHUA and NCRTC shall cooperate fully to ensure that the purposes of the Loan and the Grant will be accomplished.

(b) MOHUA and NCRTC shall promptly inform ADB through the Borrower of any condition which interferes with, or threatens to interfere with, the progress of the Project, the performance of its obligations under this Project Agreement or the Grant Agreement, or the accomplishment of the purposes of the Loan and the Grant.

(c) ADB, MOHUA and NCRTC shall from time to time, at the request of either party, exchange views through their representatives with regard to any matters relating to the Project, MOHUA, NCRTC, the Loan and the Grant.

Section 2.08. (a) In so far as it relates to the Project, MOHUA and/or NCRTC as applicable shall furnish to ADB all such reports and information as ADB shall reasonably request concerning (i) the Loan and the Grant, and the expenditure of the proceeds thereof; (ii) the items of expenditure financed out of such proceeds; (iii) the Project; (iv) the administration, operations and financial status of MOHUA and financial condition of NCRTC; and (v) any other matters relating to the purposes of the Loan and the Grant.

(b) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, MOHUA and/or NCRTC shall furnish to ADB periodic reports on the execution of the Project and on the operation and management of the Project facilities. Such reports shall be submitted in such form and in such detail and within such a period as ADB shall reasonably request, and shall indicate, among other things, progress made and problems encountered during the period under review, steps taken or proposed to be taken to remedy these problems, and proposed program of activities and expected progress during the following period.

(c) Promptly after physical completion of the Project, but in any event not later than 3 months thereafter or such later date as ADB may agree for this purpose, MOHUA and/or NCRTC shall prepare and furnish to ADB a report, in such form and in such detail as ADB shall reasonably request, on the execution and initial operation of the Project, including its cost, the performance by MOHUA and NCRTC of its respective obligations under this Project Agreement and the accomplishment of the purposes of the Loan and the Grant.

Section 2.09. (a) MOHUA as applicable, and NCRTC shall (i) maintain separate accounts and records for the Project; (ii) prepare annual financial statements for the Project in accordance with financial reporting standards prevalent in the country; (iii) have such financial statements audited annually by independent auditors whose qualifications, experience and terms of reference are acceptable to ADB, in accordance with auditing standards acceptable to ADB; (iv) as part of each such audit, have the auditors prepare a report, which includes the auditors' opinion(s) on the financial statements and the use of the Loan proceeds and the Grant, and compliance with the financial covenants of the Loan Agreement, and Grant Agreement if any, as well as on the use of the procedures for and

statement of expenditures and a management letter (which sets out the deficiencies in the internal control of the Project that were identified in the course of the audit, if any); and (v) furnish to ADB, no later than 6 months after the close of the fiscal year to which they relate, copies of such audited financial statements, audit report and management letter, all in the English language, and such other information concerning these documents and the audit thereof as ADB shall from time to time reasonably request.

(b) ADB shall disclose the annual audited financial statements for the Project and the opinion of the auditors on the financial statements within 14 days of the date of ADB's confirmation of their acceptability by posting them on ADB's website.

(c) In addition to annual audited financial statements referred to in subsection (a) hereinabove, NCRTC shall (i) provide its annual financial statements prepared in accordance with financing reporting standards prevalent in the country; (ii) have its financial statements audited annually by independent auditors whose qualifications, experience and terms of reference are acceptable to ADB, in accordance with auditing standards acceptable to ADB; (iii) as part of each such audit, have the auditors prepare the auditors' opinion(s) on the financial statements and compliance with the financial covenants of the Loan Agreement, and the Grant Agreement if any; and (iv) furnish to ADB, no later than 1 month after approval by the relevant authority, copies of such audited financial statements and auditors' opinion(s), all in the English language, and such other information concerning these documents and the audit thereof as ADB shall from time to time reasonably request.

(d) NCRTC shall enable ADB, upon ADB's request, to discuss the financial statements for the Project and NCRTC and its financial affairs where they relate to the Project with the auditors appointed by NCRTC pursuant to subsections (a)(iii) and (c)(ii) hereinabove, and shall authorize and require any representative of such auditors to participate in any such discussions requested by ADB. This is provided that such discussions shall be conducted only in the presence of an authorized officer of NCRTC, unless NCRTC shall otherwise agree.

Section 2.10. MOHUA and/or NCRTC shall enable ADB's representatives to inspect the Project, the Goods and Works and any relevant records and documents.

Section 2.11. (a) MOHUA as applicable NCRTC shall, promptly as required, take all action within its powers to maintain its constitutional (in case of MOHUA) and corporate existence (in case of NCRTC), to carry on its operations, and to acquire, maintain and renew all rights, properties, powers, privileges and franchises which are necessary in the carrying out of the Project or in the conduct of its operations.

(b) MOHUA and NCRTC shall at all times conduct its respective operations in accordance with sound applicable technical, financial, business, development and operational practices, and under the supervision of competent and experienced management and personnel.

(c) NCRTC shall at all times operate and maintain its plants, equipment and other property, and from time to time, promptly as needed, make all necessary repairs and renewals thereof, all in accordance with sound applicable technical, financial, business, development, operational and maintenance practices.



Section 2.12. Except as ADB may otherwise agree, NCRTC shall not sell, lease or otherwise dispose of any of its assets which shall be required for the efficient carrying on of its operations or the disposal of which may prejudice its ability to perform satisfactorily any of its obligations under this Project Agreement.

Section 2.13. Except as ADB may otherwise agree, MOHUA and NCRTC shall apply the proceeds of the Loan and the Grant to the financing of expenditures on the Project in accordance with the provisions of the Loan Agreement, the Grant Agreement, as applicable, and this Project Agreement, and shall ensure that all items of expenditures financed out of such proceeds are used exclusively in the carrying out of the Project.

Section 2.14. Except as ADB may otherwise agree, NCRTC shall duly perform all its obligations under the Loan Agreement, Grant Agreement, as applicable and this Project Agreement, and shall not take, or concur in, any action which would have the effect of assigning, amending, abrogating or waiving any rights or obligations of the parties under the Loan Agreement, Grant Agreement, and this Project Agreement.

Section 2.15. MOHUA and NCRTC shall promptly notify ADB of any proposal to amend, suspend or repeal any provision of its respective constitutional documents, which, if implemented, could adversely affect the carrying out of the Project or the operation of the Project facilities. MOHUA and NCRTC as applicable shall afford ADB an adequate opportunity to comment on such proposal in taking any affirmative action thereon.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Effective Date; Termination**

Section 3.01. This Project Agreement shall come into force and effect on the date on which the Loan Agreement and the Grant Agreement comes into force and effect. ADB shall promptly notify MOHUA and NCRTC of such date.

Section 3.02. This Project Agreement and all obligations of the parties hereunder shall terminate on the date on which the Loan Agreement and Grant Agreement shall terminate in accordance with its terms.

Section 3.03. All the provisions of this Project Agreement shall continue in full force and effect notwithstanding any cancellation or suspension under the Loan Agreement or the Grant Agreement.

**ARTICLE IV****Miscellaneous**

Section 4.01. Any notice or request required or permitted to be given or made under this Project Agreement and any agreement between the parties contemplated by this Project Agreement shall be in writing. Such notice or request shall be deemed to have been duly given or made when it shall be delivered by hand, mail or facsimile to the party to which it is required or permitted to be given or made at its address hereinafter specified, or at such other address as such party shall have designated by notice to the party giving such notice or making such request. The addresses so specified are:

For ADB

Asian Development Bank  
6 ADB Avenue  
Mandaluyong City  
1550 Metro Manila  
Philippines

Facsimile Numbers:  
(632) 636-2444  
(632) 636-2340

For MOHUA

Secretary  
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
Nirman Bhawan  
New Delhi – 110011

Facsimile Number:  
0091-11- 23061459

For NCRTC

Managing Director  
National Capital Region Transport Corporation  
7/6 Siri Fort Institutional Area  
August Kranti Marg  
New Delhi -110049

Facsimile Number:  
0091-11-41066953

Section 4.02. (a) Any action required or permitted to be taken, and any documents required or permitted to be executed, under this Project Agreement by or on behalf of (i) MOHUA may be taken or executed by its Secretary, and (ii) NCRTC may be taken or executed by its Managing Director or by such other person or persons as he or she shall so designate in writing notified to ADB.

(b) NCRTC shall furnish to ADB sufficient evidence of the authority of each person who will act under subsection (a) hereinabove, together with the authenticated specimen signature of each such person.

Section 4.03. No delay in exercising, or omission to exercise, any right, power or remedy accruing to either party under this Project Agreement upon any default shall impair any such right, power or remedy or be construed to be a waiver thereof or an acquiescence in such default; nor shall the action of such party in respect of any default, or any acquiescence in any default, affect or impair any right, power or remedy of such party in respect of any other or subsequent default.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto, acting through their representatives thereunto duly authorized, have caused this Project Agreement to be signed in their respective names as of the day and year first above written, and to be delivered at the principal office of ADB.

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

By K. Yokoyama  
Kenichi Yokoyama  
Country Director

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS

By [Signature]  
Janardan Prasad  
Director, MRTS - 1

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION  
TRANSPORT CORPORATION

By [Signature]  
Vinay Kumar Singh  
Managing Director