## PRESS RELEASE

## JAPAN PROVIDES RS. 9.5 MILLION FOR THE PROJECT OF EQUIPPING AFZAAL MEMORIAL THALASSEMIA FOUNDATION WITH INTENSIVE CARE UNIT EQUIPMENTS IN KARACHI

Thursday 25th August 2011

The Government of Japan extended <u>a grant of US\$111,129 (approximately Rs. 9.5 million)</u> to Afzaal Memorial Thalassemia Foundation for the project for the establishment of intensive care unit equipments in Karachi under the scheme of the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP).

The Agreement was signed in Karachi by Mr. Masaharu Sato, Consul General of Japan, Karachi and Dr. Asim Qidwai, C.E.O. of Afzaal Memorial Thalassemia Foundation.

Vowing to achieve its objective to provide appropriate treatment for Thalassemia patients, the Grant will be utilized for the intensive care unit equipments to cure thalassemia and prevent its complications which could lead to death or significant morbidities.

The Consulate General of Japan sincerely hopes that this project will help save the lives of people suffering from life threatening diseases and they can lead a normal life and engage in social activities. We also wish that this support from the people of Japan will strengthen the present amicable relationship between Japan and Pakistan.

At the signing ceremony, Mr. Masaharu Sato, Consul General, said that the better implementation of this project will surely be a driving force to give hope to people with blood disorder sufferers and their families.

For further information; please contact the Economic Section of the Consulate General of Japan, Karachi at 3522-0800.