

# Trial for Serum Institute's second Covid vaccine begins in Pune; three volunteers inoculated

FE BUREAU  
Pune, March 26

THE CLINICAL TRIAL for the second Covid-19 vaccine being

manufactured by Serum Institute of India (SII), developed by US-based Novavax, have started in Pune. The first three volunteers were administered

a dose of the vaccine, Covovax, on Friday.

Successful completion of the trial will add to the global arsenal to fight the COVID-19

pandemic, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) said. SII has a tie-up with Novavax to manufacture and supply the vaccine in India and

in low- and middle-income countries as part of the COVAX vaccine alliance countries.

ICMR has partnered with SII to conduct phase 2/3 bridging clinical trials of the vaccine. The trial is being led by ICMR -

National AIDS Research Institute in Pune. The SARS-CoV-2 recombinant spike protein nanoparticle vaccine has reported efficacy of 96.4%.

The volunteers were vaccinated at the site in Pune and

continue to be well, ICMR said. The trial will cover 1,600 volunteers across 19 sites in the country. As trials go on, SII has said it will start manufacturing the vaccine from April and it could see a launch by August 2021.

The Subject Experts Committee of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation had on March 17 granted permission to SII to conduct Phase 2/3 bridge trial of the vaccine.

(This is only an advertisement for information purposes and is not a prospectus announcement. Not for distribution Outside India.)



## NIKS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED

Corporate Identification Number: U80904BR2014PLC022439

Our Company was originally incorporated as Niks Technology Private Limited on June 19, 2014 at Patna, Bihar as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 2013 with the Registrar of Companies, Patna, Bihar. Subsequently, our Company was converted into Public Limited Company pursuant to Shareholders resolution passed at the Extraordinary General Meeting of our Company held on March 05, 2021 and the name of our Company was changed to "Niks Technology Limited" and a Fresh Certificate of Incorporation consequent upon conversion of Company to Public Limited dated March 05, 2021 was issued by Registrar of Companies, Patna, Bihar, being Corporate Identification Number U80904BR2014PLC022439.

Registered Office: Flat No. 501, Shiv Laxmi Plaza, Opp Rajendra Nagar Terminal, Old Bypass Main Road, Kankarbagh, Patna - 800020, Bihar, India  
Tel: +91 - 0612 7966249 | E-mail: info@nikstech.com | Website: https://www.nikstech.com  
Contact Person: Mr. Pushpendra Patel, Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

PROMOTER OF OUR COMPANY: MR. MANISH DIXIT

### BASIS OF ALLOTMENT

PUBLIC ISSUE OF 1,00,200 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10.00 EACH ("EQUITY SHARES") OF NIKS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED (THE "COMPANY" OR THE "ISSUER") FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹201.00 PER EQUITY SHARE INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹191.00 PER EQUITY SHARE (THE "ISSUE PRICE") AGGREGATING TO ₹20.10 LAKH ("THE ISSUE") COMPRISING OF A FRESH ISSUE OF 33,200 EQUITY SHARES AGGREGATING TO ₹66.73 LAKH (THE "FRESH ISSUE") AND AN OFFER FOR SALE OF 67,000 EQUITY SHARES BY THE PROMOTER SELLING SHAREHOLDER ("OFFER FOR SALE") AGGREGATING TO ₹13.67 LAKH OF WHICH 5,400 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10.00 EACH FOR CASH AT A PRICE OF ₹201.00 PER EQUITY SHARE INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹191.00 PER EQUITY SHARE AGGREGATING TO ₹10.85 LAKH WILL BE RESERVED FOR SUBSCRIPTION BY MARKET MAKER TO THE ISSUE (THE "MARKET MAKER RESERVATION PORTION"). THE ISSUE LESS THE MARKET MAKER RESERVATION PORTION I.E. NET ISSUE OF 94,800 EQUITY SHARES OF FACE VALUE OF ₹10.00 EACH AT A PRICE OF ₹201.00 PER EQUITY SHARE INCLUDING A SHARE PREMIUM OF ₹191.00 PER EQUITY SHARE AGGREGATING TO ₹190.55 LAKH (THE "NET ISSUE"). THE ISSUE AND THE NET ISSUE WILL CONSTITUTE 27.59% AND 26.10% RESPECTIVELY OF THE POST ISSUE PAID UP EQUITY SHARE CAPITAL OF OUR COMPANY.

THE FACE VALUE OF THE EQUITY SHARES IS ₹10.00 EACH AND THE ISSUE PRICE IS ₹201.00 EACH. THE ISSUE PRICE IS 20.1 TIMES

ISSUE

OPENED ON: FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2021  
CLOSED ON: TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

The Equity Shares of the Company are proposed to be listed on the BSE Start-up segment under SME Platform of BSE Limited, in terms of the Chapter IX of the SEBI (ICDR) Regulations, 2018 as amended from time to time. Our Company has received an In-Principle approval mail having ref no. LO/BSE Start-up/IR/VP/224/2020-21 dated March 16, 2021 from BSE Limited. BSE Limited shall be the Designated Stock Exchange for the purpose of this issue. The trading is proposed to be commenced on or before April 01, 2021 (Subject to receipt of listing and trading approvals from the BSE Limited).

The Issue is being made through the Fixed Price process, the allocation in the Net Issue to the Public category shall be made pursuant to Regulation 253(2) of the SEBI (ICDR) Regulations, 2018, as amended from time to time, wherein a minimum of 50% of the Net Issue shares to the Public shall initially be made available for allotment to Retail Individual Investors. The balance of Net Issue Shares to the public shall be made available for allotment to Individual Applicants other than Retail Individual Investors and other Investors, including Corporate Bodies / Institutions irrespective of number of shares applied for. If the Retail Individual Investor category is entitled to more than 50% on proportionate basis, they shall be allotted that higher percentage. Under subscription, if any, in any of the categories, would be allowed to be met with spill-over from any of the other categories or a combination of categories at the discretion of our Company in consultation with the Lead Manager and the Designation Stock Exchange. Such inter-se spill over, if any, would be affected in accordance with applicable laws, rules, regulations and guidelines. All investors were mandatorily required to participate in this issue through APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED BY BLOCKED AMOUNT ("ASBA") process and were required to provide details UPI mode (as applicable) by providing the details of their respective bank accounts in which the corresponding application amounts was blocked by Self Certified Syndicate Banks (the "SCSBs") or the Sponsor Bank, as the case may be.

### SUBSCRIPTION DETAILS

The Issue has received 618 applications for 4,11,000 Equity Shares (before technical rejections, Invalid Bids Multiple/ Duplicate and Bids not banked) including Market Making application of 5,400 Equity Shares. The Issue was subscribed to the extent of 4.11 times as per the bid book received from BSE Limited. After considering invalid bids, bids not banked and technical rejection cases from the Bid book, the Issue was subscribed by 3.65 times including Market Making reservation portion. The details of the applications received in the Issue (before technical rejections but after Invalid Bids Multiple/ Duplicate and Bids not banked) are as follows:

#### Detail of the Applications Received

Category	No. of Applications	% of Total	No. of Equity Shares	% of Total
Market Maker	1	0.17	5,400	1.41
Retail Individual Applicant	557	97.21	3,34,200	87.03
Other than Retail Individual Applicant	15	2.62	44,400	11.56
<b>Total</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>3,84,000</b>	<b>100.00</b>

#### Summary of Valid Applications

Category	Gross		Less: Rejections		Valid	
	No. of Applications	Equity Shares	No. of Applications	Equity Shares	No. of Applications	Equity Shares
Market Maker	1	5,400	-	-	1	5,400
Retail Individual Applicant	557	3,34,200	27	16,200	530	3,18,000
Other than Retail Individual Applicant	15	44,400	1	1,800	14	42,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>3,84,000</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>18,000</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>3,66,000</b>

The Basis of Allotment was finalised in consultation with the Designated Stock Exchange - BSE Limited on March 26, 2021.

**A) Allocation to Market Maker (After Technical Rejections & Withdrawals):** The Basis of Allotment to the Market Maker, at the Issue Price of ₹201.00 per Equity Share, was finalised in consultation with BSE Limited. The category was subscribed by 1.00 times. The total number of shares allotted in this category is 5,400 Equity Shares. The category-wise details of the Basis of Allotment are as under:

No. of Shares Applied for (Category Wise)	No. of Applications Received	% to Total	Total No. of Shares Applied in Each Category	% to Total	Allocation per Applicant (Before Rounding Off)	Allocation per Applicant (After Rounding Off)	Ratio of Allottees to the Applicant	Total No. of Shares Allotted	No. of Shares Surplus/ Deficit
5,400	1	100.00	5,400	100.00	5,400	5,400	1:1	5,400	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>5,400</b>	<b>100.00</b>				<b>5,400</b>	<b>0</b>

**B) Allocation to Retail Individual Investors (After Technical Rejections & Withdrawals):** The Basis of Allotment to the Retail Individual Investors, at the Issue Price of ₹201.00 per Equity Share, was finalised in consultation with BSE Limited. Pursuant to Regulation 253(2) of the SEBI (ICDR) Regulations, 2018, the total number of shares allotted in this category is 84,000 Equity Shares. The category was subscribed by 3.785 times. The category-wise details of the Basis of Allotment are as under:

No. of Shares Applied for (Category Wise)	No. of Applications Received	% to Total	Total No. of Shares Applied in Each Category	% to Total	Allocation per Applicant (Before Rounding Off)	Allocation per Applicant (After Rounding Off)	Ratio of Allottees to the Applicant	Total No. of Shares Allotted	No. of Shares Surplus/ Deficit
600	530	100.00	3,18,000	100.00	158.49	600	70:265	84,000	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>3,18,000</b>	<b>100.00</b>				<b>84,000</b>	<b>0</b>

**C) Allocation to Other than Retail Category (After Technical Rejections & Withdrawals):** The Basis of Allotment to the Non - Retail Investors, at the Issue Price of ₹201.00 per Equity Share, was finalised in consultation with BSE Limited. Pursuant to Regulation 253(2) of the SEBI (ICDR) Regulations, 2018, the total number of shares allotted in this category is 10,800 Equity Shares. The category was subscribed by 3.944 times. The category-wise details of the Basis of Allotment are as under:

No. of Shares Applied for (Category Wise)	No. of Applications Received	% to Total	Total No. of Shares Applied in Each Category	% to Total	Allocation per Applicant (Before Rounding Off)	Allocation per Applicant (After Rounding Off)	Ratio of Allottees to the Applicant	Total No. of Shares Allotted	No. of Shares Surplus/ Deficit
1,200	7	50.00	8400	19.72	304.29	600	4:7	2400	271
1,800	2	14.29	3600	8.45	456.5	600	1:2	600	-313
2,400	1	7.14	2400	5.63	608	600	1:1	600	-8
3,000	1	7.14	3000	7.04	761	600	1:1	600	-161
6,000	1	7.14	6000	14.08	1521	1800	1:1	1800	279
9,600	2	14.29	19200	45.07	2434	2400	1:1	4800	-68
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>42600</b>	<b>100.00</b>				<b>10800</b>	<b>0</b>

The Board of Directors of the Company at its meeting held on March 26, 2021, has taken on record the Basis of Allotment of Equity Shares, as approved by the Designated Stock Exchange viz. BSE Limited and has authorized the corporate action for the allotment of the Equity Shares to various successful applicants.

The CAN and allotment advice and / or notices shall be dispatched to the address of the investors as registered with the depositories on or before March 31, 2021. Further, the instructions to Self-Certified Syndicate Banks will be processed on or before March 31, 2021 for unblocking of funds. The Equity Shares allotted to successful applicants are being credited to their beneficiary accounts subject to validation of the account details with the depositories concerned. In case the same is not received within prescribed time, investors may contact the Registrar to the Issue at the address given below. The Company is taking steps to get the Equity Shares admitted for trading on the BSE Start-up segment under SME Platform of BSE Limited within 6 working days from the Closure of the Issue. The trading is proposed to be commenced on or before April 01, 2021 subject to receipt of listing and trading approvals from BSE Limited.

Note: All capitalized terms used and not defined herein shall have the respective meanings assigned to them in the Prospectus dated March 16, 2021 ("Prospectus").

#### INVESTORS PLEASE NOTE

The details of the allotment made has been hosted on the website of the Registrar to the Issue, Bigshare Services Private Limited at Website: www.bigshareonline.com.

LEAD MANAGER TO THE ISSUE	REGISTRAR TO THE ISSUE	COMPANY SECRETARY AND COMPLIANCE OFFICER
 <b>GRETEX CORPORATE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED</b> Office No. 13, 1st Floor, New Bansilal Building, Raja Bahadur Mansion, 9-15, Homi Modi Street, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001 Tel No: +91 - 22 - 4002 5273 / 98368 22199 / 98368 21999 Email: info@gretexgroup.com / mbk@gretexgroup.com Website: www.gretexcorporate.com Contact Person: Ms. Amina Khan SEBI Registration No: INM000012177 CIN: U74999MH2008PTC288128	 <b>BIGSHARE SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED</b> 1st Floor, Bharat Tin Works Building, Opp. Vasant Oasis, Makwana Road, Marol, Andheri East, Mumbai - 400 059 Tel. No.: +91 - 22 - 6263 8200; Fax No.: +91 - 22 - 6263 8299 Email: ipo@bigshareonline.com; Website: www.bigshareonline.com Investor Grievance Email: investor@bigshareonline.com Contact Person: Mr. Svarnil Kate SEBI Registration No.: INR000001385 CIN: U99999MH1994PTC076534	 <b>NIKS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED</b> <b>Mr. Pushpendra Patel</b> Flat No. 501, Shiv Laxmi Plaza, Opp Rajendra Nagar Terminal, Old Bypass Main Road, Kankarbagh Patna - 800020, Bihar, India Tel: +91 - 0612 7966249 E-mail: info@nikstech.com Website: www.nikstech.com All future correspondence in this regard may kindly be addressed to the Registrar to the Issue quoting full name of the First/Sole Applicant, Serial number of the Application Form, Number of Shares Applied for and Bank Branch where the Application had been lodged and payment details at the address given.

Place: Patna  
Date: March 26, 2021

LEVEL OF SUBSCRIPTION SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TO BE INDICATIVE OF EITHER THE MARKET PRICE OF THE EQUITY SHARE ON LISTING OR THE BUSINESS PROSPECTS OF NIKS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED

NIKS TECHNOLOGY LIMITED is proposing, subject to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, receipt of requisite approvals, market conditions and other considerations, to make a Public Issue of its Equity Shares and has filed the Prospectus with the Registrar of Companies, Patna. The Prospectus is available on the website of SEBI at www.sebi.gov.in, the website of the Lead Manager at www.gretexcorporate.com, the website of the BSE Limited i.e. https://www.startupsbse.com/, and website of the Issuer Company at www.nikstech.com. Investors should note that investment in Equity Shares involves a high degree of risk. For details investors should refer to and rely on the Prospectus including the section titled "Risk Factors" beginning on page 25 of the Prospectus, which has been filed with ROC.

The Equity Shares have not been and will not be registered under the US Securities Act (the "Securities Act") or any state securities laws in United States and may not be issued or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, "U.S. persons" (as defined in the Regulations under the Securities Act), except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to the registration requirements of the Securities Act of 1933.

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## IDBI Asset Management Limited

CIN: U65100MH2010PLC199319  
Registered Office: IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Colaba, Mumbai - 400005  
Corporate Office: 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, IDBI Tower, WTC Complex, Cuffe Parade, Colaba, Mumbai - 400005  
Tel: (022) 66442800 Fax: (022) 66442801 Website: www.idbimutual.co.in E-mail: contactus@idbimutual.co.in

### NOTICE CUM ADDENDUM NO. 33/2020-21

#### 1. Renaming of the Dividend Option(s) of Schemes of IDBI Mutual Fund

Notice is hereby given to the Unit holders / Investors of the Schemes of IDBI Mutual Fund that the Dividend option will be renamed as **Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal (IDCW)** option for all schemes of IDBI Mutual Fund except IDBI Gold Fund and IDBI Gold Exchange Traded Fund in accordance with SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF3/CIR/P/2020/194 dated October 05, 2020.

The sub options of **Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option** (earlier known as **Dividend Option**) will be renamed in the following manner:

Sr. No.	Existing sub options under Dividend Option	Proposed sub options under Income Distribution cum Capital Withdrawal Option (IDCW)
1.	Dividend Payout	Payout of IDCW
2.	Dividend Re-investment (Not applicable for IDBI Equity Advantage Fund)	Re-investment of IDCW (Not applicable for IDBI Equity Advantage Fund)
3.	Dividend Sweep	Transfer of IDCW

Further, Investors are requested to take note that, When Sale price (NAV) is higher than Face Value of the unit, a portion of NAV which represents realized gains is credited to an Equalization Reserve account and which will be used to pay dividend (IDCW). Investors may note that Under IDCW (earlier known as Dividend) Option, certain portion of their capital (Equalization Reserve) may be distributed as dividend (IDCW).

Please note that Schemes do not assure IDCW and any of its sub options and the IDCW is subject to the availability of distributable surplus, if any, in the schemes and at the discretion of the AMC and Trustee Company.

#### 2. Designation of Key Personnel

Notice is hereby given that the below mentioned official of IDBI Asset Management Limited ("IDBI AMC") have been designated as "Key Personnel" in accordance with SEBI Circular No. SEBI/HO/IMD/DF2/CIR/P/2021/024 dated March 04, 2021 and the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996 as amended from time to time.

Mr. Amit Bhavsar, Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Ms. Krithiga Rajesh, Investor Relation Officer and Head - Cash Management, Mr. Prashant Ojha, Head - Human Resources, Training and Administration, Mr. Ajit Joshi, Head - Legal & Risk and Mr. Pratik Mittha, Head - Information Technology and Ms. Pooja Paralikar, Head - Product, Marketing, Communication and Sales Promotion of IDBI Asset Management Limited ("the AMC") has been designated as "Key Personnel" with effect from March 23, 2021.

The brief details of above mentioned Key Personnel are as follows:

Name	Age	Designation	Qualification	Experience
Mr. Amit Bhavsar	44	Chief Information Security Officer (CISO)	B.Com, FCA, LLB, CAIIB, CFA (ICFAI), CFP	Mr. Amit Bhavsar has experience of more than two decade with various Asset Management Companies (AMC), Financial Institutions and Audit Firms. Prior to joining IDBI Asset Management Limited, he was associated with SBI Funds Management Pvt. Ltd. For 7 years. He has also been associated with LIC Nomura Mutual Fund, SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. and Corporation Bank. He has rich experience in the field of Banking, Treasury, Operation and also in equity and debt market research
Mr. Prashant Ojha	44	Head - Human Resources, Training & Administration	MBA (HR and Marketing)	Mr. Prashant Ojha has experience of more than 14 years in Mutual Fund, Life Insurance, Retail and Defence. • Worked with Reliance Nippon Life Insurance for 5 months as regional Training Manager • Worked with Birla Sunlife Insurance for 3 years and 10 months as Senior Manager Training • Worked with ICICI Prudential Life for 2 years and 4 months • Worked with Reliance Retail for 10 months • Worked with Border Security Force as Assistant Commandant for 4 years
Mr. Ajit Joshi	49	Head - Legal & Risk	B.Com, C.S.	Mr. Ajit Joshi has over 27 years of experience in Banking, Secretarial and Compliance • Worked with HSBC as Officer for 15 years • Worked with Aryaman Financial Services Ltd (SEBI Registered Merchant Banker) as Company Secretary for 2 years • Worked with Garware Industries Ltd. as Company Secretary for 6 months • Worked with SBICAP Trustee Co. Ltd. (SEBI Registered Debenture Trustee) as Company Secretary & Compliance Officer for 8 years • Presently working with IDBI AMC as Company Secretary since January 2019
Mr. Pratik Mittha	39	Head - Information Technology	BCA	Mr. Pratik Mittha has over 16 years of experience in IT field. He has been associated with IDBI Asset Management Limited from last 11 years. Prior to joining IDBI AMC he was associated with Multi-Act Equity Research Pvt. Ltd., Matrix Asset Management Company Pvt. Ltd. and ING Investment Management India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
Ms. Krithiga Rajesh	41	Investor Relations Officer & Head - Cash Management	B.Sc Maths, PGDDBA from Symbiosis Centre for Distance Learning, Pune	Ms. Krithiga Rajesh has Overall experience of 18 years in Mutual Fund industry in various fields viz - sales support, distributor support services, banking operations and investor services. She is being Associated with IDBI AMC from 11 years and previous to the same was associated with Lotus India Mutual Fund (now known as Invesco Mutual Fund) and JM Financial Mutual Fund.
Ms. Pooja Paralikar	39	Head - Product, Marketing, Communication and Sales Promotion	B.Com, Master of Financial Management	Ms. Pooja Paralikar has over 16 years of experience in financial services industry. She has been associated with IDBI Asset management Limited from last 10 years. During this tenure she has handled various roles including Product Development, Marketing and Corporate Communication, Sales Promotion and Risk Management. Prior to this, she had worked with Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

This Notice Cum Addendum shall form an integral part of Statement of Additional Information (SAI), Scheme Information Document (SID) / Key Information Memorandum (KIM) of the schemes of IDBI Mutual Fund, as amended from time to time.

All other features and terms and conditions as stated in the SAI, SID and KIM of the Schemes shall remain unchanged.

For IDBI Asset Management Limited (Investment Manager to IDBI Mutual Fund)  
Place : Mumbai  
Date : March 26, 2021  
Sd/-  
Company Secretary and Compliance Officer

Statutory Details: IDBI Mutual Fund has been set up as a trust sponsored by IDBI Bank Limited with IDBI MF Trustee Company Limited as the Trustee ("Trustee") under the Indian Trusts Act, 1882) and with IDBI Asset Management Limited as the Investment Manager.  
Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

## SC dismisses pleas to stay electoral bonds' sale ahead of polls

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, March 26

THE SUPREME COURT on Friday dismissed pleas seeking stay on further sale of electoral bonds ahead of assembly elections, saying the scheme had been in place since 2018, the bonds were released at periodic intervals without impediment and safeguards were in place to prevent their misuse.

A bench headed by Chief Justice S A Bobde said it saw no justification to grant a stay at this stage and dismissed the two applications moved by NGOs to put on hold any further sale of the electoral bonds ahead of the upcoming assembly elections in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Assam, Kerala and Union territory of Puducherry from March 27 to April 29.

The NGOs - Association for Democratic Reforms and Common Cause - had also sought a stay on sale of the electoral bonds during the pendency of the PIL filed pertaining to funding of political parties and alleged lack of transparency in their accounts.

The bench, also comprising Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian, observed that there may not be complete anonymity in financing of political parties by corporate houses, as apprehended by the NGOs. It said as the purchase of the bonds and their encashment can only happen through banking channels and only those customers who fulfil KYC norms can engage in such transactions, details would be with the State Bank of India as the sole authority for issuance and encashing of the bonds.

## 'India top recipient of Japanese aid since 2003'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New Delhi, March 26

INDIA HAS BEEN the top recipient of the Japanese government's financial aid under the Official Development Assistance (ODA) since 2003, surpassing China, an industry body said on Friday.

China had held the top position for many years, the International Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) said in a statement after a webinar on the significance of Japan's ODA to India. Between 2010 and 2020, Japan has committed a total of JPY 3.1 trillion for a wide variety of infrastructure projects in India, including connectivity projects in the northeast, ICRIER said.

The Japan programme at ICRIER was established in 2007 and has actively undertaken in-depth research studies and fostered regular dialogue initiatives.

Japan is supporting India's Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge, connecting Dhubri, Assam, and Phulbari, Meghalaya, over the Brahmaputra, through ODA, the foundation laying ceremony of which took place in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month.

Indian Ambassador to Japan Sanjay Kumar Verma said as the largest recipient of Japan's ODA, India has become an important strategic international partner to Japan. "India's continued rise on the global stage is supported by Japan, and Japan's continued rise as a global leader is supported with its ODA initiatives in India.

JICA director general (South Asia department) Sakamoto Takema emphasised on working together to address concerns of India's private sector in areas such as infrastructure, regulations, human resource, creating a balanced society for sustainability by focusing on environment, gender and vulnerability.