

## Japan provides 35 solar water pumps for hinterland

The Japanese government yesterday handed over 35 solar pumping systems to the Guyana Water Incorporated (GWI). They will be used in the hinterland.



Japanese Ambassador Tatsuaki Iwata and Minister of Housing and Water, Irfaan Ali (left) examine one of the solar pumping systems at GWI's headquarters yesterday. (Photo by Jules Gibson)

The photovoltaic pumping systems were handed over at a ceremony held at GWI's Corporate Complex at Church Street and Vlissengen Road. The systems were received from Japanese Ambassador Tatsuaki Iwata by Minister of Housing and Water Irfaan Ali, a press release from GWI said.

The systems were made possible through bilateral funding made available by the Government of Japan to the Government of Guyana, said Ali, in his address.

According to the release, the solar pumping systems are an integral part of GWI's Hinterland Strategy, which focuses on the use of sustainable energy and appropriate cost effective means to facilitate the provision of potable water for these communities. "Such an intervention is timely due to the current prolonged dry season that has resulted from the El Nino phenomenon. These solar photovoltaic pumping systems will provide immediate relief to the residents of Almond Beach in Region One, St Denny's in Region Two, Micobie in Region Eight and Tiger Pond and St Ignatius in Region Nine," Ali was quoted as saying.

"Solar photovoltaic pumping systems have a number of advantages over conventional pumping systems. The main advantage is the non dependence on fossil fuels, as these systems rely on the sun's radiant energy for water pumping. This will reduce operational costs and will ensure reliable operation. Additionally, these systems deliver water at a high pressure, enabling storage in overhead tanks and distribution through pipelines, making them complete reticulation systems. The water is clean and of excellent quality, as it is stored in a closed system to prevent contamination," said Akram Hussain, GWI's hinterland manager.

The company said that yesterday's ceremony marks a significant step towards the full achievement of GWI's commitment to provide a sustainable water supply to hinterland communities.

Posted By [Stabroek staff](#) On March 4, 2010