Memorandum of Understanding for Business Cooperation with the Industrial Extension Bureau in Gujarat, India

Mizuho Bank, Ltd. (MHBK; Nobuhide Hayashi, President and CEO) signed a memorandum of understanding for business cooperation the Industrial Extension Bureau (iNDEXTb) in Gujarat in the Republic of India on January 11, 2015.

The Industrial Extension Bureau is a key state government organization responsible for promoting industrial development and investment in Gujarat. It also provides advice and accepts applications for investment permits from foreign corporations. MHBK will take advantage of the memorandum signed in this instance to promote entrance into the Gujarat market and business expansion to Japanese companies even more proactively than we have to date. Specifically, we will (1) periodically exchange opinions directly at the management level, (2) expand information provision functions using tools including the Internet, and (3) hold study sessions and seminars.

MHBK is scheduled to open an office in Ahmedabad, the largest city in the State of Gujarat, in fiscal 2015^(*). In January of 2013, we also signed a business cooperation agreement with a government body in Gujarat aimed at promoting a canal-top solar power generation project. As well as contributing to economic development in India and Gujarat, Mizuho is providing various financial services in close proximity to our customers, particularly Japanese corporations considering new market entrance or business expansion, and establishing structures to provide support for business development.

(*) MHBK received formal notification last year of the approval of our application to the Reserve Bank of India to open a new office, and we are progressing with preparations to commence business within fiscal 2015. We will be the first Japanese bank to establish an office in Gujarat State or Ahmedabad.

(Reference) Overview of Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Ahmedabad is the largest city in India's northwestern state of Gujarat. It is positioned between India's capital of Delhi and the commercial center of Mumbai, and it has excellent infrastructure such as electricity, water, industrial land, and ports. Various industries including petrochemicals have developed there, and it is attracting attention globally as a trade center for the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. A large number of Japanese and Indian government-related infrastructure projects are being planned recently, and we have strong expectations for further development including expansion in the number of Japanese corporations entering the market.