Completion Ceremony of the Project for Renovation of Judo and Karate Hall of Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture and Sport

On October 30, 2026, the Completion Ceremony of the Project for Renovation of Judo and Karate Hall of Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture and Sport within the framework of Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects was held at the Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture and Sport.

The Ceremony was attended by H.E. Mr. AOKI Yutaka, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the Republic of Armenia, Mr. Arman Andrikyan, Adviser to the Minister of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of the RA, Mr. Tigran Simonyan, Rector of the Armenian State Institute of Physical Culture and Sport, as well as the leadership of the Institute, students and guests.

Japanese Grant Assistance in the amount of up to USD 91,088 was provided to build and equip a Judo and Karate Hall. After reconstruction and renovation, the size of the Hall has increased and more people will be trained in the Judo and Karate Hall in improved conditions.

The ceremony started with ribbon-cutting conducted by Ambassador AOKI and Rector Mr. Simonyan, officially marking the opening of the renovated sports hall. The program continued with demonstration performances by judo and karate athletes, showcasing their skills and discipline.

Following the performances, congratulatory remarks were delivered by Mr. Simonyan and Ambassador AOKI. Mr. Simonyan noted that the new hall will enable a more effective organization of the educational process. He emphasized that this event serves not only as an educational bridge between Armenia and Japan, but also fosters the development of mutual interests and cooperation.

Ambassador AOKI highlighted that in Japanese, a judo or karate hall is called a “DOJO.” The word “DOJO” has two parts: “do,” meaning “the way,” and “jo,” meaning “place.” So, a “DOJO” is a place of the Way. It is not only a place to learn martial arts techniques, but also to grow physically and mentally. He expressed hope that this “DOJO” will become another bridge between the two countries and help strengthen their friendship in the future.



Hall entrance (Mr. Andrikyan, Ambassador Aoki and Rector Simonyan)



Group photo with athletes



Performance by karate athletes



Ambassador AOKI with athletes



Karate performance by an athlete



Ambassador AOKI and Mr. Simonyan