

# Japan Calling

November 2011

☐ A quarterly newsletter from the Embassy of Japan, India 🇮🇳



The Path to 2012 – The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India  
‘Resurgent Japan and Vibrant India: New Discoveries, New Exchanges’



*Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Yoshihiko Noda (right), met Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, on the sidelines of the 66th session of the UN General Assembly in New York, on 23 September 2011.*

*(Photo courtesy: Cabinet Public Relations Office, Japan)*

## CONTENTS

### 1. Bilateral Governmental Dignitaries Exchanges

- |  |      |   |      |
|--|------|---|------|
| • Recent visits to Japan by Indian Ministers | P. 2 | • Japan-India Summit Meeting (Overview) | P. 4 |
|--|------|---|------|

### 2. Promotion of Bilateral Security Relations

- |                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| • Japan-india Navy Cooperation | P. 5 |
|--------------------------------|------|

### 3. Promotion of Bilateral Economic Relations

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| • Regional Economic Integration in East Asia and Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement | P. 6 |
| • Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) delegation visits India                                   | P. 7 |

### 4. Bilateral Educational and Cultural Exchanges

- |  |       |   |       |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| • Anime Convention 2011  | P. 9  | • Japanese Government Scholarship Recipients Depart for Japan | P. 10 |
| • Power of the Word: Indo-Japanese Six Months Memorial Poetry Meet after Tsunami | P. 11 | • Ikebana Exhibition ‘Joy of Creation’ by Sogetsu School      | P. 12 |
| • From Japan with Love   | P. 13 | • Origami Competition   | P. 14 |

### 5. The 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| • 60th Anniversary Events Registration Process Starts | P. 16 |
|---|-------|

# RECENT VISITS TO JAPAN BY INDIAN MINISTERS

### (1) Visit to Japan by H.E. Mr. S.M. Krishna, Minister of External Affairs of India

H.E. Mr. S.M. Krishna, Minister of External Affairs of India, visited Japan from October 28 to 30, 2011, as a Guest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This was the second visit by Minister Krishna followed by the trips to Japan in 2009. The Government of Japan welcomes the visit which would contribute to the further strengthening of the friendly relationship between Japan and India.

On October 29, Minister Krishna and H.E. Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, held the fifth Japan-India Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue. At this dialogue, the Ministers exchanged views on the further strengthening of bilateral relations, as well as on the cooperation on regional and international issues. Also, on October 29, Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda received Minister Krishna in his office for about 25 minutes. The details of the respective meetings are as follows:

#### Meeting with Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda (Summary)

- 1) While PM Noda appreciated the warm support received from India in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, Minister Krishna conveyed that statements were delivered in both Houses of the Indian Parliament to show solidarity towards the Japanese victims of the disaster. He also expressed India's deep sense of respect for Japan and that the nation-building efforts undertaken by Japan in the aftermath of the tragedy would serve as an example to other countries.
- 2) PM Noda said that he considers bilateral summit exchanges with India as important, and that he would like to coordinate a visit to India soon at a mutually convenient time before the end of this year. Minister Krishna expressed that he looks forward to Prime Minister Noda's visit to India.
- 3) Minister Krishna said that he highly regards the bilateral cooperation with Japan in the economic field, in addition to the security field, especially Japan's assistance in key infrastructure projects in India, such as the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) and the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC). He also expressed appreciation for Japan's help in the successful realization of the recently inaugurated Metro project in Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka state, of which he used to be the Chief Minister earlier.



*H.E. Mr. S.M. Krishna (left), Minister of External Affairs of India with H.E. Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, at the fifth Japan-India Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Tokyo, on October 29, 2011*

Photo courtesy: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan

#### The 5<sup>th</sup> Strategic Dialogue between Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan and External Affairs Minister of India (Summary)

On October 29, 2011, at Iikura House, Tokyo

##### i) Bilateral Relationship

- 1) On the political and security fields, Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs, appreciated the support and encouragement from India in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake and emphasized that Japan and India, which share fundamental values and strategic interests, maintained complementary economic relationship, and that the stability and development of India was important for Japan's national interest as well. He highly evaluated that annual visits of Prime Ministers and Foreign/External Affairs Ministers between Japan and India had been conducted on a regular basis and reminded that it is Japanese Prime Minister's turn to visit India this year. Both Ministers agreed to hold before long the Ministerial Level Economic Dialogue, the Trilateral Dialogue among Japan, India, and the US (Director-General level), and the next "2+2" Dialogue (Vice-Minister level). They also concurred in strengthening cooperation in the field of maritime security including counter-piracy operations. External Affairs Minister, Mr. S. M. Krishna, referring to the upcoming visit of Defense Minister, Mr. A. K. Antony, to Japan, proposed the idea of having bilateral naval exercises between the Maritime Self-Defense Force of Japan and the Indian Navy.

- 2) On the economic front, both Ministers expressed their expectations that the Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which entered into force in August 2011, will boost their bilateral trade and investment. Furthermore, they agreed to promote cooperation in developing Indian infrastructure such as Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), and a high-speed railway project, and in the area of green technology including renewable energy. They also shared the view on the need to make an effort to conclude the negotiation on a Social Security Agreement at the earliest.
- 3) With regard to the negotiations between the two countries on an Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, External Affairs Minister expressed his desire to advance in the negotiations, and both Ministers agreed to move forward the negotiations. Foreign Minister of Japan explained that Japan would share with India in a transparent manner information on the status of the ongoing investigation on the causes of the accident of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Plant and on Japan's efforts towards nuclear safety. He requested the understanding from his Indian counterpart that Japan, as the only country having ever suffered atomic bombing, has a strong will towards nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- 4) With regard to the joint development of rare earth, two Ministers agreed that governments of Japan and India would assist the joint enterprise between Japanese corporations and India Rare Earth Ltd in achieving progress.
- 5) In view of the 60th Anniversary for the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Japan next year, both Ministers agreed to make full use of this opportunity to galvanize the recognition of the importance of the Japan-India relations and further upgrade the relations. Foreign Minister of Japan assured that Japan, through its private sector, universities, and government agencies, would continue to provide assistance to the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IITH) and the Indian Institute of Information Technology Design & Manufacturing, Jabalpur (IIITDM-J).

## ii) Regional and Global Issues

- 1) Foreign Minister of Japan expressed his desire to encourage the evolution of the East Asia Summit (EAS) into a forum which would bring about concrete cooperation on common values in the region and on maritime issues through enhancing initiatives in political and security fields under the leadership of heads of states and governments. Both Ministers agreed to cooperate toward the upcoming EAS in November.
- 2) Regarding climate change, both Ministers welcomed the progress made in bilateral cooperation and, while admitting the differences in position in the international negotiations, agreed to further strengthen the bilateral cooperation.
- 3) Both Ministers also exchanged their views on the reform of the United Nations Security Council and regional issues including China, North Korea, and Myanmar.

## (2) Visit to Japan by H.E. Mr. A.K. Antony, Minister of Defence of India

Indian Defence Minister H.E. Mr. A.K. Antony, at Japanese Defense Minister H.E. Mr. Yasuo Ichikawa's invitation, visited Japan from 2 to 3 November 2011, based on the common recognition of the Japan-India Defense Ministerial Meeting in April 2010. The two Ministers held a meeting on 2 November 2011.

At the meeting, the two Ministers extensively exchanged views, in an amicable manner, on regional and international security as well as defense cooperation and exchanges between both countries and maritime security. They shared the views on the need for both sides to continue to make active contribution to the peace, stability and prosperity of Asia as a whole.

Furthermore, the two Ministers highly valued the progress of defense cooperation and exchanges that had been achieved in a variety of fields and at various levels. They shared the view on the necessity for regularly implementing high-level exchanges and consultations between defense officials and deepening exchanges at unit-level and education and research exchanges to further strengthen mutual trust and increase mutual understanding. Both sides recognized the importance of sea lane and decided to actively pursue consultations and cooperation in the field of maritime security both bilaterally and in association with all other countries in the region.

At the meeting, the two Ministers shared the view that it was necessary to promote cooperation and exchanges, and that they would carry out major exchanges as follows:

- (1) Continue to carry out mutual exchange of high level visits. The Japanese Defense Minister will visit India in 2012;
- (2) Implement the Japan-India Defense Policy Dialogue (Vice-Minister level) in Tokyo at the earliest date;
- (3) Implement Staff Talks between GSDF and Indian Army in 2012. Staff Exchanges between ASDF and Indian Air Force will be held in 2012 and be developed to Staff Talks at the earliest date.
- (4) Carry out mutual visits of vessel and aircraft, as appropriate, and conduct bilateral exercise between MSDF and Indian Navy. In 2012, vessels of both sides will make mutual visits and MSDF aircraft will visit India. Bilateral exercise will be carried out on these occasions;
- (5) Implement exchanges on peacekeeping operations including exchanges between International Peace Cooperation Training and Exercise Unit of the Central Readiness Force of GSDF and Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK), India;
- (6) Cadet exchanges between the National Defense Academy of Japan (NDA) and the National Defense Academy of India (NDA);
- (7) Implement exchange of ideas aimed at concrete collaboration, such as joint training for humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

# JAPAN-INDIA SUMMIT MEETING (OVERVIEW)



(Photo courtesy: Cabinet Public Relations Office, Japan)

On September 23, 2011, Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda, who was visiting New York to attend the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly, held a summit meeting with H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India, for about 40 minutes. The overview is as follows.

1. At the outset, Prime Minister Singh offered his congratulations on Prime Minister Noda's appointment as prime minister. Prime Minister Noda expressed his appreciation and conveyed his gratitude for the assistance extended by India in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake. Furthermore, Prime Minister Noda expressed his condolences to the victims of the terrorist attack in New Delhi on September 7 and the earthquake in Sikkim on September 18. In response, Prime Minister Singh expressed his appreciation and renewed his words of sympathy in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake as well as his conviction that the Japanese people will be able to overcome the devastation caused by the earthquake with unwavering spirit.
2. Prime Minister Singh stated that no obstacles stand in the way of strengthening their bilateral relations. Both leaders concurred that regular visits by each other are vital for further enhancing their strategic global partnership and that Prime Minister Noda will make a visit to India at a mutually convenient date.
3. Both leaders welcomed the entry into force of the Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and expressed their expectations that the agreement will boost the economic relations of the two countries. Furthermore, Prime Minister Noda stated that he also looked forward to seeing progress on the negotiations for the social security agreement in order to promote private sector activities. Both leaders agreed to make efforts for the realization of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) and the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC).
4. Prime Minister Singh expressed that India expects to move forward the civil nuclear cooperation with Japan. In response, Prime Minister Noda stated that bringing the accidents at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station under stable control is the highest priority of the administration; that Japan will carry out a thorough investigation of the accident and share the information with India in a swift and accurate manner; and that taking account of these points, Japan would like to move forward the cooperation with India.
5. Both leaders shared the view on the importance of sea lanes, particularly in the Indian Ocean, and agreed to carry out discussions also on the reinforcement of bilateral cooperation on the security front.
6. Both leaders agreed to turn the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India into an essential opportunity for raising broad public awareness about the cultural and people-to-people exchanges between the two countries, among other exchanges.
7. Both leaders held a candid exchange of views on working together for the reform of the UN Security Council and in the lead-up to the East Asia Summit and agreed to further bolster their bilateral cooperation.

## 2. Promotion of Bilateral Security Relations

# JAPAN-INDIA NAVY COOPERATION

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and Indian Navy have regular talks and exchange port visits by their respective ships. JMSDF ships were in Port Blair, Andaman and Nicobar, last September for the first time in history, and in Cochin, Kerala, for a transit visit in October. Two Indian Navy officers are presently studying in the JMSDF Staff College in Tokyo. Furthermore, both sides regularly hold international seminars to mutually exchange views on security situation,

maritime security, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, etc. During the Defense Ministerial Talks on 2 November 2011, maritime security, especially protection of Sea-Lanes of Communications (SLOCs) and freedom of navigation, was the foremost item on the agenda. There is a proposal for a bilateral exercise between JMSDF and Indian Navy in 2012. JMSDF and Indian Navy vessels also have close cooperation to tackle piracy and protect the SLOCs in the Gulf of Aden.



### 3. Promotion of Bilateral Economic Relations

## REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN EAST ASIA AND JAPAN-INDIA COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

**D**r. Shujiro Urata, Professor of Economics at the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University, Japan, was on a visit to New Delhi from September 6 to 7, 2011, to participate in a round-table discussion at ICRIER, and to deliver a lecture on the significance of the recently concluded India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

Dr. Urata is amongst the most famous scholars in Japan specializing in this subject, and is frequently consulted on economic policy matters by the Japanese Government.

The lecture on CEPA was scheduled on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September at FICCI, New Delhi, and was very well attended.

During his address, Dr. Urata explained about the process of regional integration of economies in East Asia through increase of multi-lateral trade following the free trade agreements beginning in the 1990s. He also explained how the India-Japan CEPA would contribute to the two countries' bilateral trade in future, and help in further integration of economies in East Asia.

In an interesting discussion with audiences and experts, that took place after the lecture, he spoke about how CEPA can be



*Dr. Urata interacting with the audience in the round-table discussion*

used to stimulate the economies of Japan and India. Dr. Urata emphasized that continued attention is necessary for further improvement of the CEPA in order to derive maximum benefits out of the treaty.

In this trip, he also travelled to Chennai, Kolkata, and Colombo (Sri Lanka) to deliver lectures.



*Dr. Shujiro Urata at the CEPA lecture at FICCI on 7th September 2011*

# JAPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (JCCI) DELEGATION VISITS INDIA

A business delegation from Japan under the auspices of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) visited India from September 19 to 22, 2011, in order to promote investments by Japanese small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the Indian market. The delegation was led by Mr. Tadashi Okamura, Chairman – JCCI and Adviser to the Board – Toshiba Corporation.

The JCCI is one of the largest Chambers of Commerce in Japan, comprising a network of comprehensive local economic organizations made up of the representatives of some 1.35 million member businesses. Currently, 514 chambers of commerce from all over Japan are enrolled as members of the JCCI.

The primary objective of the JCCI delegation's India visit was to sign a Memorandum of Under-

standing with the state of Tamil Nadu, aimed at cooperation in encouraging Japanese SMEs to invest in the state. In Tamil Nadu, the delegates met the representatives of the Japan Chamber of Commerce in Chennai, and also attended a seminar jointly organized by the Government of Tamil Nadu, CII and JCCI.

During their stay in Delhi, the delegation's engagements included calls on the Railways Minister, Commerce Secretary, Deputy Chairman - Planning Commission, as well as General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, Mr. Rahul Gandhi.

Mr. Tadashi Okamura made a lecture at a meeting organized by FICCI in Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, on 19 September. Given below are excerpts of the lecture titled **“India Japan Economic Partnership: The Way Forward”**:



# “India Japan Economic Partnership: The Way Forward”

**Tadashi Okamura, Chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry**

**At the Lecture Meeting hosted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)**

**Monday, September 19, 2011 - Taj Mahal Hotel, Delhi, India**

*Ambassador Arjun Asrani, Chairman of the India Japan Partnership Forum and former Ambassador of India to Japan, Your Excellency Akitaka Saiki, Japanese Ambassador to India, Mr. Rohit Relan, Managing Director of Bharat Seats, Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Secretary General of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:*

My name is Tadashi Okamura of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to address this meeting. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to FICCI Secretary General Dr. Rajiv Kumar and to everyone else involved in organizing this event.

I am told that there was earthquake yesterday in Sikkim causing considerable damage. May I sincerely offer my heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the injured and the deceased?

Today I will address regarding the current state of the Japanese economy, the outlook for Japan-India economic relations, and our expectations for India.

## **1. The Japanese Economy**

### **(1) Reconstruction and Recovery**

As you know, the cumulative impact of the earthquake, the massive tsunami, the nuclear accident, and the subsequent damage caused by negative rumors dealt a severe blow to Japan as a whole. From April and June, I personally visited the length and breadth of the affected area, including Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Ibaraki and Chiba Prefectures. I must admit, I was and remain astonished at what I saw.

Reconstruction and recovery are at different levels in the coastal regions that suffered direct tsunami damage, the inland areas, and the district around the nuclear power plants. With the exception of this one small part of Japan, however, economic and social activity is now returning to a level close to that before the earthquake, and even in the worst affected areas reconstruction and recovery efforts are making steady progress.

### **(2) JCCI Initiatives**

Immediately after the earthquake, JCCI set up the Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction and Recovery Office, which I head. Since then, JCCI and Japan's 514 chambers of commerce and industry have worked closely together on recovery efforts in the affected areas.

Initiatives have included organizing job seminars for those left unemployed due to the disaster, helping companies

affected by the disaster to re-start business by acting as intermediaries that provide idle machinery and equipment, holding product and tourism fairs for affected areas, and issuing certificates to exporters stating that their products have not been contaminated by radiation.

We have also submitted a series of requests to government aimed at rapid reconstruction and recovery. On September 7 we handed a request for acceleration of reconstruction and recovery efforts directly to Japan's new Prime Minister, Yoshihiko Noda. This document particularly asked the government to establish a recovery agency before the end of the year, to set up a system of special reconstruction zones and to establish grants to local governments in the affected areas.

I would also like to request the cooperation of the Indian business community. It is important to understand that Japan is doing its utmost to ensure transparency and guarantee the safety of its products. We are conducting appropriate tests on foodstuffs to ensure the safety of shipments and exports, and publicizing radiation levels on a daily basis. Both the Tohoku Region and products produced in this part of Japan are safe.

As outlined in the handouts, Tohoku has many famous tourist spots including Hiraizumi, a world heritage site. I encourage you to visit this beautiful region.

### **(3) The Japanese Economy: Current Status and Prospects**

Although the economy was negatively impacted by the earthquake, it is expected to continue to improve as supply chains are restored and production picks up again.

Monthly government reports show an ongoing trend toward economic revival as things gradually return to normal, overseas economies gradually pick up, and various policy measures take effect.

The Local Business Outlook survey conducted by JCCI shows that SMEs have resolved difficulties in procuring parts and materials, and have fully restored production. JCCI now predicts increased sales of power-saving products.

However, many businesses are still concerned about a number of issues, among them the impact of electricity supply constraints on production and sales activities, the rapid strengthening of the yen, raw material price trends, and slowing overseas economies. SMEs are worried about the hollowing out of industry caused by companies relocating overseas and the impact this will have on regional economies.

*Continued on Pg.14*



## 4. Bilateral Educational and Cultural Exchanges

# ANIME CONVENTION 2011



The Anime Convention 2011 set up an important milestone in India for Japanese Pop-Culture with over 3500 footfalls for the 3 day event, which was held from 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> September, 2011.

The Anime Convention 2011 is a follow-up of the journey in the first ever Anime Cine Experience in 2010 in New Delhi, organized by Cine Darbaar, Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation, which was the first ever expression of Anime, Manga and Japanese Pop-Culture in India. The Anime Convention 2011 was covered by many reputed Indian media houses like Hindustan Times, Times of India, Mail Today, Mint Business Paper, Asian Age, and Deccan Chronicle, along with Television channels like NDTV, India, and countless web-based sites and social media spaces.

The Anime Convention 2011 kicked-off in style on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Sep-

tember 2011, at Marwah Studios, with a house full of audience. The first day of the Anime Convention explored the world of Manga through a Workshop on Manga conducted by Panama-based Manga Artist, Nagata Ken. More than 200 active audience members participated in the first ever exploration of Japanese Manga workshop here in India. The workshop was followed by the first ever Manga Drawing Competition in India in which over 350 people across demographics participated: school students, college students and other fans. The first day also witnessed an all-round Anime Quiz being conducted and loads of prizes were presented.

The second day of the Anime Convention 2011 started from where it left off the previous day. The crowd on the second day was overwhelming and participated in a range of activities from Anime Treasure Hunt to Marvel Vs Capcom Gaming Tournament. The movies of the day included



Miyori in the Sacred Forest, Calf Short Films, Midori Ko & Boys on the Run. People with gleeful faces were seen enjoying Sushi and Bento Boxes.

The day began with a Panel Discussion powered by Marwah Studios, which was chaired by Nobuaki Doi (co-founder of CALF), Mr. Sandeep Marwah (Director-Marwah Studios), Mr. Manoj Kumar and Mr. Paramjeet Singh. They discussed about the animation industry in India and its aspects, and enlightened the audience with a thoughtful insight on the prospects of the industry. Followed by the discussion was a design innovation workshop by Kshitiz Anand, talking about the influence of Japanese art and design in our everyday lives. The session was well received and threw great light on key Japanese design philosophies and its influence across the world. One of the highlights of the day was the session by Nobuaki Doi (Co-founder of CALF) titled “This is not Anime but Animation”, which included a Retrospective of Koji Yamamura. Nobuaki Doi highlighted the history of Japanese anime, with a special reference on Independent Anime.

There was an Anime Treasure Hunt, where the Anime fans had to analyze cryptic clues to finally reach the treasure. The participants tried to decipher the clues in order to get the treasure first, with Rhea D’Souza emerging first. In the Gaming Lounge, The Marvel Vs Capcom Tournament drew in a large number of people and had a number of rounds, with Vijay Sinha coming top among his fellow gamers. There was a special stall with a range of merchandise and goodies of Japanese characters, powered by TokioGa. The Manga Lounge attracted fellow manga enthusiasts, enjoying their favorite manga titles. Many were seen

cosplaying as their favorite anime characters and fans enjoying Japanese music throughout the day.

Anime Con witnessed a houseful audience for the first ever COSPLAY COMPETITION in India. In total, ten cosplayers participated for the prizes, and over 300 people cheered the Cosplay Competition in India. On the last day of the Anime Convention a Panel Discussion on Japanese Pop-Culture was held, with participation from Yusuke Matsuoka, Director (Japan Foundation), Kshitiz Anand (Head of Design - Kuliza Technology), Shubhank Mauria (Head of Gaming Design - Tiger Tail Studios), Nitesh Rohit (Director/Executive Creative Director - Bande Apart), Nagata Ken (Manga Artist - Panama), Nobuaki Doi (Co-Founder - Calf, Japan).

The Panel Discussion focused on the absence and the strength of Japanese Pop Culture, and what could be done in the areas of Anime, Manga, Design, Food, to create a sustainable cycle of exchange of ideas, co-operation, culture, business and entrepreneurship between the two countries. The Panel Discussion was passionately attended and discussed among the audience members too.

The first ever Anime Convention ended on a high note with Nobuaki Doi (Co-Founder – Calf) taking a detailed Master class on the Making of Calf films. The session was eagerly awaited and audience members participated with lot of Questions/Answers, as this was for the first time such a session was taking place in India.

The Anime Convention 2011 set a benchmark and foundation for Anime, Manga and Japanese Pop-Culture in India, and it can only get stronger, bigger, and higher from here in 2012.

## JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS DEPART FOR JAPAN

As part of the Japanese Government Scholarship (Monbukagakusho: MEXT), 36 Indian students, recipient of the above scholarship, went to Japan between the last week of September and the first week of October 2011. The students are in the category of Research Students [27 graduate students (including 18 students for universities recommending scheme)], Teacher Training Students (3 teachers), Japanese Studies Students (5 students) and Young Leaders’ Program Students (1 graduate student). Besides these 4 scholarships, the Japanese Government offers another 3 Scholarships to Indian students (Undergraduate Students, College of Technology Students and Specialized Training College Students). Out of the 7 categories, 3 categories of students leave for Japan in April, another 3 in October, and one category in both April and October of every year.

Details can be found on the Embassy of Japan website <http://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/>.

The Research Students category is for doing Research as well as Masters and Doctoral course, whereas Teacher Training Students category is for teachers in elementary and secondary schools who wish to do research in School Education at Japanese Universities. Through the Young Leaders’ Program, the Japanese Government offers scholarships to Indian public officials and corporate executives who wish to take one year Master’s degree course in English. The other category, i.e. Japanese Studies Students, is to promote mutual understanding and deepening friendly ties between Japan and other countries through the application of advanced knowledge regarding Japan’s language and culture.

# “POWER OF THE WORD: INDO-JAPANESE SIX MONTHS MEMORIAL POETRY MEET AFTER TSUNAMI”

## TRIBUTE AND PRAY FOR RAPID RECOVERY FROM EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI DISASTER IN JAPAN

Organized by

*Akogare no kai: India Chapter of Int'l Society of Takuboku Studies and Japan Foundation*



The eerie silence that followed untold devastations in North-Eastern Japan caused by Tsunami was now broken when the poets, lyricists and musicians from Japan presented their experiences through poetry. They were joined by Indian poets, scholars and students in a collective prayer for speedy reconstruction in the Tsunami affected areas of Japan after six months of the Tsunami disaster. This event was held at the India International Centre, New Delhi, on 11 September, 2011, which was attended by over 80 Indian literary figures, researchers, students and Japanese nationals living in Delhi. This event was organized by *Akogare no Kai* & Japan Foundation, supported by Yamaha Music India Pvt Ltd. Earlier in May and June, 2011, Indo-Japan Association for Literature & Culture (IJALC) in association with Japan Foundation had organized two events as a mark of tribute to the Japanese people affected by the natural calamity, where the Indian poets and people expressed their concern through Exhibition of Photographs, paintings and poetry. A book of verses in Hindi and Japanese was also launched on the occasion.

On this occasion, Chief Guests Sri Kunwar Narayan, a noted Indian poet, and Professor Mochizuki Yoshitsugu (Japan), former Indian Ambassador to Japan Sri Arjun Asrani (in Chair), Professor Ganga Prasad Vimal (President, IJALC), Sri Nao Endo (Japan Foundation) and Sri Kojiro Uchiyama (Embassy of Japan) expressed their views and said that the power of the word is tremendous to heal the wounds and agony of devastation. Sri Kunwar Narayan said that while we humans could do little in situations of natural calamity such as Tsunami, it is the indomitable spirit of the Japanese people that will take them on the path of speedy recovery and reconstruction. The Japanese poets from the Tsunami affected areas, who themselves had lost their relatives and friends, presented a first-hand experience of the Tsunami tragedy, and also gave an account of how people were now reorganizing their lives.

The Indian poets strongly conveyed their feelings that the people of Japan were not alone in this time of crisis, and that with courage, perseverance and unwavering human spirit, Japan will rise again.

# IKEBANA EXHIBITION 'JOY OF CREATION' BY SOGETSU SCHOOL AT ITC MAURYA, NEW DELHI

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2011

The All India Federation of Sogetsu School, New Delhi, organised an Ikebana Exhibition titled 'Joy of Creation' on Sunday, September 18th, 2011, in the Kamal Mahal, ITC Maurya Hotel, New Delhi.

Every artist dips his brush into his soul, and paints his nature onto his pictures. This is the 'Joy of Creation' ....., and a lot of time and effort went into making these creative works of art!

The exhibition of Ikebana was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Urban Poverty Alleviation and Minister of Culture, Kumari Selja. H.E. the Ambassador of Japan to India, Mr. Akitaka Saiki, was the Guest of Honour.

Members from Mumbai, Hyderabad and Calcutta also participated – there were 153 beautiful arrangements in all. The Director, Mrs. Veena Dass, and Deputy Directors, Mrs. Uma



Sharma and Mrs. Indu Punj, also made stunning arrangements. Mrs. Kanta Bukhari, Exhibition Chairperson, put in a lot of effort in order to make this exhibition a success. The highlight of the exhibition was the participation by the members of the Embassy of Japan.

The Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour showed keen interest in the arrangements and the materials used

to create them. Many conventional and unconventional materials like vinyl, plastic, stones combined with common as well as exotic flowers, were very efficiently used. It was indeed an Ikebana exhibition of a very high standard.

There was a constant stream of visitors at the exhibition throughout the day, who were amazed at the level of Ikebana displayed. Electronic and print media covered the event.



# FROM JAPAN WITH LOVE

Some opportunities come only once in a lifetime; then who am I to turn them away? My trip to Okinawa, Japan, for the “Asian Youth Development Program in Okinawa 2011 (AYDPO)” was definitely one such opportunity. It was organized and fully funded by the Okinawa Prefectural Government. Extending from August 6 to August 24, the program saw 26 participants from 13 different Asian countries as well as 22 participants from Japan coming together to discuss the various water problems that exist in our respective countries.

Who would have thought that at the end of these 18 days we would have formed conclusive solutions to water problems and taken small yet definite steps towards international cooperation between our countries? We are, after all, the future of this world. It all started with small, easy questions: What are the problems that we face? How do these problems differ or how are they similar to those of other countries? And then we moved onto other topics like the complexities of sustainable development and their working.

But this wasn't what the program was all about. It was also about coming to know about other cultures and accepting the differences between different people. All Japanese participants were so warm and welcoming and everyone was so friendly that it took us less than five days to form friendships that would last a lifetime. Together we participated in various ethnic Okinawan cultural activities



like Elsa dancing and visited many historical landmarks. Snorkeling in the beautiful blue ocean among the corals was a truly exquisite experience. Along with all this, we also went for a beach-combing activity, watched the wonderful play “Kimutaka Na Amawari”, and went to the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, which was indeed very impressive.

The Home Stay experience too was extremely enriching. Our families were so hospitable and we learnt so much about the traditional Okinawa culture. On the last day of our program, we put up a Final Presentation giving our Vision 2031 along with a vision robot or AYDBOT. We had worked so hard on this presentation, waking up at 5 in the morning just to learn our lines, that at the end of it, while singing a song composed by us, we were all moved to tears. Now we truly understand the meaning of the very true Okinawan saying “Ichariba Chodel” or once we meet we become brothers and sisters for life. After doing so many things together at the end of the program, all the participants had become like a big diverse family.

So when we reluctantly said our goodbyes to each other and tearfully left Okinawa, we knew for sure that nothing could make us forget all the valuable lessons we learnt about the environment, about friendship, and about breaking cultural barriers. We had achieved so much in such a short time, and this made us realize something very important that, anything is possible if we just work together.

*Sanya Chhikara*

Class X- C, Tagore International School  
Paschimi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi



# ORIGAMI COMPETITION

**T**agore International School, Vasant Vihar, in cooperation with the Embassy of Japan, New Delhi, organized the 9th Inter School Origami Competition on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2011. This year, 34 schools participated in the event and competed in categories of 'solo', 'group' and 'teachers' with different themes, and displayed their skills in paper folding art

innovatively. The panel of judges awarded the best creations, and the prize distribution event took place at Japan Foundation on 9th November.

Origami is a traditional Japanese pastime where a single square of paper is folded in different ways to create interesting shapes.



*Continued from Pg.8*

## 2. Outlook for Japan-India Economic Relations

### (1) *Japan-India Economic Ties*

Since India has a population of more than 1.2 billion, 60% of which is aged 30 or under, it is a promising market that also offers the crucial attraction of an abundant labor force.

Since 1991 the Indian government has been working to lower barriers to market entry through deregulation. It recently abolished No-Objection Certificate regulations, and I understand it is examining easing regulations governing entry into the GMS market.

Drawn by such developments, Japanese companies have been taking a closer interest in India and its remarkable economic growth in recent years.

A Japan Bank for International Cooperation survey of Japanese manufacturers shows that India ranks second only to China as a promising medium-term overseas business prospect in the next three years or so. Over the longer term, up to a decade ahead, India ranks number one.

A survey of SMEs by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry last year revealed that India, following China and Vietnam, was regarded as one of the most promising countries for future overseas business in the Asian region.

There is no doubt that Japanese companies are moving into India at a faster rate. A survey by the Japanese embassy in India found that Japanese companies had established 438 firms and 555 offices in India as of January 2008, and that

this had grown to 725 firms and 1,236 offices by October 2010.

The survey found steady growth over a wide area that included West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, and Gujarat, with Tamil Nadu recording the highest growth.

However, considering that India and Japan have a long history of interaction and constitute the second and third largest economies in Asia, our economic relations do not necessarily reflect the size of the two countries' economies.

### (2) *Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement*

The Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement came into force on August 1st.

Over the next ten years this agreement will abolish tariffs on approximately 97% of exports from India to Japan and about 90% of exports from Japan to India, accounting for around 94% of our two-way trade.

The agreement sets high-level rules for liberalization and the protection of investment. It also achieves a higher level of liberalization of trade in services than required under WTO commitments.

Moreover, this agreement sets up a framework that will help to create and improve business environments for companies doing business in India and Japan, with the participation of both countries' governments, the private sector, and relevant organizations.

JCCI issues certificates of origin under the Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, and in the first month after the agreement came into force we supplied 439 such certificates. This is the largest number of certificates of origin we have issued in the first month of an EPA concluded by Japan, and a flying start for the Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement.

India's Minister of Commerce and Industry Anand Sharma hopes that the value of trade between Japan and India will more than double to 25 billion dollars by 2014, and this goal is very likely to be achieved.

JCCI has high hopes that this agreement will create tremendous opportunities for businesses in both India and Japan and lead to even stronger and closer economic ties between our countries.

### ***(3) SME Expansion into India***

When I was appointed as JCCI chairman in November 2007, I made SME globalization a key pillar of our activities.

During this visit, we plan to sign a memorandum of understanding with the government of Tamil Nadu aimed at cooperation in encouraging Japanese SMEs to invest in the state.

We hope that this will prompt our members, especially manufacturers, to take even greater interest in India, and that it will accelerate expansion into Tamil Nadu and India as a whole.

The Indian Government is currently drawing up a National Manufacturing Policy aimed at raising the proportion of GDP output accounted for by manufacturing from the current 16% to 25% by 2025. Japan's small and medium-sized manufactures have advanced technical capabilities, and by expanding into India I believe they can help local manufacturers to become more competitive through technology transfers, employment opportunities, and human resources development.

## **3. Hopes for India**

### ***(1) Business Opportunities for Japanese Firms***

I understand that in the Twelfth Five Year Plan (for 2012-2017), the Planning Commission aims to secure investments of almost one trillion dollars in such infrastructure as roads, railways, and power stations, in order to achieve a high annual GDP growth rate of between 9 and 9.5%. Roughly half of this investment will come from the private sector.

As well as having a pump-priming effect for firms expanding into India, infrastructure development will present companies with enormous business opportunities.

Many Japanese firms are highly competitive in the infrastructure field and are very interested in the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor and the Dedicated Freight Corridor. They hope to have opportunities to contribute to India's sustained growth through such infrastructure projects.

At the COP 15 meeting on climate change held in Copenhagen in 2009, the Indian government announced the voluntary goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions to between 20 and 25% below 2005 levels by 2020.

I believe that Japanese companies' strengths in energy-saving and environmental technologies can play a useful role in achieving the twin goals of maintaining high economic growth and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

### ***(2) Expectations for States***

Improving connectivity between key regions in India by enhancing infrastructure, especially roads and railways, will give Japanese companies a wider choice in selecting areas to expand their operations.

In addition to Tamil Nadu, JCCI is focusing on states including Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, where economic development is accelerating, Gujarat, which is actively soliciting investment, and West Bengal, where there are moves to energize the economy through industrialization.

We would like to ask each state government to listen to the needs of Japanese companies doing business in the respective states and strive to create an even better business environment. Especially, improvements of infrastructures such as roads, ports, and electricity supplies as well as industrial parks are important for the betterment.

### ***(3) Sixtieth Anniversary of Japan-India Diplomatic Relations***

Next year Japan and India will celebrate sixty years of diplomatic relations.

As well as sharing the fundamental values of democracy, market economies and the rule of law, our two countries share wide-ranging interests in Asian development and especially economic integration in East Asia.

I hope that the visit of our business mission will provide opportunities to build even stronger economic ties and friendlier relations between Japan and India.

Allow me to conclude with one more request. In order to showcase Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake to the world, Tokyo has decided to submit a bid to host the 2020 Olympic Games. JCCI is in agreement with this plan and has resolved to offer comprehensive assistance. I would like to request the wholehearted support of the Indian Business Community in helping to make the 2020 Tokyo Olympics a reality.

Thank you.

## 5. The 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India

# REGISTRATION PROCESS STARTS FOR THE EVENTS OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND INDIA

The year 2012 marks the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India. To commemorate the occasion, various cultural aspects of Japan - both traditional and modern - would be presented in the shape of several Japanese cultural events to be held, in principle, during the period from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012, in India.



Organizations which would like to apply for accreditation of events commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India are kindly requested to read the guidelines on the Embassy of Japan web homepage and submit the application along with relevant documents to the Japanese Embassy/Consulate General depending on the area of jurisdiction, through Email.

### Benefits of accreditation

- (1) The organizer of the event can use **the title**, “Event Commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India” **and the official logo and the theme** for publicity materials (e.g. posters, flyers, websites, signboard, banner) according to the guidelines prescribed separately.
- (2) Accredited events will be listed on the “event calendar” of the Embassy’s official website as one of the events commemorating the 60th Anniversary.
- (3) Events which were evaluated as highly effective will be offered a letter of appreciation in the name of the Organizing Committee Chair.

Detailed information on the registration process, including Guidelines, Application Form, Pledge Form, etc., is available on <http://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/2012celebrations/guidelines.html>.

## ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

**Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)**  
2nd Floor, Gopal Das Bhawan  
Barakhambha Road,  
New Delhi 110 001  
Tel: 2371-4362-3/7090  
Fax: 2371-5066

**Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)**  
4th Floor,  
Eros Corporate Tower,  
Nehru Place,  
New Delhi 110 019  
Tel: 4168-3006  
Fax: 4168-3003

**The Japan Foundation**  
5-A, Ring Road,  
Lajpat Nagar-IV  
(Near Vikram Hotel)  
New Delhi 110 024  
Tel: 2644-2967 ~ 68  
Fax: 2644-2969

Key in “www.in.emb-japan.go.jp” to access the website of the Embassy of Japan, New Delhi.

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### FOR SUBSCRIPTION OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

For Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh and M.P.: The Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai.

For West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Orissa: The Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata.

For Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh: The Consulate General of Japan in Chennai.

For Karnataka: The Consulate of Japan in Bangalore.

For remaining states and territories: Japan Information Centre, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi.

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