

# Japan Calling

September 2012

☐ A quarterly newsletter from the Embassy of Japan, India 



2012 – Celebrating 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India  
'Resurgent Japan and Vibrant India: New Discoveries, New Exchanges'



A "Noh" theatre performance was held on 24 August 2012, in New Delhi, as one of the commemorative events of the 60th Anniversary celebrations of Japan-India Diplomatic Relations.

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# LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPAN-INDIA BILATERAL RELATIONS AND JAPAN'S DIPLOMACY



## (1) GUJARAT CHIEF MINISTER NARENDRA MODI'S VISIT TO JAPAN

Japan received a high level delegation from the state of Gujarat from 22 to 27 July 2012, headed by Hon. Mr. Narendra Modi, Chief Minister, who is exalting strong leadership. The delegation included senior state government officials and business representatives from the state of Gujarat, which is showing tremendous progress. They visited Tokyo, Hamamatsu, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe, and had meetings with ministers and industrial associations. They also had intensive discussions with representatives of companies which not only have business but are also interested in setting up business in India.

During the visit, Hon. Chief Minister met Deputy Prime Minister Okada, Foreign Minister Gemba, Economic, Trade and Industry Minister Edano, Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism Minister Hata, and former Prime Minister Abe, and members of the India-Japan Parliamentarians Forum headed by former Prime Minister Fukuda. They had discussions on a wide range of topics, like, Delhi - Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), Gujarat state's policy for Export Processing Zone (EPZ), Japan's participation at 'Vibrant Gujarat' scheduled for early 2013, promotion of Japanese food and

Japanese language in Gujarat, for strengthening Japan-India relations.

He had a lot of interactions with industry associations, like, Japanese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Keidanren (Japanese Business Federation), and also trading companies and banks. He specially went to Hamamatsu to meet Mr Osamu Suzuki, Chairman & CEO of Suzuki Motor Corporation, which was the first automobile company to come to India. There he met many Indian engineers who are receiving training. Besides, he addressed investment promotion seminars in Tokyo, Hamamatsu and Nagoya, organized by JETRO for attracting Japanese investments in Gujarat. Around 1,000 businessmen in total actively attended the seminars.

High expectations to Japan were perceived through strengthening relations between Gujarat state and Japanese government and industry. We firmly believe that Chief Minister Modi's visit to Japan gave further momentum to our bilateral relations as a whole.

## (2) TOKYO CONFERENCE ON AFGHANISTAN

Tokyo Conference on Afghanistan was held on July 8 in Tokyo, jointly organized by Governments of Japan and Afghanistan. Approximately 90 countries and relevant international organizations participated in the Conference. The major participants were H.E. Mr. Hamid Karzai, President of Afghanistan, H.E. Mr. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr. S.M. Krishna, External Affairs Minister of India, H.E. Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, H.E. Dr. Ali Akbar Salehi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran, H.E. Ms. Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State of the United States, H.E. Mr. Laurent Fabius, Minister of Foreign Affairs of France, H.E. Dr. Guido Westerwelle, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs and Deputy Chancellor of Germany, Rt. Hon. Mr. Andrew Mitchell, MP, Secretary of State for International Development of the UK, and the Hon. Bob Carr, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia.

Representative of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the organizer of Delhi Investment Summit of Afghanistan on June 28, was also invited to present the recommendations that came out of the Investment Summit to attract foreign investment into Afghanistan in light of new opportunities opening up in various areas.

The Conference chaired by H.E. Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, H.E. Dr. Hazrat Omar Zakhilwal, Minister of Finance of Afghanistan, and H.E. Dr. Zalmai Rassoul, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan, aimed to mobilize the international support to the development efforts of Afghanistan towards its self-reliance during the Transformation Decade (2015-2024). Tokyo Declaration, adopted by the Conference, embodies the partnership between the Afghan Government and the international community during the Transformation Decade, and their mutual commitments and accountability for the sustainable development of Afghanistan were clarified. Furthermore, a mechanism under which this can be checked and reviewed on a regular basis was established (the Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework).

Since the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan (Tokyo Conference) was held in January 2002, Japan has played a leading role as the second largest donor behind the US in development assistance to Afghanistan, providing support totalling \$3.3 billion till the end of 2011, across various areas including political processes, infrastructure, basic human needs, industry, agriculture, and culture. Based on its past experience, Japan announced that it would provide up to around \$3 billion of assistance to Afghanistan in about 5 years from 2012, in the field of socio-economic development and enhancement of security capacity, specifically stressing (1) agricultural sector, (2) infrastructure development and (3) Afghan-led nation-building even after 2017 through assistance in those areas. In addition, in order to further strengthen regional cooperation between Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries, Japan announced that it is implementing projects worth around \$1 billion in neighbouring countries, and through these projects it would support the development of the corridor which goes across Afghanistan from Central Asia to Karachi in Pakistan.

The Conference succeeded in securing commitments from the international community for strong support totalling over \$16 billion till 2015, as well as commitments from Afghanistan in the areas of development and governance. As a result, Afghanistan and the international community will enter into a concrete partnership with financial backing, under the newly formulated Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework. As the host state, Japan is committed to continue playing a proactive role in the international community to support Afghanistan.

### **(3) WORLD MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON DISASTER REDUCTION IN TOHOKU - JOINT ENDEAVORS FOR SOLUTIONS: WISDOM OF THE WORLD TO THE DISASTER-AFFECTED AREAS, LESSONS OF THE DISASTER-AFFECTED AREAS TO THE WORLD -**

“The World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku” was held on July 3rd and 4th. The plenary sessions were held in Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture. Three breakout sessions were held in Ichinoseki City of Iwate Prefecture, Ishinomaki City of Miyagi Prefecture, and Fukushima City of Fukushima

Prefecture. The Conference was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cabinet Office, Reconstruction Agency, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and co-hosted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), Iwate Prefecture, Miyagi Prefecture, Fukushima Prefecture, Sendai City, Ichinoseki City, Ishinomaki City and Fukushima City. Representatives from 63 countries and 14 international organizations, as well as the representatives from international and domestic NGOs, the private sector and civil society participated in the Conference. In total, about 500 people participated in the conference. The participants from Japan include the following: Mr. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister of Japan; Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Tatsuo Hirano, Minister for Reconstruction and Minister for Comprehensive Review of Measures in Response to the Great East Japan Earthquake; Mr. Masaharu Nakagawa, Minister of State for Disaster Management. Minister Gemba, as the Chair of the Conference, issued the Chair’s Summary. The Indian Delegation was led by Mr. M. Shashidhar Reddy, Vice Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). A number of side events were also organized by the public and private sectors, academia and civil society.

The participants underscored the needs to mainstream disaster reduction and build resilient societies; to realize human security; to maximize capacity regarding disaster reduction through combining structural “hard” measures and “soft” measures such as education; and to forge partnership among various stakeholders, as well as and the importance of addressing emerging issues such as climate change and urbanization. The conference disseminated strong messages to the world regarding the need of “disaster reduction in the 21st century” which promotes above mentioned elements in a comprehensive way. The participants confirmed the need to incorporate disaster reduction in the post-2015 development framework and to establish the post-Hyogo Framework for Action based on the outcomes of this conference, in order to promote “disaster reduction in the 21st century”. Japan expressed its intention to host the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction, and its commitment to contributing three billion dollars for the next three years in Disaster Reduction.

Japan expressed its determination to continuously lead the international efforts for disaster reduction, and succeeded in building a foundation to mainstream disaster reduction, to disaster reduction in the Post-MDG framework, and to establish an effective post-Hyogo Framework for Action. Japan also had a strong appeal to the world regarding the reconstruction effort in the disaster-affected areas through carrying out site visits during the conference. Moreover, “the importance to make efforts for disaster reduction with full-cast” and “the mainstreaming disaster reduction” were put into practice by the participation of various actors including concerned government ministries, local governments and CSOs at the side events.

#### **(4) UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20): TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE DECADE**

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) was held from June 20 to 22 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). A total of approximately 30,000 people including 97 national leaders and a number of ministerial level figures from 188 United Nations member countries and 3 observers, as well as government officials, lawmakers, local administrations, international organizations, enterprises and citizens participated in the Conference.

From the Government of Japan, a delegation of 130 members including Mr. Koichiro Gemba, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Hiroyuki Nagahama, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, and officials from relevant ministries as well as government advisors (representatives of civil society) attended the Conference. Minister Gemba, who participated in the Conference as the representative of the Government of Japan, made a speech on behalf of the Government (on June 20) and served as acting Chairperson of the plenary meeting (on June 21). Minister Gemba also attended the “Japan Evening” on June 20 and an official side event hosted by the Government of Japan on June 21.

At the Conference, under the themes of “green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication” and “the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development”, the participants discussed the way to achieve sustainable development in the next decade, which resulted in the outcome document “The Future We Want”.

#### ***Speech by Minister Gemba, the representative of the Government of Japan (the three specific initiatives towards creating a “Green Future”)***

On June 20, the first day of the Conference, Minister Gemba made a speech as the representative of the Government of Japan. In his speech, Minister Gemba stated that Japan, which suffered an unprecedented earthquake, would like to earnestly address

and find out an answer to the question of “What is a sustainable society?” together with other countries, and that, considering the diversification of stakeholders of the international community since the Earth Summit, all the stakeholders must unite each other in their common interests.

Minister Gemba announced Japan’s contribution plan named “Green Future” Initiatives, based on the principle of “human security” and consisting of three pillars which are the spreading of an environmentally friendly “future city” to the world, contributing to the global economy toward a green economy, and building a resilient society. Specifically, Minister Gemba announced that, 1) to provide help in the nation-building of other countries, Japan will transmit successful examples of “Future City” Initiative based on the long experience of energy-conservation and recycling in Japan, 2) in the next three years Japan will organize the 10,000-person-scale Green Cooperation Volunteers in order to cooperate with the development of human resources in developing nations and provide assistance of three billion US dollars for the purpose of supporting a shift to a green economy in other countries by utilizing Japan’s advanced renewable energy-related technologies, and 3) Japan would host the “World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku” in July 2012 and will provide assistance of three billion US dollars in the next three years in order to raise awareness in disaster prevention around the world and to establish a resilient society.

#### ***The Japan Pavilion and Japan Day***

To showcase Japan’s advanced environmental and energy-saving technologies as well as to publicize Japan’s contribution to building resilient societies against natural disasters as the country which suffered the Great East Japan Earthquake, public and private sectors jointly established the pavilion (visited by over 18,000 in total from June 13 to 24) where exhibitions and seminars were held by governmental and private organizations.

### **United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**



*Side event – Panel Discussion*



*Display of children's paintings at the Side Event*

At the pavilion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan set up an exhibition booth to show photos and videos on reconstruction in the Tohoku Region after the Great East Japan Earthquake, and held Japan Day on June 20 to highlight the state of the reconstruction and to showcase the multifaceted appeal of Japan. On Japan Day, the seminar under the theme “Reconstruction of Sustainable Societies after the Great East Japan Earthquake” was held and also Japan Evening with the concept of TOHOKU FORWARD was organized in cooperation with Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures in Tohoku region, which were severely damaged by the Earthquake, as well as Brazil-based organizations of Japanese descendants including the associations of those from these prefectures. The address by Minister for Foreign Affairs Koichiro Gemba kicked off the Japan Evening program. Students including those from local Japanese schools presented messages of encouragement to the representatives of the three Tohoku region prefectures, who in turn gave presentations on their reconstruction plans and attractive features of their prefectures. This was followed by the tasting of Japanese food and sake including local cuisine of Tohoku, and a live performance of *Wadaiko* or Japanese drums.

### **Official side event held by the Government of Japan entitled “Future Cities We Want”**

In the morning of June 21, an official side event entitled “Future Cities We Want” was held by the Government of Japan. In the event, Japan’s efforts concerning the “Future City” Initiative was introduced and presentations were made by co-organizers which are also promoting building of sustainable cities, followed by a panel discussion with the participation of representatives of local municipalities, etc. At the beginning, Minister Gemba stated that Japan regards building of sustainable cities as an important issue and would share its energy-saving and disaster risk reduction technologies with the international community. To wrap-up the Conference, Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nagahama announced that Japan will host an international conference on future cities in Japan next year.

At the Conference, initiatives such as a) promotion of initiatives toward a green economy, b) institutional framework for promotion of sustainable development, and c) disaster risk reduction and future city construction, all of which Japan is highly interested in, were discussed, and important results for development of international initiatives in the future were obtained. Particularly, it was an important outcome that developing

## Rio+20 Japan’s Initiatives

Spread “Future City Initiative” Worldwide	Contribute to the Global Transition to a Green Economy	Building a Resilient Society
<p><b><u>1. Share Japan’s Experiences Creating “Future Cities” and Encourage Knowledge Sharing</u></b>            — Invite Urban Planners from Developing Countries to Future Cities in Japan            — Host an International Conference on the “Future City” in Japan next year</p> <p><b><u>2. Assistance to Developing Countries for Sustainable Urban Development</u></b>            — Development of Japanese models of sustainable cities (smart communities), making use of Japan’s excellent environmental technologies</p>	<p><b><u>1. Share Japan’s Knowledge, and Support Green Growth Strategy Planning and Implementation by Developing Countries</u></b>            — Reinforce Policy Dialogues (making use of multilateral efforts such as the East Asia Low Carbon Growth Partnership Dialogue and the Africa Green Growth Strategy)            — Organize “Green Cooperation Volunteers” (support the development of human resources for the transition to a green economy)</p> <p><b><u>2. Support Developing Countries for Introduction of Environmental and Low-carbon Technologies</u></b>            — Support the measures of developing countries in the field of Climate Change such as Renewable Energy            — Bilateral Offset Credit Mechanism (promoting model projects and capacity building toward the start of the mechanism from 2013)</p>	<p><b><u>1. Support Developing Countries for Comprehensive Disaster-Reduction Measures</u></b>            — Lead the efforts for mainstreaming disaster reduction and building resilient societies in developing countries</p> <p><b><u>2. The World Ministerial Conference on Disaster Reduction in Tohoku</u></b>            — Contribute to establishing a successor framework of the Hyogo Framework for Action in 2005-2015</p>
<b>Other Initiatives toward building the foundations for sustainable development</b>		
<p>➤ <b>Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity</b>: Contribute to capacity building in developing countries toward achieving the Aichi Target in the next four years, making use of the Japan Fund in the Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat (5 million US dollars (4 billion yen) in FY2011)</p> <p>➤ <b>Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)</b>: Hold the World Conference on ESD in Nagoya in 2014, the last year of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development</p> <p>➤ <b>Water and Sanitation, Proper Waste Management (3Rs), Comprehensive Earth Observation (GEOSS), Food Security</b></p>		

countries deepened their understanding of a transition to a green economy and the entire international community sent a proactive message to take initiatives for a green economy. In terms of the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, the participants agreed on the establishment of a high level political forum and the strengthening of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), while sharing a view that the SDGs must be integrated into the post Millennium Development Goals. In this way, the Conference paved the way for future development. On the other hand there are still many gaps among participating countries about green economy and the institutional framework, and further discussion will be required.

Japan's "Green Future Initiatives" announced by Minister Gemba were appreciated by a number of participating countries as a concrete contribution in line with the priority issues of the Conference. The Government of Japan also consistently emphasized its "Future City" Initiative. This initiative attracted the interest of participants as a unique contribution from Japan, which is experiencing restoration of the Tohoku region. With many visitors, Japan Pavilion was able to showcase Japan's superior environment and energy-saving technologies and at the same time to show the restoration and attraction of the Tohoku region. The visitors highly appreciated the pavilion, and this is considered as a result of joint preparation by public and private sectors.

## INDIAN ENVIRONMENTALIST DR. VANDANA SHIVA HONOURED WITH FUKUOKA PRIZE 2012

**E**minent Indian environmental philosopher and activist Dr. Vandana Shiva has been selected as the Grand Prize laureate for the FUKUOKA PRIZE 2012. The Fukuoka Prize Committee presented the official notification of the award to Dr. Shiva at a ceremony held in New Delhi on 23 July 2012.

As Japan's cultural gateway, Fukuoka City has played a significant role in promoting exchanges with other regions in Asia since the early times. Upon this background, the Fukuoka Prize was established in 1990 to honour outstanding achievements by individuals or groups/organizations in preserving and creating the unique and diverse cultures of Asia. The Fukuoka Prize is a prestigious award bestowed upon those people who contribute to academics, culture and art in Asia. The Grand Prize consists of prize money of 5 million Japanese Yen.

This year marks its 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary and Dr. Vandana Shiva is the seventh Indian to receive this prestigious award. Earlier, six distinguished Indians, namely, Pandit Ravi Shankar (Sitar Player), Ms. Padma Subrahmanyam (Traditional Dancer), Ms. Romila Thapar (Historian), Ustad Amjad Ali Khan (Sarod maestro), Dr. Ashis Nandy (Social and Cultural Critic), and Mr. Partha Chatterjee (Scholar of political science, history), were honoured by this award.

Dr. Vandana Shiva is the founder of Navdanya, an NGO established in the year 1991 working in the field of conservation of traditionally used seeds, organic farming and fair trade. Dr. Shiva has enlightened many people by presenting a new and original idea about loving nature and protecting the dignity of life. In particular, her penetrating view from the points of view of poor people and women has exposed the contradictions caused by development and globalization. Dr. Shiva has made a great contribution to the earth and to humanity as a female Asian intellectual.

A commemorative lecture and panel discussion was held on the occasion, with the participation of Dr. Vandana Shiva as the keynote speaker, and panellists comprising Prof. Chiharu Takenaka, Professor of Rikkyo University, Japan, Dr. Ashis Nandy, Grand Prize laureate of Fukuoka Prize 2007, and Mr. Jawahar Sircar, Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati.

Later, the Mayor of Fukuoka City, Mr. Soichiro Takashima, presented the letter of notification of the prize to Dr. Shiva, at a press conference held at the venue, in the presence of distinguished guest, H.E. Mr. Akitaka Saiki, Ambassador of Japan to India.



*Dr. Vandana Shiva delivering the commemorative lecture*



*Mayor of Fukuoka City, Mr. Soichiro Takashima, presenting the letter of notification of the prize to Dr. Shiva*

# The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations Between Japan and India

## NOH THEATRE PERFORMANCE BY KANZE NOH SCHOOL

As one of the commemorative events of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations of Japan-India diplomatic relations, a Noh Theatre Performance took place at FICCI Golden Jubilee Auditorium, New Delhi, on 24 August. The performance, which was organized by the Mithila Museum, Niigata, Japan, and supported by the Embassy of Japan in India, The Japan Foundation, New Delhi, and the Federations of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), was presented by a 21-member group led by the 26<sup>th</sup> Generation Grand Master of Kanze Noh School, Kiyokazu Kanze.



Noh, world's oldest extant professional theatre, was created in the Muromachi period by the father and son team of Kan'ami (1332-1384) and Zeami (1363-1443). Zeami wrote many plays, some of which are performed even today. He also wrote many plays which explain the aesthetic principles governing Noh and gave details as to how the art should be composed, acted, directed, taught and produced.

The masks and costumes used in Noh plays are antique and the Noh players in their artistic costumes always try to create a stage filled with magnificent physical and spiritual atmosphere. The efforts to create such an atmosphere are compared to the process of the blooming of "a flower" as termed by Zeami.

The essence of the efforts has been passed on to successive generations by Kan'ami and Zeami, and at present it is Kiyokazu Kanze (26th generation), who has been honoured with the title of a Living National Treasure by the Japanese government. The "Kanze" Noh School has given performances at many famous/historic cities in Japan and abroad, including a performance at the "AICHI EXPO".

Grand Master Kiyokazu Kanze, together with Grand Master Motomasa Kanze (25th generation), previously performed Noh at the opening ceremony of JAPAN MONTH in 1987 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, and also as part of the JAPAN-INDIA FRIENDSHIP YEAR at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi, in 2007.

### Noh Musical Instruments:



*Nohkan (flute), Kotsuzumi (small drum), Otsuzumi (drum) and Taiko (big drum)*

# PHILATELIC EXHIBITION SHOWCASES CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL STUDY OF JAPAN

These are miniature gateways to Japan. Every stamp, be it of smiling women in kimonos, sumo wrestlers, or Japanese flora and fauna, on display at ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI's Centre at Aminjikarai, Chennai, at the four-day stamp exhibition that opened on 29th June 2012, mirrored the lifestyle, culture and history of Japan.

The exhibition, to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Japan, was organized by ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI in association with South India Philatelists' Association.

From those depicting magnificent bridges, heritage structures, to Japanese birds and landscape, an alluring array of stamps greeted visitors to the exhibition. A miniature sheet with images of Kathakali and Japanese Kabuki performers, brought out by India Post in 2002 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of India-Japan diplomatic relations, was also on display along with Japanese stamps depicting Taj Mahal and Mohenjodaro, released during the occasion.

Mr. M.R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK-AOTSDOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, in his welcome address, said, "In 2002, 50 years of diplomatic relations between India and Japan were celebrated. It was then that the idea of starting a stamp exhibition struck me. In this exhibition, 8,000 stamps are on display, covering 40 different themes ranging from nature, family, cinema, science and technology in Japan. We received guidance from the South India Philatelists' Association led by Mr. G. Balakrishna Das. We have ensured that stamps originating not just from Japan, but also from other countries which have had some sort of connection with Japan, are also showcased."

Inaugurating the exhibition, Consul-General of Japan, Chennai, Mr. Masanori Nakano, recalled his experiences



Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Masanori Nakano, flanked by Mr. M.R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK-AOTSDOSOKAI, Mr. S. Gopal, President, and Mr. S. Balasundaram, Former Asst. Postmaster General, browsing Japanese stamps showcased in the exhibition

of stamp collection in young age and encouraged the youth to involve themselves in such useful hobbies. He said that in this 60th year of India-Japan relationship, initiatives like this will bring both the countries together, and the exhibition will provide a glimpse of Japan with a variety of stamps like the ones on the Imperial Family and Japanese culture.

In his key note address, Mr. S. Balasundaram, former Asst. Postmaster General, delved deep on the stamps released by Japan Post on various occasions and how the country was adjudged first among other nations in the field of philately by the WADP (World Association of Development of Philately), a wing of the Universal Postal Union. He narrated the salient features in Japanese stamps, which are striking

and distinctly different from those of other countries of the world. He mentioned that starting fifty years after India issued its first stamp 'Scinde Dak' in 1852, Japan Post came with its first 'Dragon Stamp', and how it surpassed by rolling out nearly two hundred stamps every year, whereas India's figure is somewhere between 50 to 70. In the last decade (2002-2011), Japan issued 1682 stamps while India issued around 700 stamps. In effect, Japan releases one stamp every alternate day. On World Heritage Sites alone, Japan is-



A section of philatelists and enthusiasts who attended the function



sued 3 series of stamps, each series containing 10 issues, and in each issue there are 10 stamps, totaling 300 stamps, between 2002 and 2012. No other country has issued such a large number of stamps on this theme.

Mr. Balasundaram also said that the International Society for Japanese Philately (ISJP), established in 1945, has members in 30 countries and doing yeoman service for the promotion of friendship through philately, and on the same lines, the South India Philatelists' Association, established in 1956, is heralding the noble cause of philately during the past 56 years in the southern part of India.

Mr. G. Balakrishna Das, President SIPA, in his special address, commended the service rendered by ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI in fostering friendship between Japan and India by holding various cultural activities, in addition to management courses and language classes. It would be a proud privilege for SIPA to associate with the ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI in conducting such philatelic exhibitions, year after year. He added that this will surely go a long way in promoting philately among youth and students, and also serve as a cultural bridge between the peoples of Japan and India.

The exhibition was kept open to public till 2nd July 2012.

## BOOK RELEASE CEREMONY FOR DR. RAJ K. BUDDHIRAJA



*Book Release Ceremony in progress*

On the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and India being celebrated this year, a Book Release Ceremony took place on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2012, at the Rabindranath Tagore Hall of The Japan Foundation, New Delhi. The following books were released at the event, which was jointly organized by the Indian Council for Japanese Culture, in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation:

- HIM KI PARNKUTII (Collection of poems on Oyukimi – Snow Viewing Festival) compiled by Dr. Raj K. Buddhiraja and Mr. Yoshio Takakura
- YEH DILLI HAI by Dr. Raj K. Buddhiraja

The audience at the event comprised of litterateurs, journalists, and other eminent guests including Dr. Ram Sharan Gaur,

Secretary of Hindi Academy, and Prof. Lallan Prasad from Hindi Department of Delhi University. All the speakers expressed their congratulations to Dr. Raj K. Buddhiraja, and spoke about her various achievements in the field of Hindi literature.

Dr. Buddhiraja was conferred with the *Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon*, by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in the year 2000, in recognition of her valuable efforts towards the promotion of mutual understanding and goodwill between the peoples of Japan and India.

On the occasion, Mr. Ryoji Noda, Counsellor for Information and Culture of the Embassy of Japan in India, presented a Letter of Commendation to Dr. Buddhiraja, appreciating her association with Japan over the last more than thirty years, and for her many initiatives to build cultural bridges between the people of Japan and India.



*A section of the audience present on the occasion*

## BANGALORE METRO EXPERIENCE AND PAINTING CONTEST

**B**angalore Japanese Association and Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Bangalore, organized the Bangalore Metro Experience and Painting Contest on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012, in collaboration with Bangalore Metro and JICA. Bangalore Metro was constructed with yen loan assistance from Japan, which has considerably eased the traffic of Bangalore.

A large number of children living in Bangalore enthusiastically participated in the event and enjoyed a ride on the Bangalore Metro. After the ride, they painted their experiences with a wonderful sense of imagination. Those children, whose paintings were adjudged outstanding, were awarded prizes by Mr. Ryoji Noda, Counsellor of the Embassy of Japan in India, on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2012, at a colourful ceremony.



## MONSOON MAGIC: IKEBANA DEMONSTRATION BY MRS. RATNA GUHA

**A**s part of the on-going celebrations of the 60th Anniversary Celebrations of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and India, Mrs. Ratna Guha, President, Ikebana International - Gurgaon Chapter, gave a very interesting demonstration of Sogetsu Ikebana. The event, aptly titled 'Varsha Mangal' or 'Monsoon Magic' to welcome the monsoons, was held on 19 July 2012, at the Japan Foundation, New Delhi.



Mrs. Guha did 7 arrangements in both Moribana and Nageire styles. Flowers like lilies, roses, zerbervas, chrysanthemums, etc., were very effectively used. Mrs. Guha holds a Riji degree from the Sogetsu School of Ikebana, Tokyo.

As it is also the 151st birth anniversary of Rabindra Nath Tagore, she quoted from his works, as also a couple of haiku.

# JAPAN EDUCATION FAIR HELD IN NEW DELHI & BANGALORE

Around 600 students and parents visited Japan Education Fair which was organized by Ritsumeikan University on 30th August 2012, at Delhi Public School (DPS), R.K. Puram, New Delhi, and over 300 students visited the one organized by the University of Tokyo on 1st September 2012, at Vivanta by Taj, M.G. Road, Bangalore.

11 outstanding Japanese universities (Doshisha University, Kyushu University, Meiji University, Nagoya University, Osaka University, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University, Ritsumeikan University, The University of Tokyo, Tohoku University, University of Tsukuba, Waseda University) and Kyoto Prefecture participated in the fair. In Delhi, Origami Oritai India and 16th Japan-India Student Conference took part in the fair as well.

In Delhi, Rear Adm. M.M. Chopra, Vice Chairman, DPS Society, made a remark as chief guest. On the other hand, in Bangalore, Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan, Director, National Centre for Biological Sciences, made a special address as chief guest, and Prof. Hiroshi Esaki, Graduate School of Information, Science and Technology, the University of Tokyo, made a keynote speech.

The event included counselling with the respective universities, exhibition of Ikebana, Origami, calligraphy, photos of Indo-Japan relations and Japanese electronic products, lectures, Japanese anime movies (Delhi), panel discussion on studying in Japan by 7 Indian students who were currently studying in the above mentioned

universities, presentation by RIKEN, Japanese Tea Ceremony, Lottery (Bangalore), presentation by Japanese companies and DVD show relating to Japan's high technology (Delhi and Bangalore). Along with that, the Embassy of Japan/Consulate of Japan also participated in the event and provided information regarding Japanese Government Scholarships and other related matters.

Japan Education Fair, which was funded by the MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and



*A view of the Japan Education Fair held at Delhi Public School, R.K. Puram, New Delhi*

Technology), the Government of Japan, presented a good opportunity for those seeking higher education in Japan.

In addition to the Japan Education Fair in New Delhi and Bangalore, an Orientation Seminar for Project for Future Researchers at IIT-H (Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad) to Enhance Network Development with Scholarship of Japan (FRIENDSHIP) was organized by JICA at IIT-Hyderabad, on 3rd September 2012, to introduce Ph.D/Master scholarship in Japan for IIT-H students. 8 major Japanese universities participated in the seminar.

During the Japan-India Annual Summit Meeting held on 28 December 2011, Prime Ministers of the two countries expressed their resolve to continue efforts to facilitate people-to-people exchanges between Japan and India. The Japan Education Fair and the Orientation Seminar were organized under this recognition.



*Participants at the Japan Education Fair held at Vivanta by Taj, M.G. Road, Bangalore*

# JAPANESE MARTIAL ARTS DEMONSTRATION

**Saturday, 3rd November 2012, at 4:30pm**

**Admission: Free**

**K.D. Jadhav Wrestling Stadium, Gate No. 3, Indira Gandhi Sports Complex, Near ITO, New Delhi**

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF BUDO

*Budo*, the martial ways of Japan, have their origins in the traditions of *bushido* – the way of the warrior. *Budo* is a time-honoured form of physical culture comprising of *judo*, *kendo*, *kyudo*, *sumo*, *karatedo*, *aikido*, *shorinji kempo*, *naginata* and *jukendo*. Practitioners study the skills while striving to unify mind, technique and body; develop his or her character; enhance their sense of morality; and to cultivate a respectful and courteous demeanour. Practised steadfastly, these admirable traits become intrinsic to the character of the practitioner. The *budo* arts serve as a path to self-perfection. This elevation of the human spirit will contribute to social prosperity and harmony, and ultimately, benefit the people of the world.

The Japanese Budo Delegation will present the spirit the Samurai through the demonstration of 12 disciplines of Japanese martial arts, which is the most important event of the 60th Anniversary of Japan-India Diplomatic Relations. All the 71 members of the delegation



are top-ranking experts in their respective disciplines. There will be nine modern Budo arts, and three classical martial arts.

## Order of Demonstration

1. KYUDO; 2. KINGAIRYU KARATE OKINAWA KOBUJUTSU; 3. AIKIDO; 4. KENDO; 5. KARATEDO; 6. ENSHINRYU IAI SUEMONOGIRI KENPO; 7. NAGINATA; 8. SHIBUKAWARYU JIJUTSU; 9. SHORINJI KEMPO; 10. JUDO; 11. JUKENDO; 12. SUMO

The Japanese Budo Delegation held their demonstrations in Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Brazil, and the highest number of attendance at a demonstration was around 4,500 martial arts lovers. We aim to touch or cross the number. Will you help us in reaching our goal? We sincerely hope that you will enjoy viewing the spectacle and at the same time understand and appreciate the spirit of the Samurai.

## 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.

Issued by: **Japan Information Centre, Embassy of Japan** 50-G, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, **New Delhi-110021**, Ph: 24122970-73 Fax: 24106976. **Consulate General of Japan** 1, M.L. Dahanukar Marg, Cumbala Hill, **Mumbai-400 026**, Tel: 23517101 Fax: 23517120. **Consulate General of Japan** 55, M.N. Sen Lane, Tollygunge, **Kolkata-700040**, Tel: 24211970 Fax: 24211971. **Consulate General of Japan** No. 12/1 Cenetoph Road, 1st Street, Teynampet, **Chennai-600018**, Tel: 24323860-3 Fax: 24323859. **Consulate of Japan** 1st Floor, 'Prestige Nebula', 8-14, Cubbon Road, **Bangalore 560001**, Tel: 40649999 Fax: 41660114. Printed at Ajanta Offset & Packagings Ltd., Delhi.

### 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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