


Japan Calling

☐ A quarterly newsletter from the Embassy of Japan, India 



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in New Delhi, on December 12, 2015

(Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office, the Government of Japan)

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Ambassador's Message



I came to India last November and officially started my duties on December 9, upon presenting my credentials to His Excellency Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India. I feel very pleased and much honoured to serve as the Ambassador of Japan to India as India has increasingly been playing an important role in the international community. I would like to further enhance our bilateral relationship, strengthening our cooperation in such fields as economy, business and security in particular. Furthermore, I would also like to develop our cooperation towards jointly addressing regional and global issues.

Just after my arrival, I had the privilege to receive the Prime Minister of Japan, Mr. Shinzo Abe, who visited India for his annual summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During this visit, both Prime Ministers signed the joint statement entitled “Japan and India Vision 2025: Special Strategic and Global Partnership – Working Together for Peace and Prosperity of the Indo-Pacific Region and the World”. This document marks the beginning of a new era between Japan and India. Both countries have taken big steps for further collaboration in areas such as the introduction of Japan's High Speed Railways technology to the Mumbai-Ahmedabad route, cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, transfer of Defence Equipment and

Technology, and Security Measures for Protection of Classified Military Information, as well as the Japan-India Make-in-India Special Finance Facility. Both Prime Ministers visited the sacred city of Varanasi and were warmly welcomed by the people there. This was an excellent opportunity to show the intimate, friendly relationship between the two countries.

While Japan and India enjoy a long lasting friendship, we are now forging an ever closer relationship. To strengthen this relationship, it is important to enhance the strategic dialogue between Japan and India. The two countries share the common basic values and interest in ensuring that the Indian and Pacific Oceans remain open, free and safe spaces for navigation.

Cooperation with India in the global context is also important. India has been playing an active role in the UN Security Council reform process. The G4 (Japan, India, Germany and Brazil) held its first summit in September this year, making progress in the UN reform efforts. There is also a large possibility for cooperation in global issues such as climate change and environment. I would like to put forward candid discussions with the Indian counterparts so that the two countries can tackle global issues hand in hand.

People-to-people exchanges between Japan and India have room for further development. In this regard, easing of visa procedures and the initiative to promote the visit by 10,000 young Indian talents to Japan in the next five years would stimulate vigorously the people-to-people exchange. I hope many more young Indian talents will engage in developing the relationship between both countries in coming years.

India is a large repository of world cultural heritage. As the Ambassador of Japan to India, I eagerly look forward to visiting many places as well as to meeting many people so I may better understand India during my tenure here.

Kenji Hiramatsu
Ambassador of Japan to India

December, 2015

Prime Minister Abe visits India (December 11 ~ 13, 2015)

Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, paid an official visit to India from December 11 to 13, 2015, at the invitation of Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India. This was his third visit to India as the Prime Minister, following January 2014. After arriving in Delhi on December 11, Prime Minister Abe first received a courtesy call from Ms. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India, and then accepted an honorary doctorate from the Jawaharlal Nehru University. Afterwards, the Prime Minister delivered an address at the Japan-India Innovation Seminar. On December 12, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe received a joint report from the Business Leaders Forum. Following that, Prime Minister Abe met with Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, President of India. Thereafter, he held talks with Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, and then held a signing ceremony and a joint press announcement. In the afternoon, the Prime Minister visited Varanasi with Prime Minister Modi, and observed religious ceremonies at a ghat near the Ganges. After finishing his schedule, the Prime Minister departed Delhi for Tokyo on December 13.

For more information, please visit the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, http://www.mofa.go.jp/s_sa/sw/in/page3e_000430.html

First Day (December 11, 2015)



A courtesy call from Ms. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India



An honorary doctorate from the Jawaharlal Nehru University



An address at the Japan-India Innovation Seminar



An address at the Japan-India Innovation Seminar



A Joint Report from the Business Leaders Forum



Prime Minister Abe with Prime Minister Modi at the Business Leaders Forum



Prime Minister Abe met with Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, President of India



Prime Minister Abe with President Mukherjee



Summit talks with Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India



Japan-India Summit talks in progress



Signing Ceremony and Joint Press Announcement



Signing Ceremony and Joint Press Announcement



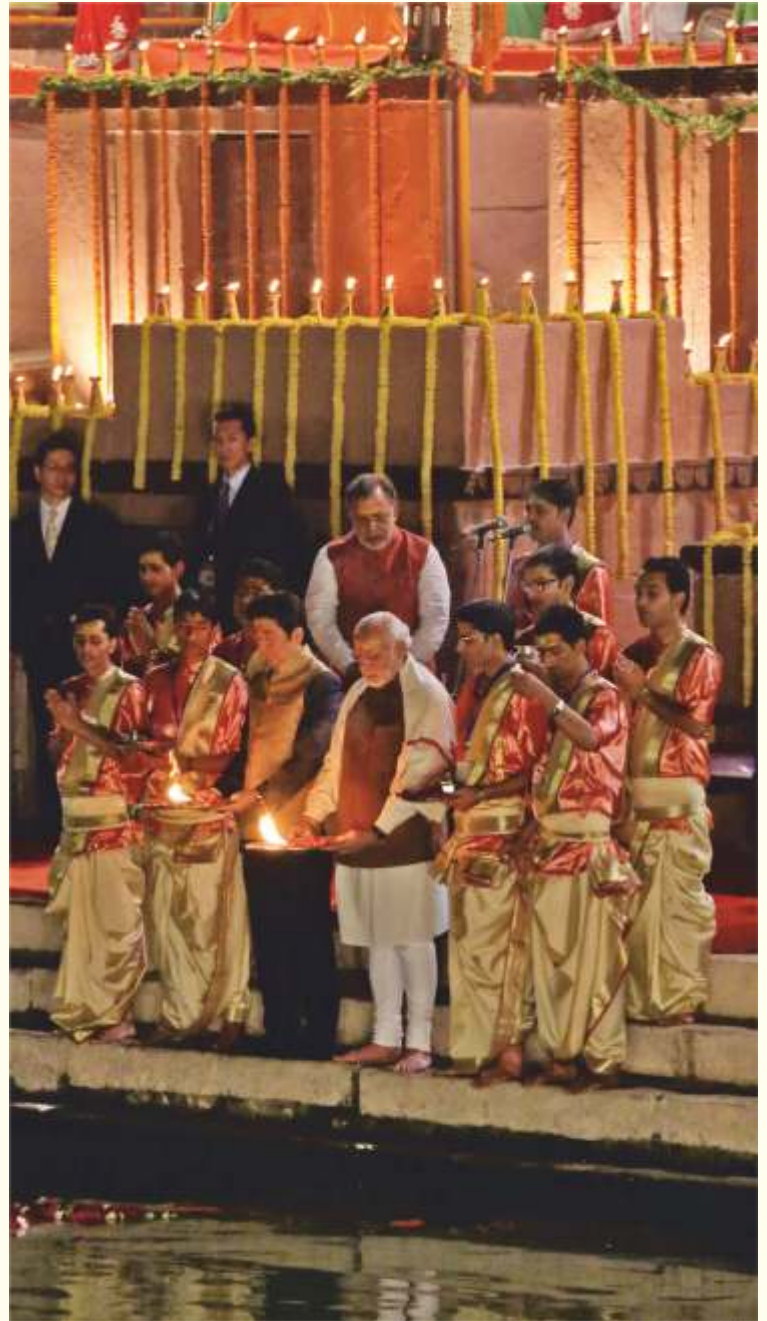
Prime Minister Abe and Prime Minister Modi being welcomed in Varanasi



Both Prime Ministers at Varanasi Ghat



Both Prime Ministers at Varanasi Ghat



PM Abe and PM Modi observing religious ceremonies at a Ghat near the Ganges

(All photos: Cabinet Public Relations Office, the Government of Japan)

Japan and India Vision 2025 Special Strategic and Global Partnership

Working Together for Peace and Prosperity of the Indo-Pacific Region and the World

- 1 H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, paid an official visit to India at the invitation of H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, from December 11 to 13, 2015.
- 2 Expressing satisfaction at the direction of bilateral engagement, the two Prime Ministers resolved to transform the Japan-India Special Strategic and Global Partnership, a key relationship with the largest potential for growth, into a deep, broad-based and action-oriented partnership, which reflects a broad convergence of their long-term political, economic and strategic goals.
- 7 Recognising the importance of people to people exchanges and cultural ties, the two Prime Ministers resolved to boost opportunities for study, tourism, youth exchanges and educational collaboration to deepen broad-based and diversified engagement between the two peoples.
- 8 With the view to realise the objectives of Japan and India Vision 2025, the two leaders decided to develop a comprehensive and concrete medium and long-term action plan.
- 9 The two Prime Ministers welcomed the conclusion of the Agreement concerning the Transfer of the Defence Equipment and Technology and the Agreement concerning Security Measures for the Protection of Classified Military Information, which further strengthens the foundation of deep strategic ties. Taking note of the Agreements, they reaffirmed their commitment to continue discussions to deepen the bilateral defence relationship including through two-way collaboration and technology cooperation, co-development and co-production. The two Prime Ministers expressed their intention to explore potential future projects on defence equipment and technology cooperation such as US-2 amphibian aircraft.

Vision for a Deep, Broad-based and Action-oriented Partnership

- 3 The peoples of Japan and India are guided by common cultural traditions including the heritage of Buddhism, and share commitment to the ideals of democracy, tolerance, pluralism and open society. Japan and India, two of the largest and oldest democracies in Asia having a high degree of congruence of political, economic and strategic interests, view each other as partners that have responsibility for and are capable of responding to global and regional challenges.
- 4 The two Prime Ministers reiterated their unwavering commitment to realise a peaceful, open, equitable, stable and rule-based order in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. Japan and India uphold the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity; peaceful settlement of disputes; democracy, human rights and the rule of law; open global trade regime; and freedom of navigation and overflight. They pledged to work for peace, security and development of the Indo-Pacific region toward 2025 underpinned by these principles.
- 5 The two Prime Ministers underlined the need for closer coordination and effective communication, bilaterally and with partners, to address existing and emerging challenges in spheres of security, stability and sustainable development. They underlined their determination to expand cooperation with other partners, to enhance connectivity in the Indo-Pacific region. Japan and India will work to strengthen regional economic and security forums and coordinate their actions to tackle global challenges including the reform of the United Nations, climate change as well as terrorism.
- 6 The two Prime Ministers view that imperatives of a stronger bilateral strategic partnership require deep and broad-based cooperation and concrete actions in defence, security, economic and cultural fields. Our future-oriented partnership raises our collaboration to a new level in areas of infrastructure, manufacturing and high technology, including advanced transportation systems, civil nuclear energy, solar power generation, space, biotechnology, rare earths and advanced materials.
- 10 The two Prime Ministers welcomed Japan's participation in the India-US Malabar Exercises on a regular basis, as it would help create stronger capabilities to deal with maritime challenges in the Indo-Pacific region, including through enhanced disaster response and mitigation capacity. They reaffirmed their desire to further develop dialogue and exchanges between the two countries in the security and defence fields, including through the full utilisation of '2+2 Dialogue', Defence Policy Dialogue, Military-to-Military Talks and Coast Guard to Coast Guard cooperation. The two Prime Ministers appreciated the decision to begin Air Force-to-Air Force staff Talks.
- 11 Highlighting the need to leverage their excellent bilateral relations to promote trilateral dialogues and cooperation with major partners in the region, the two Prime Ministers welcomed the holding of the Japan-India-U.S. Trilateral dialogue among the Foreign Ministers of the three countries in New York in September 2015. They noted with satisfaction the efforts of the three countries to seek closer cooperation in such areas as humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, regional connectivity as well as maritime security. The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction on the inaugural Japan-India-Australia Trilateral dialogue. They were of the view that these dialogue mechanisms could contribute to regional efforts to evolve an open, inclusive, stable and transparent economic, political and security architecture in the Indo-Pacific region.
- 12 Seeking the synergy between India's "Act East" policy and Japan's "Partnership for Quality Infrastructure", the two Prime Ministers decided to develop and strengthen reliable, sustainable

and resilient infrastructures that augment connectivity within India and between India and other countries in the region. The two Prime Ministers pledged to advance industrial networks and regional value chains with open, fair and transparent business environment in the region. They recognised the importance of enhancing their cooperation and coordination bilaterally and with other stakeholders to realise this strategic initiative.

- 13 The two Prime Ministers welcomed the agreement reached between the two Governments on the Agreement between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of India for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, and confirmed that this Agreement will be signed after the technical details are finalised, including those related to the necessary internal procedures.

Investing in the Future

- 14 The two Prime Ministers noted that India's railways modernisation and expansion plans open up commercial opportunities for Japanese companies in high speed rail, station re-development and rolling stock manufacturing. They welcomed the signing of memoranda on technological cooperation, and R&D collaboration in the railways sector.
- 15 The two Prime Ministers welcomed the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation on introduction of Japan's High Speed Railways (HSR) technologies (the Shinkansen system) to Mumbai-Ahmedabad route. Prime Minister Modi appreciated Japan's consideration of providing highly concessional yen loan for the HSR on Mumbai-Ahmedabad route. Both sides will explore further strengthening of their partnership in high speed railways, which is a high technology area having potential to transform India's transportation sector.
- 16 The two Prime Ministers stressed the need for further actions for investing in the future. Prime Minister Abe commended Prime Minister Modi's strong initiatives such as "Make in India," "Digital India," "Skill India," "Clean India" and "Smart City". Prime Minister Abe also expressed his intention to support India's efforts by sharing its advanced skills and technologies and through active mobilisation of Japanese public and private sector involvement, including Official Development Assistance (ODA).
- 17 The two Prime Ministers welcomed the steady progress to realise 3.5 trillion yen of public and private financing to India in five years under the last annual summit meeting.
- 18 They also welcomed the progress in the flagship projects such as the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), and reaffirmed the determination to expedite the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) projects. The two Prime Ministers further concurred to take the Chennai Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) project to the next stage of concrete implementation including by utilising ODA loan schemes and other facility measures. Indian side expressed a hope to attract US \$ 5.5 billion

of investment and other support.

- 19 In this context, Prime Minister Modi welcomed the "Japan-India Make-in-India Special Finance Facility" up to 1.5 trillion Yen by Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), which aims to promote direct investment of Japanese companies and trade from Japan to India, to support their business activities with counterparts in India, including development of necessary infrastructure, and to help materialise Make-in-India policy of the Government of India. Prime Minister Abe expressed his expectation on further enhancement of reform measures including in the financial sector. The two Prime Ministers decided to deepen mutual cooperation regarding the Make-in-India policy.
- 20 The two Prime Ministers recognised the invaluable role played by Japan's ODA in broadening, deepening and strengthening bilateral relations. Appreciating that India is one of the largest recipients of Japan's ODA, Prime Minister Modi thanked the people of Japan for their contribution to the building of social and physical infrastructure in India that is key to the country's development and modernisation. The two sides expressed their expectation that the total commitment of Japanese ODA yen loan to India in FY 2015 may reach around 400 billion yen, the highest ever provided to India, and concurred to accelerate their respective efforts with a view to achieving this goal.
- Prime Minister Modi welcomed the Japanese ODA loans of about 100 billion yen for the metro projects both in Chennai and Ahmedabad.
 - Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan's intention to provide ODA loans for the improvement of road network connectivity in northeastern states of India, the peripheral ring road surrounding Bengaluru, and the horticulture irrigation in Jharkhand.
 - Prime Minister Modi welcomed ongoing surveys regarding Mumbai Trans Harbour Link and the modernisation of ship recycling yards in Gujarat, and an expected survey for Tuticorin Outer Harbour.
- The two Prime Ministers also confirmed the importance of securing appropriate implementation of ODA projects.
- 21 Prime Minister Modi briefed Prime Minister Abe on his agenda of reforms to make India the investment destination with the most business-friendly environment, for which Prime Minister Abe expressed his appreciation. Prime Minister Modi reaffirmed his determination to improve the business environment in India.
- 22 The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed the intention to develop "Japan Industrial Townships (JITs)," with investment incentive for companies that would not be lower than under the prevailing policy framework such as Special Economic Zone (SEZ), and National Investment and Manufacturing Zone (NIMZ). Moreover, both sides will work toward evolving special packages for attracting Japanese investment in the Japanese Industrial Townships in India. The two Prime Ministers

- reaffirmed to further deepen bilateral economic and financial cooperation.
- 23 The two Prime Ministers positively appraised the work of "Japan Plus" and expressed strong hope that investment-related assistance, guidance and support extended by Japan Plus will become even more effective and efficient through enhancing coordination with stakeholders. Prime Minister Abe appreciated creation of "Core Group" chaired by Cabinet Secretary to coordinate and closely monitor the process to ensure that investments from Japan as envisaged in Japan-India Investment Promotion Partnership are facilitated.
 - 24 The two Prime Ministers stressed the importance of expansion in the two-way investment between Japan and India. The Japanese side expressed the intention of establishing a new mechanism, "Japan-India IoT Investment Initiative," to promote investment in Internet of Things (IoT) related area from India to Japan.
 - 25 The two Prime Ministers recognised the importance of close collaboration in the electricity and energy sector through such measures as use of high-efficiency and environmentally friendly coal-fired power generation technology, and Clean Coal Technology (CCT) including Integrated Gasification Fuel Cell (IGFC) once developed, and renewable energy and promotion of energy efficiency. Prime Minister Abe lauded India's effort to enhance contribution of renewables to its overall energy mix.
 - 26 Japan and India, as two countries seeking to transform into knowledge-based societies, expressed satisfaction to the continuous strengthening of their institutionalised Science and Technology cooperation, of which 2015 marks the 30th anniversary year. They shared their intention to raise the level of their ambition through the establishment of joint research laboratories; enhanced exchanges between young scientists and those under "Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science"; the establishment of joint research centres in India in the field of ICT; stem researchers.
 - 27 The Indian side appreciated Japan's support to Skill India Initiative through training at Industrial Training Institutions (ITIs), skills development for managers, curriculum development and the Skills Evaluation System Promotion Program. Both countries will further advance their cooperation by providing Indian trainees with opportunities to acquire industrial skills in Japan including under the Technical Intern Training Program.
 - 28 Acknowledging the importance of cooperation in the education sector, they welcomed the institutionalised exchange of doctoral and post-doctoral research fellows, and encouraged movement of professors and faculty between Japan and India. The two Prime Ministers invited their universities and academic institutions to further expand cooperation. Prime Minister Abe expressed that in the next five years, 10,000 young Indian talents will be visiting Japan under such frameworks as students exchange, IT training and short term exchanges, and hoped that it will provide solid bonds for our future relations.
 - 29 Recognising the importance of facilitating exchanges between people of the two countries, both leaders stressed the importance of further simplifying their visa procedures for nationals of each other.
 - 30 The two leaders welcomed the priorities for action in the Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and noted the importance of measures to mitigate the risk of disaster arising from earthquake, cyclone and tsunami, including flood control and early warning systems. They recognized the need to advance bilateral cooperation and collaboration in disaster risk reduction. Prime Minister Modi appreciated Japan's assistance to landslide prevention in the area of highway development.
 - 31 The two Prime Ministers appreciated the growing cooperation in the field of women empowerment and healthcare. Prime Minister Abe briefed Prime Minister Modi on his efforts to create a "society where all women shine," including by hosting "WAW!". Prime Minister Modi expressed that the target regarding quantitative share of generic medicines in Japan would be an excellent opportunity for collaboration between Japanese and Indian pharmaceutical companies.
 - 32 The two Prime Ministers welcomed enhanced partnership between Indian States and cities with Japanese prefectures and cities as these help bilateral relations grow deeper roots. They expressed satisfaction at the strengthened ties between the City of Kyoto and Varanasi, two ancient and historic cities integral to their respective cultural heritage.
Prime Minister Modi expressed his expectation that the two sides will explore to develop a convention centre in Varanasi.
 - 33 Sharing the view that the future of Asia needs to build on the positive influence of traditions of non-violence and democracy in Asia, the two Prime Ministers welcomed the Samvad conference held in India in September and looked forward to Japan hosting the next conference in January 2016.

Vision for Peace and Stability

- 34 Recognising that peace, stability and development in the Indo-Pacific region is indispensable to their national security and prosperity, they reaffirmed that close cooperation between Japan and India is the key to achieving peace and stability in the region. They welcomed the progress in strengthening the East Asia Summit to enhance dialogue on political and security issues, and reaffirmed their commitment to continue to work with all partners, especially with ASEAN which is at the core of EAS, to make EAS the premier leaders-led forum to discuss regional peace and security agenda.
- 35 Expressing their commitment to the principles of sovereign equality of all states as well as respect for their territorial integrity, they affirmed closer cooperation in safeguarding the global commons in maritime, space and cyber domains. They underscored the importance of international law including the

- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and peaceful resolution of disputes without use or threat of use of force; freedom of navigation and overflight and unimpeded lawful commerce in international waters.
- 36 In view of critical importance of the sea lanes of communications in the South China Sea for regional energy security and trade and commerce which underpins continued peace and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific, the two Prime Ministers noting the developments in the South China Sea called upon all States to avoid unilateral actions that could lead to tensions in the region. They were of the view that full and effective implementation of the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea and early conclusion of the negotiations to establish a Code of Conduct in the South China Sea by consensus will contribute to peace and stability of the region. They decided to hold regular close consultations on the issues related to maritime safety and security of sea lanes of communication.
- 37 Sharing their concerns about the growing threat and universal reach of extremism, the two Prime Ministers reiterated their strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations with 'zero tolerance' and reaffirmed their deep concern over the continued threat posed by terrorists and terrorist groups. They called upon all countries to implement the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1267 and other relevant resolutions designating terrorist entities. They also called for eliminating terrorist safe havens and infrastructure, in disrupting terrorist networks and financing channels, and stopping cross-border movement of terrorists. They underlined the need for all countries to effectively deal with trans-national terrorism emanating from their territory. They emphasised that the evolving character of terrorism called for stronger international partnership in combating terrorism, including through increased sharing of information and intelligence. They affirmed the importance of bringing the perpetrators of terrorist attacks including those of November 2008 terrorist attack in Mumbai to justice.
- 38 The two Prime Ministers expressed concern over North Korea's continued development of its nuclear weapons and ballistic missile programmes, including its uranium enrichment activities. They urged North Korea to fully comply with its international obligations, including under relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and to take actions towards the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. They also urged North Korea to address at the earliest the abductions issue.
- 39 Prime Minister Abe briefed Prime Minister Modi on Japan's efforts, including the "Proactive Contribution to Peace" based on the principle of international cooperation and the "Legislation for Peace and Security," to contribute even more to peace, stability and prosperity of the region and the international community. Prime Minister Modi welcomed and supported Japan's efforts and desire to enhance its contribution to global peace, stability and prosperity.
- 40 The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their intention to work together for the early realisation of U.N. reforms, particularly the Security Council reform, to better reflect the realities of the international community in the 21st century. They welcomed the recent developments in the Inter-Governmental Negotiation (IGN) process, towards the launch of text-based negotiations, and reaffirmed their determination to redouble their efforts towards achieving concrete outcomes during the 70th Session of the U.N. General Assembly. The two Prime Ministers reiterated their support for each other's candidature, based on the firmly shared recognition that Japan and India are legitimate candidates for permanent membership in an expanded Security Council.
- 41 Recognising India as the largest democracy and a fast growing large economy in the Asia-Pacific region, the Japanese side conveyed its support to India's membership of the APEC as a positive contribution to the economic integration in the region.
- 42 The two Prime Ministers, on the occasion of the 70th year since the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, reaffirmed their shared commitment to the total elimination of nuclear weapons. They called for an immediate commencement and early conclusion of negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty (FMCT) on the basis of Shannon Mandate. In this context, Prime Minister Abe stressed the importance of early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) which should lead to nuclear disarmament. They also supported the strengthening of international cooperation to address the challenges of nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism.
- 43 The two Prime Ministers recognised the importance of effective national export control systems. Japan welcomed India's intensified engagement with export control regimes . The two Prime Ministers affirmed their commitment to work together for India to become a full member in the four international export control regimes: Nuclear Suppliers Group, Missile Technology Control Regime, Wassenaar Arrangement and Australia Group, with the aim of strengthening the international non- proliferation efforts.

Conclusion:

- 44 H.E. Mr Shinzo Abe, the Prime Minister of Japan, thanked the Government and the people of India for their warm hospitality and extended a cordial invitation to H.E. Mr Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India, to visit Japan at a mutually convenient time for the next annual summit meeting. Prime Minister Modi accepted the invitation with appreciation. The dates of the visit will be decided through diplomatic channels.

The World Assembly for Women in Tokyo: WAW! 2015

With the successful conclusion of WAW! Tokyo 2014, the Government of Japan have hosted *The World Assembly for Women in Tokyo: WAW! 2015*, from August 28 to August 29, 2015. This symposium is one of the efforts to achieve 'A Society where Women Shine', which continues to be one of the priority issues of the Abe Administration. Having many leading figures from all over the world in the symposium, they had lively discussions on various issues concerning women. From India, Ms. Simran Lal, CEO, Good Earth, and Ms. Sonia Singh, Editorial Director, NDTV, attended.

(More information on WAW! 2015 is available at: http://www.mofa.go.jp/jp/hr_ha/page4e_000310.html)



(Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office, the Government of Japan)

State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Minoru Kiuchi, visits India



State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Minoru Kiuchi, attended the *Global Hindu-Buddhist Initiative on Conflict Avoidance and Environment Consciousness* hosted by Vivekananda International Foundation, on September 3, 2015. In his speech on the occasion, Mr. Kiuchi stated that ideas such as freedom, democracy, the respect for fundamental human rights, and the peaceful settlement of conflicts have been part of Asian religions and thought since ancient times. In the opening session of the event, a video message from Prime Minister Abe and a speech by Prime Minister Modi were played. The next seminar will be held at Tokyo in January 2016.

During his visit, Mr. Kiuchi also graced the Send-off Reception hosted by then Ambassador of Japan to India, Mr. Takeshi Yagi, at the Embassy of Japan, on September 2, 2015, for the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship recipients.

State Minister of Cabinet Office, Mr. Fumiaki Matsumoto, attends Asian Leaders' Meeting towards Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia



State Minister of Cabinet Office, Mr. Fumiaki Matsumoto, visited India on November 17, 2015. During his visit, State Minister Matsumoto attended the *Asian Leaders' Meeting towards Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia* and had bilateral meetings with representatives from participating countries and an international organization.



Joint Maritime Exercise by Japan, the US and India



On the deck of “Theodore Roosevelt”

The *Malabar Maritime Joint Exercise* was conducted from October 14 to 19, 2015, in the Bay of Bengal. Five vessels from India and four vessels from the US, as well as patrol airplanes of India and the US participated in this joint exercise. Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) dispatched the latest Destroyer “Fuyuzuki”. Japan was invited to the joint exercise for the first time in 2007, which was conducted in the Bay of Bengal. Japan participated in the following exercises in 2009 and 2014 in the sea near Okinawa, and it was the fourth time for Japan to participate in the joint exercise. Mr. Takeshi Yagi, then Ambassador of Japan to India, visited Tamil Nadu from October 17 to 18, 2015, to observe the joint naval exercise.

The Seminar on Japan's Diplomacy & Security Policy and Japan-India Relationship



Prof. Katsuyuki Yakushiji (centre) speaking at the seminar

The Seminar on Japan's Diplomacy & Security Policy and Japan-India Relationship was held on September 28, 2015, at the India International Centre, New Delhi, under a collaboration between the Indian Association of Foreign Affairs' Correspondents (IAFAC) and the Embassy of Japan in New Delhi. Prof. Katsuyuki Yakushiji of Toyo University/Adjunct Fellow, The Japan Institute of International Affairs, attended and delivered the keynote address at the seminar. Shri Aftab Seth, former Ambassador of India to Japan, and Dr. K.V. Kesavan, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, also attended and addressed the seminar on the subject of Japan-India Relationship.

The Panel Discussion on Japan-India Relationship

The Panel Discussion on Japan-India Relationship was held at the Ambassador's Residence, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi, on September 24, 2015. After opening remarks by Mr. Takeshi Yagi, then Ambassador of Japan to India, Mr. Aftab Seth, Former Ambassador of India to Japan, made an address on the Japan-India relationship. Thereafter, the panel discussion took place with the participation of distinguished panelists comprising Mr. Wajahat Habibullah, Former Chairman - Minorities Commission, Mr. Sudeep Sen, Poet, and Mr. Biren Nanda, Former Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India in Japan and Ambassador of India to Indonesia and Australia. Mr. Shiv Shankar Mukherji, Former Ambassador of India to Egypt, South Africa, Nepal and UK, Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, and Director-General - Indian Council for Cultural Relations, acted as the moderator of the panel discussion.



The Panel Discussion in progress

The Japan-India Conference at ICS



Prof. Masazumi Wakatabe



Prof. Mie Oba

The Institute of Chinese Studies, in collaboration with the Embassy of Japan and India International Centre, organized a one-day conference titled *Regional and Global Dynamics in India-Japan Relations* on October 8, 2015. The purpose of the conference was to offer a new perspective on India-Japan relations at a time of political dynamism in both countries, under Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prof. Masazumi Wakatabe, School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University, and Prof. Mie Oba, Liberal Arts Section, Faculty of Engineering, Tokyo University of Science, both came from Japan and attended as speakers at the conference.

India-Japan Partnership in the Asian Century – the Conference at ORF



A conference titled *India-Japan Partnership in the Asian Century* was organised on October 26, 2015 by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi. The conference was chaired by Mr. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs. ORF Director, Mr Sunjoy Joshi, gave the opening remarks, and closing remarks were made by Dr. C. Raja Mohan, Head - Strategic Studies and Distinguished Fellow, ORF. Mr. Yukio Okamoto, Special Advisor to former



Japanese Prime Ministers Ryutaro Hashimoto and Junichiro Koizumi, stated in his keynote speech that he believed that, a democratic and robust India is needed in the heart of Asia as an anchor in these uncertain times. He said, in such a scenario, the need of a security architecture in the region through bilateral relations between Japan and India is encouraged.

(Report of the conference can be accessed at: <http://orfonline.org/cms/sites/orfonline/modules/report/ReportDetail.html?cmaid=90851&mmacmaid=90849>)

Visit to Japan by Honourable Railway Minister, Sh. Suresh Prabhu

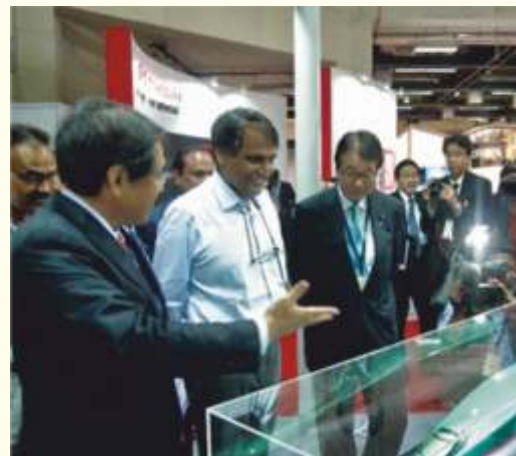


In response to the invitation from Mr. Ohta, Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Sh. Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Railway Minister of India, visited Japan from September 6 to 9, 2015. He met several Japanese Ministers including Prime Minister Abe and Minister Ohta (MLIT) and discussed cooperation in various fields such as the High Speed Railway Project.

State Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Mr. Junzo Yamamoto, attends Railway Seminar in Delhi



State Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Mr. Junzo Yamamoto, visited Delhi from October 13 to 16, 2015. He participated in the Japan Railway Seminar that the Government of Japan organized as the Partner Country and also had a meeting with Sh. Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Railway Minister of India, on the cooperation in the railway field.



Chief Minister of Maharashtra visits Japan

On September 11, 2015, Mr. Yoichi Miyazawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, held a meeting with Mr. Devendra Fadnavis, Honourable Chief Minister of Maharashtra, India, and both sides signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on Industrial Cooperation in Maharashtra.

The conclusion of this MOC is part of a broader effort to achieve the goal of doubling Japan's foreign direct investment and the number of Japanese companies in India in five years, which was agreed at the Japan-India Summit Meeting in September 2014.



Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh visits Japan



On October 1, 2015, Mr. Yoichi Miyazawa, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, held a meeting with Mr. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh in India, and they signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) for further development and investment in Madhya Pradesh.

State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Yosuke Takagi, visits India



From October 21 to 24, 2015, Mr. Yosuke Takagi, State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, visited India and had meetings with H.E. Mr. Nara Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh (AP), in Vijayawada and Amaravati, AP, India. While there, he participated in a ground breaking ceremony for the construction of Amaravati, the new state capital of AP, concluded the second memorandum of cooperation between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the State Government of AP, and had a meeting in Delhi to exchange views with Japanese companies operating in India.



India-Japan seminar on enhancement of living environment in Varanasi



On November 17, 2015, JICA organized a *seminar on enhancement of living environment in Varanasi* through improved sanitation system. The Seminar was an important opportunity to discuss cooperation between Japan and India in Varanasi, including the efforts undertaken for Kyoto-Varanasi Partnership, which was announced at the time of the Japan-India summit meeting during the visit by Prime Minister Modi to Japan in September last year. The seminar was participated by high-level representatives and experts from both Japan and India, including Honorable Minister of State for Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Mr. Babul Supriyo Baral, Honorable Commissioner of Varanasi Division, Mr. Nitin Gokarn, Honorable Mayor of Varanasi City, Mr. Ram Gopal Mohale, and representatives of the City of Kyoto and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan, Mr. Yutaka Kikuta.

India-Japan Economic Relations: Bilateral Dimensions

The conference titled *India-Japan Economic Relations: Bilateral Dimensions*, co-hosted by ICRIER and the Embassy of Japan, was held on November 17, 2015. About 170 people including journalists and members of the business sector and diplomatic corps attended the conference. After opening remarks by the Union Railway Minister Mr. Suresh Prabhu, active discussions were held on the Japan-India economic relationship, on areas such as manufacturing, infrastructure and connectivity, IT sector, as well as financial sector. Ambassador H.K. Singh, Professor for Strategic Studies, ICRIER, Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, ICRIER, and Mr. Takeshi Yagi, then Ambassador of Japan, also spoke on the occasion.



Updates from Consulates

KOLKATA



Wadaiko Drummer, Mr. Yuhei Motoyama, who visited India under the Japan Foundation scheme, performed with the teachers and students of Department of Performing Arts of Rabindra Bharati University, at Uday Shankar Hall, on August 19, 2015. More than 250 students of Shangeet Bhawan were fascinated by the Wadaiko performance.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)



Ms. Hiroko Nagahama, calligraphy teacher from Japan, demonstrated Shodo, an art of writing in Japanese through calligraphy, at a workshop held at University of Calcutta, in presence of Consul-General of Japan in Kolkata, Mr. Kazumi Endo, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sugata Marjit, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs and Finance, Prof. Sonali Chakravarti Banerjee, and Former Registrar, Dr. Basab Chaudhuri of Calcutta University, on August 25, 2015. Participants enjoyed their first experience of drawing kanji characters with brushes.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)



Consul-General of Japan in Kolkata, Mr. Kazumi Endo, handing over the prize to the winners of 18th Nihongo Quiz Contest, held at Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture, on September 26, 2015. Students from different language institutes in Kolkata had participated to explore their knowledge of Japanese language.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)



Inauguration of Elementary Level Japanese Language Pilot Project at Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on October 29, 2015, in presence of Consul-General of Japan in Kolkata, Mr. Kazumi Endo, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University, Prof. Asoka K. Das, Secretary - Higher Education, Government of Odisha, Dr. Gagan K. Dhal, and Director General of Japan Foundation, New Delhi, Mr. Kaoru Miyamoto.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)

CHENNAI



Mrs. Malathi Pandurang, Ikebana Teacher from Chennai (Centre), Mr. Edgar Morris, Chairman - Alumni Society of AOTS Kerala from Kochi (2nd from right) and Mrs. Naganath, on behalf of Mr. B. Rama Bhadra, President & CEO, Asa Bhanu Group from Hyderabad (2nd from left), received the Commendation for their distinguished service in contributing to deepening of mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and India, from Mr. Seiji Baba, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, at his official residence, on August 6, 2015.

(Photo: Makkal Kural)



Mr. Seiji Baba, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, participating in the launching ceremony of 'Smart Village' CSR initiative by Mitsubishi Corporation, and celebration of 90th Birthday of Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Founder Chairman, MS Swaminathan Research Institute (Centre), along with Mr. N. Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh (1st from left), at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, on August 13, 2015.

(Photo: Mitsubishi Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.)



Mr. Seiji Baba, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, making a special address at Country Seminar - JAPAN during the Tamil Nadu Global Investors Meet 2015, at Chennai Trade Centre, on September 9-10, 2015. This event is a part of efforts by the Government of Tamil Nadu to facilitate on-going investments and to attract more investments in the state.

(Photo: JETRO Chennai)



Mr. Koji Sugiyama, Deputy Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, lighting a lamp with other guests at the inauguration of Japanese Film Festival organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai and ABK-AOTS Dosokai Coimbatore Chapter, in association with Konangal Film Society, on September 19-20, 2015, at Convention Hall, PSG Institute of Management, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

(Photo: ABK-AOTS Dosokai, Coimbatore Chapter)

MUMBAI



Mr. Yoshiaki Ito, Consul-General of Japan in Mumbai, and Mrs Ito, attended an Ikebana Demonstration by Mrs. Mika Otani (5th from right), Master of Sogetsu School, Japan. The demonstration was organized by Ikebana International on August 21, 2015 at Hotel Sea Princess in Mumbai. Mrs. Poonam Dhillon, actress (3rd from right), was present at the event.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)



Students of Japanese language performing Japanese dance at 'INDRADHANUSH' cultural festival organized by Teachers Association of Japanese, Mumbai, and the Consulate-General of Japan in Mumbai. The program was held on September 13, 2015 at the K.J. Somaiya Engineering College.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)



Mr. Yoshiaki Ito, Consul-General of Japan in Mumbai, paid a courtesy visit to North Mumbai constituency of Mr. Gopal Shetty (right), Member of Parliament, on October 8, 2015.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)



Consul-General of Japan, Mr. Yoshiaki Ito, inaugurated the popular Amba Festival-2015 on October 15, 2015 at Gandhi Square at Amravati city, in Maharashtra.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)

BENGALURU



Mr. Soichiro Tanaka, Vice-Consul of Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru, attended the 70th anniversary of “Hiroshima Day” at Anthony Claret School, on August 6, 2015, in memory of the victims of Hiroshima. Japanese students from Hiroshima Prefecture were also invited to this event. The students presented a seminar on “Maintaining and Sustaining Peace in a Diverse and Complex World”.

(Photo: Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru)



Mr. Junichi Kawaue, Head of Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru, paid a courtesy call on The Japanese Language School (JLS) on August 22, 2015. The JLS was established by Ms. Shamala Ganesh (Grand Master) in 1984. The school has many students who make tireless efforts to master the Japanese Language.

(Photo: Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru)



Mr. Junichi Kawaue, Head of Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru, and Mr. Aoki, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV), visited a village having the sericulture industry in Ramanagara, on August 26, 2015. The “Sericulture-Project” was started and sponsored by JICA. The Sericulture project has contributed to the economy of many households of the village.

(Photo: Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru)



Mr. Junichi Kawaue, Head of Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru, attended the inaugural ceremony of the tour plan to Japan of Soonangi Travels & Tours (P) Ltd., Bengaluru, at St, Marks Hotel, on September 25, 2015. Mr. Kawaue provided a video (Japan Video Topics) to introduce Japanese culture to the Indian gathering and it was a good opportunity for them to know more about Japan.

(Photo: Consulate of Japan in Bengaluru)

EXPLORING JAPAN: Japan's Traditional Industries

Long-lasting traditional industries exist everywhere in Japan. Exquisite products are created by craftsmen who are not only highly skilled, but combine their expertise with elements of nature, such as clean water, air and environment. Opportunities exist for visitors from abroad to glimpse how some of the Japanese traditional products are made. A list of selected factories and workshops that welcome visitors and offer them an interesting insight into another facet of Japan is available at <https://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/location/rtg/pdf/pg-803.pdf>.

To see more pictures or find information about travelling in Japan, visit the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) website <http://www.jnto.go.jp/>.



Soy Sauce Brewing [Wakayama Prefecture]

©Wakayama Prefecture/©JNTO



Daio Wasabi Farm [Nagano Prefecture]

©Nagano Prefecture/©JNTO



Tea Picking Experience [Shizuoka Prefecture]

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Yunotsu Pottery House [Shimane Prefecture]

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Hoashi Family Sake Brewery [Oita Prefecture]

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Kiriko Lantern Museum [Ishikawa Prefecture]

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2015 Autumn Imperial Decorations



Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun to Mr. Aftab Seth, Former Ambassador of India to Japan, for his contribution to promoting friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and India.



The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon to Mr. Brij Mohan Tankha, Former Professor at the Department of Chinese and Japanese Studies of Delhi University, for his contribution to the promotion of Japanese studies in India.



The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette to Dr. Sarita Nagpal, Former Deputy Director General, Confederation of Indian Industry, for her contribution to disseminating Japanese culture of manufacturing in India.

2015 Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendations



Dr. Prem Motwani



Mr. Tatsuo Nishimoto

Dr. Prem Motwani, Professor of Japanese Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Mr. Tatsuo Nishimoto, Former Secretary General, Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in India (JCCII), have been selected as awardees of this year's Foreign Minister's Commendations.

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

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