

2nd Meeting of Japan-India Act East Forum

The 2nd meeting of “Japan-India Act East Forum” was held on 8th October under the co-chairmanship of Ambassador Kenji Hiramatsu and Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale.

The Forum aims to further expand the cooperation between Japan and India in North East and to strengthen the relationship between Japan and North East, as well as that between Japan and India. In this regard, the Forum discusses cooperation in various fields and promotes Japan’s cooperation in the region.

The Forum is comprised of Embassy of Japan and other government-affiliated Japanese organizations based in New Delhi from Japan’s side; the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and other relevant government offices as well as State governments of the NER from India’s side.

In the second meeting, Foreign Secretary Vijay Keshav Gokhale expressed his expectations for productive discussions and concretization of cooperation as the assistance to the NER is a priority, especially in terms of connectivity.

Ambassador Hiramatsu emphasized the breadth of cooperation in the NER, ranging from connectivity to people-to-people exchanges and the need to come up with concrete projects. The Ambassador further expressed his gratitude for the Forum for its emerging sense of community where all the stakeholders join their efforts to cooperate for the NER.

The Forum witnessed lively discussions, in which the representatives from relevant ministries and States of the NER shared their views. As a result of the meeting, future orientation of cooperation in North East was confirmed, as attached, ranging from the road and bridge connectivity projects; forest management projects in States of Tripura and Meghalaya; a new initiative to utilize bamboo which is abundant in the region; to people-to-people exchanges.



Ambassador Hiramatsu delivering his Inaugural address at the Forum (center)



Overview of the session