

Japan Calling

December 2018

🇯🇵 A quarterly newsletter from the Embassy of Japan in India 🇮🇳



Prime Minister Modi made an Official Working Visit to Japan, from 27th to 29th October, to attend the annual Japan-India Summit Meeting with Prime Minister Abe, in Tokyo.

(Photo: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan)

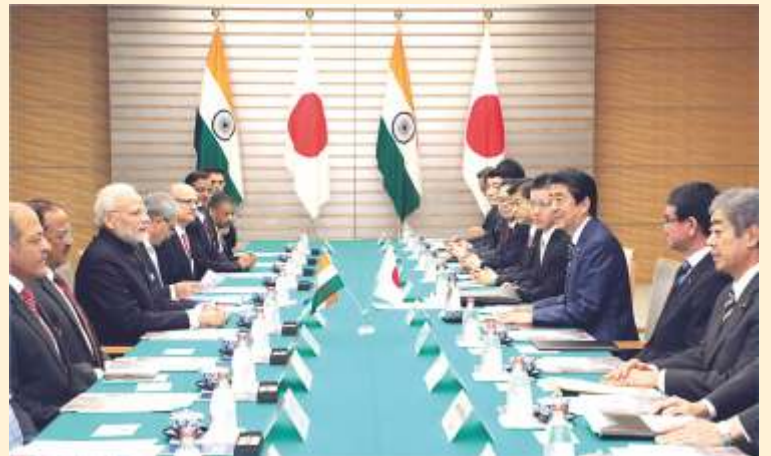
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Prime Minister Modi Visits Japan

From 27th to 29th October, Prime Minister Modi made an Official Working Visit to Japan. During the visit, PM Abe and PM Modi held the Annual Japan-India Bilateral Summit meeting, as well as had a banquet hosted by PM Abe, among other programs. Furthermore, PM Abe invited PM Modi to his private villa in Yamanashi Prefecture, where the two leaders deepened their personal bond.

For further information : https://www.mofa.go.jp/s_sa/sw/in/page3_002603.html



(Photos: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan)

Summary of Japan-India Summit Meeting

October 29, 2018

On Monday, October 29, from 6:10 p.m. to 7:20 p.m., Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, held a Japan-India Summit Meeting with H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India. The overview of the meeting is as follows. After the meeting, the two leaders signed a Japan-India Vision Statement.

1 Beginning

Prime Minister Abe stated that the annual reciprocal visits are the driving force of the rapidly-advancing Japan-India relationship, expressed the view that a strong India benefits Japan and a strong Japan benefits India, and explained that the Japan-India relationship is blessed with the greatest potential for development of any bilateral relationship in the world. Prime Minister Abe explained that together with Prime Minister Modi, he hopes to ensure that this bilateral relationship produces results on all fronts and contributes to the peace and prosperity of the region and the world.

In response, Prime Minister Modi explained that he was inspired by the Japanese side's welcome, stated that he will never forget being invited to Prime Minister Abe's country house, and expressed the view that a strong India and strong Japan will be able to fulfill roles for Asia and for the world. Prime Minister Modi stated that he hopes to broaden the historical bilateral relationship into new areas and strengthen exchanges.

2 Security

Prime Minister Abe welcomed the launching of a "2 + 2" Ministerial Meeting, and explained that Japan and India will move forward with cooperative projects in Bangladesh and elsewhere in order to increase regional connectivity. Prime Minister Abe welcomed the steady progress being made with cooperation, including the commencement of negotiations on the Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA), the creation of an implementing arrangement for deeper cooperation between the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force and the Indian Navy, the strengthening of exchanges among all the armed forces, and the establishment of a Japan-India Space Dialogue.

Prime Minister Modi stated that cooperation in the security field is progressing, appreciated the launching of "2 + 2" Ministerial Meeting and progress with cooperation among the armed forces, and expressed the view that maritime and space cooperation will be important in the future, while mentioning the commencement of the ACSA negotiations, the Japan-India Space Dialogue, and defense equipment cooperation.

The two leaders shared the view that the two countries will continue to discuss US-2 amphibian aircraft.

3 Economic cooperation, high-speed rail

Prime Minister Abe welcomed the steady progress with high-speed rail, including a new yen loan, stated that Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) technical cooperation is currently being implemented in order to contribute to rail safety on India's existing lines, and explained that Japan has decided on seven yen loans, including for the construction of a bridge in India's North Eastern region that will contribute to high-speed rail and stronger connectivity.

Prime Minister Modi welcomed progress with the high-speed rail project, and expressed gratitude for Japan's cooperation. Prime Minister Modi explained that India's citizens highly appreciate and are grateful for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), including yen loans.

4 Economic relations

Prime Minister Abe mentioned the agreement to conclude a Bilateral Swap Agreement, and explained that he intends to move ahead with promoting start-ups and exchanges of IT personnel under the Japan-India Digital Partnership, coordinating the India longevity plan and Japan's Asia Health and Wellbeing Initiative, cooperating in the field of agriculture including food processing,

opening new Japan-India Institutes for Manufacturing (JIMs), promoting investment through the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH), and cooperating in the energy field including the agreement of the Japan-India Energy Transition Cooperation Plan.

Prime Minister Modi welcomed that Japanese companies are investing and setting up businesses in India, and are contributing to 'Make in India', and he explained that India is attaching importance to cooperation with Japan in the fields of IT, energy, health and agriculture, and intends to realize cooperation.

With regard to Japan-India civil nuclear cooperation, the two leaders shared the view that discussions will continue to be held in a working group, based on agreement last year.

5 People-to-people exchanges

Prime Minister Abe stated that he hoped to fundamentally expand people-to-people exchanges in the fields of tourism, business and sports and between experts, regional governments and Diet members among others in the lead up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, and noted that Japan has decided to further ease visa requirements for nationals of India from January next year. Prime Minister Abe expressed gratitude for cooperation with setting up the Japanese Language Teachers' Training Center in Delhi, and explained that he hopes to continue to secure Prime Minister Modi's cooperation towards popularizing the Japanese language.

Prime Minister Modi expressed approval for expanding people-to-people exchanges, and welcomed the easing of visa requirements.

6 Global challenges

(1) International Solar Alliance (ISA)

Prime Minister Abe explained that Japan has decided to accept the Framework Agreement on the establishment of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) led by India and hopes to coordinate more closely on strengthening international efforts for energy transitions and decarbonization. Prime Minister Modi welcomed Japan's acceptance of the framework agreement.

(2) United Nations (UN) reform

The two leaders shared the view to accelerate the G4's efforts to achieve concrete progress with UN Security Council (UNSC) reform.

(3) Disarmament and nonproliferation

Prime Minister Abe expressed the view that Japan and India share the goal of realizing a world without nuclear weapons, and explained that Japan attaches importance to the universalization of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and the prompt entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and intends to continue to hold dialogue.

Prime Minister Modi acknowledged that aiming for a world without nuclear weapons is a common goal.

(4) Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), World Trade Organization (WTO)

Prime Minister Abe stated that amid mounting concerns about protectionism, he will have Mr. Hiroshige Seko, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, and Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation of India, work solidly in order to realize a substantial conclusion of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations this year by the 16 countries including India, towards the realization of a free and open Indo-Pacific. Furthermore, Prime Minister Abe stated that WTO reform is important in order to maintain and strengthen the multilateral trading system.

Prime Minister Modi stated that he also intends to cooperate well on the RCEP.

(5) Ship recycling

Prime Minister Abe expressed expectation towards India's early conclusion of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships.

1st Japan-India Army Joint Exercise “Dharma Guardian 2018” Successfully Completed

From 1st to 14th November, the Japanese contingent from 32 Infantry Regiment and Indian Contingent from 6th Gorkha Rifles conducted their first-ever joint military exercise at the Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School (CIJW), Mizoram.

During the final exercise, both the contingents trained on establishment of mobile check post, searching and restraining the terrorists.

Through this exercise, both the contingents built and promoted positive relations, and improved tactical skills in Counter Terrorism Environment. The exercise between Japan Ground Self Defense Force (JGSDF) and the Indian Army will contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

1st Japan-India Bilateral Air Training “Shinyuu Maitri 18” and US-India Bilateral Air Exercise “Cope India 18” Conducted

From 3rd to 7th December, Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) and Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted their first bilateral training “Shinyuu Maitri-18” at Air Force Station - Agra. C-2 transport aircraft of JASDF joined the training with C-17 and AN-32 transport aircrafts of the IAF. Both countries enhanced bilateral defense cooperation and mutual ties through this training.

Around the same time, 4 members of JASDF joined the US-India bilateral air exercise “Cope India-18” as observers. “Cope India 18” was conducted at Air Force Station - Kalaikunda and Air Force Station - Panagarh.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Commemoration of the 62nd Constitution Day of AALCO Held

On 9th November, Mr. Hideki Asari, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, attended the reception for the 62nd Constitution Day of Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (AALCO), and gave an address as the hosting country of this year's 57th Annual Session of AALCO, which was recently held in Tokyo from Oct 8-12. Minister Asari touched upon the success of the Annual Session, and elaborated on the key highlights of the Session. Furthermore, Minister Asari reiterated Japan's commitment to contribute to advancing the role of AALCO as a legal consultative body that brings Asia and Africa together.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

1st Japan-India Food Dialogue Held

On 26th September, the 1st Japan-India Food Dialogue was held in Delhi. Ambassador Hiramatsu, accompanied by 13 leading Japanese food and cold-chain companies, had discussions with the Indian delegation, led by the Minister of Food Processing Industries, Hon. Harsimrat Kaur Badal. The participants exchanged views so as to further promote the investment in food processing and post-processing marketing.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

State Minister for Environment Visits India and Promotes Johkasou

Mr. Tadahiko Ito, State Minister of the Environment of Japan, visited Delhi from 30th September through 2nd October. During the stay, Mr. Ito had discussions with Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Hon. Uma Bharti, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hon. Hardeep Singh Puri, and Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Hon. Mahesh Sharma, to discuss Japan's cooperation with India in the environmental field, such as waste management, climate change, and air quality management. The State Environment Minister also attended the Mahatma Gandhi International Sanitation Convention, and, during the conference, presented "Johkasou", or on-site sewer treatment system of Japan, describing Japan's experience of cooperation with other countries to improve public sanitation. On the final day of the trip, Mr. Ito visited Muni International School in Delhi, to which he made a personal donation of books on "Mottainai" spirit. Pupils of the school warmly welcomed Mr. Ito and performed Japanese "Mottainai" stories in Japanese for him.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Sakura Science Alum Reunion Held

The 1st Indian alum reunion of Sakura Science Plan students was held on 5th October. Sakura Science Plan is a one to three-week-long invitation programme for students and junior researchers of Asia, run by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) since 2014, with the aim of promoting research and cultural exchanges as well as international understanding. Sakura Science Plan has invited over 1,500 Indian youths until now.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Uttarakhand

On 7th October, Ambassador Hiramatsu visited Dehradun, Uttarakhand, to attend the "Destination Uttarakhand Investment Summit 2018" as the representative of Japan, a Partner Country of the event. Prime Minister Narendra Modi officiated the investment summit. Ambassador Hiramatsu described the existing Japan-Uttarakhand relations, including the presence of Japanese investors in the state. Ambassador Hiramatsu also had a bilateral meeting with the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Hon. Trivendra Singh Rawat, and discussed future cooperation between Japan and Uttarakhand.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

2nd Act East Forum Convenes

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, Mr. Vijay Gokhale. The Forum aims to further expand the cooperation between Japan and India in India's North East and to strengthen the relationship between Japan and the region.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Delhi Metro Pink Line Extends



(Photo: Delhi Metro Rail Corporation)

The 17.9 km section of Delhi Metro Pink Line between Trilokpuri Sanjay Lake and Shiv Vihar, consisting of 15 stations, was newly flagged off on 31st October with the support of Japan. Japanese principles of railway safety management and project management are applied to the newly-opened line, while Mitsubishi Electric and Mitsui & Co. were roped in for supply of rolling stocks and railway equipment, respectively.

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Odisha

On 12th November, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the "Make in Odisha Conclave 2018" held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Japan participated in this investors' summit as its only partner country. Ambassador Hiramatsu highlighted the new height of Japan-India relations following PM Modi's recent visit to Japan, and touched upon Japanese public and private economic cooperation in Odisha. On 12th November, Ambassador Hiramatsu called on the Chief Minister of Odisha, Hon. Naveen Patnaik, to discuss matters related to Japan-Odisha relations in detail.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Japanese National Day Reception Held

On 5th December, Ambassador and Mrs. Hiramatsu hosted the Japanese National Day Reception at their Residence. This was the last opportunity to celebrate His Majesty Emperor Akihito's birthday as the National Day, since His Majesty will abdicate on 30th April after 30 years on the throne. Hon. Piyush Goyal, Minister of Railways and Minister of Coal, graced the reception to celebrate His Majesty's birthday.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Assam and Meghalaya

On 13th-14th November, Ambassador Hiramatsu visited the northeastern states of Assam and Meghalaya.

Ambassador Hiramatsu called on the Chief Minister of Meghalaya, Hon. Conrad Sangma, before jointly inaugurating the 3rd India International Cherry Blossom Festival in Shillong, Meghalaya, on 14th November. He delivered a speech to over 200 audiences at Gauhati University, highlighting the transformed partnership between Japan and India. On the same day, Ambassador Hiramatsu chaired the symposium entitled, "Celebrating the Shillong-Sakura Connect - Idea Exchange on Socio Economic Partnerships", as part of the Embassy's initiative, "Dialogue with States", which aims at highlighting various aspects of cooperation between Japan and Indian states. The symposium was materialized by the cooperation of the Government of Meghalaya and FICCI's Forum of Parliamentarians. Ambassador Hiramatsu also delivered a speech at Gauhati University in Guwahati, Assam, and the North-Eastern Hill University (NEHU), on Japan's rapidly transforming partnership with India and the North East.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Ambassador Hiramatsu Visits Kerala

Ambassador Hiramatsu visited the State of Kerala on 10th-12th December. Ambassador Hiramatsu called on the Chief Minister of Kerala, Hon. Pinarayi Vijayan, to discuss possible cooperation between Japan and India in various areas, such as disaster risk management, urban flood management, EV, waste management, food processing, fisheries, and tourism.

Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the Opening Ceremony of Nissan Digital Hub in the new Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram, on 10th December. The Union Minister of State for Tourism, Hon. K. J. Alphons, and the Chief Minister of Kerala, Hon. Pinarayi Vijayan, were in attendance as well. Ambassador Hiramatsu also engaged business leaders regarding possible collaborations with Japanese companies.

On 11th December, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the inauguration of the Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing (JIM) at Terumo Penpol in Thiruvananthapuram. On the following day, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the inauguration ceremony for another Japan-Endowed Course (JEC), by the contribution of Nitta Gelatin and Frasco, at Nippon Kerala Centre in Kochi. JIMs and JECs are Japan's initiative for industrial training on Japanese technologies and manufacturing practices. Ambassador Hiramatsu also attended a business meeting with INJACK (Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce Kerala) to exchange views with business representatives from various sectors.

On the last day of the tour, Ambassador Hiramatsu visited Cochin University of Science and Technology and Kochi-Muziris Biennale. At Kochi-Muziris Biennale, the largest contemporary art exhibition in India, or perhaps Asia at large, Ambassador Hiramatsu enjoyed art works including those of Mr. Jun Nguyen-Hatsushiba, a renowned visual artist known for his underwater film exhibits at Pompidou and Guggenheim.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

State Minister of Environment Visits India to Promote Waste to Worth

Japan's State Minister of the Environment, Mr. Tsukasa Akimoto, visited India from 30th November through 1st December. He called on the State Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Hon. Mahesh Sharma, to discuss Japan's cooperation with India in the environmental field. On 30th November, Mr. Akimoto attended the 3rd International Conference on PPP Model for Waste to Worth Projects. Mr. Akimoto introduced Japanese Waste-to-Energy technology, which harnesses the heat generated in the process of waste incineration into an energy source, thereby reducing the need for other energy-generation methods. During his stay, Mr. Akimoto also visited a monitoring station of air pollutants and other environmental facilities in Delhi.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Completion Ceremony of the Teacher's Training Course-A Held

On 12th October, Ambassador Hiramatsu attended the completion ceremony of the Teacher's Training Course-A (360hrs) held at the Japanese Language Teacher's Training Centre at the UGC-HRDC in Jawaharlal Nehru University, which was initiated as a collaboration between the Indian and Japanese governments.

Ambassador Hiramatsu congratulated the successful trainees and handed over the certificate to each trainee. Prof. Ashok Kumar Chawla, Advisor, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, JNU, and Mr. Kaoru Miyamoto, Director General of Japan Foundation, New Delhi, also attended this ceremony.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Japanese Designer Atsushi Nakashima Participates in the India Fashion Week

From 8th to 13th October, Mr Atsushi Nakashima, a promising Japanese designer, visited India to participate in the Lotus Make-Up India Fashion Week in Association with NEXA Spring Summer 2019.

During the India Fashion Week held from 10th to 13th October at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, Mr Nakashima had interviews with the Indian media, gave a lecture to over 100 Indian fashion students, and showcased his collection. On 12th October, more than 500 people and media enjoyed witnessing Mr Nakashima's collection which had just been showcased during the Milan Fashion Week in September.

Mr Nakashima's visit to India is one of the projects under the "Japan Brand Program" conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Origami Competition Held

The 17th Origami Competition, jointly conducted by Embassy of Japan and Tagore International School - Vasant Vihar, was held on 10th October, and around 325 students (from class 3 to 12) as well as teachers from 36 schools in Delhi NCR participated in it.

On 25th October, the awarding ceremony of the Origami Competition was held at Japan Foundation New Delhi. The first to third prize winners in each category (Junior-Solo/Group, Middle-Solo/Group, Senior-Solo/Group, and Teacher) were given certificates and trophies as their prizes.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

31st North Zone Japanese Language Speech Contest Held

On 27th October, Minister Hideki Asari, Charge d'Affaires ad interim, attended the 31st North Zone Japanese Language Speech Contest held in Mount Carmel School, organized by Mombusho Scholars Association of India (MOSAI) in collaboration with the Centre for Japanese Studies of JNU, supported by the Embassy of Japan and Japanese Association Delhi. The Charge d'Affaires ad interim expressed his wish that all competitors will continue to learn Japanese and eventually contribute to the strengthening of the bilateral relationship between Japan and India, which has been flourishing greatly in recent years.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Kizuna Festival Held

On 3rd November, Kizuna Festival, a Japanese Cultural Festival organized by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in collaboration with Embassy of Japan, Japan Foundation, and Japanese Association of Delhi, was held at JNU. Students from JNU and other universities, including Delhi University and Banaras Hindu University as well as Japanese language schools, demonstrated their language skills by performing a play in Japanese and singing Japanese songs, among others. In the evening, both Indian and Japanese participants enjoyed food from the Japanese food stalls.



(Photos: Embassy of Japan, New Delhi)

Updates from Consulates

KOLKATA



Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, appreciating the performance of Cosplayers at **Japan Utsav**, organised at Hotel Hindusthan International, on 11th November. Japan Utsav is the first of its kind ever held in Kolkata, where people got the rare opportunity to experience different aspects of Japanese culture, ranging from Ikebana, Origami, Way of Tea and Movies, to Calligraphy, Quiz, Exhibition, Karate and Cosplay, under one roof. This event was organised by Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata and supported by Japan National Tourism Organisation, and The Japanese Association of Commerce & Industry in Kolkata.



Mr. Amio Sundor Biswas, the 4-times National Champion in Karate, demonstrating Kata at a **Karate Demonstration** organised at the Official Residence of the Consul General of Japan, on 20th November. The 13 year old wonder kid of Karate (Shitō-ryū style) was also the Gold Medallist in Commonwealth Games held in 2015, and the Winner of Silver Medal in World Youth Cup 2018 held in Croatia. The student of Coach & Judge, World Karate Federation, Hanshi Premjit Sen, mesmerised the guests with his styles and strength.



Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, addressing a seminar titled **Prospects of Japan-India Special Strategic and Global Partnership** as the Chief Guest, held at Lalit Great Eastern, on 22nd November. The event was organised by Calcutta Chamber of Commerce. Among other dignitaries, President, Mr. Om Prakash Agarwal, and Vice Presidents, Mr. Vineet Nahata & Mr. Rajeev Maheshwari of Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, were present.



Cine-lovers gathering to watch Japanese Film Festival, **Dramatic Japan** organised by the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, in collaboration with Japan Foundation and Nandan, West Bengal Film Centre. The film festival was held at Nandan II from 8th December to 9th December. The 4 films highlighted the emotions, aspirations, struggle, dreams and determination of the people of Japan.

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata)

CHENNAI



On 12th October, the Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Kojiro Uchiyama, paid a **Courtesy Call** on H.E. **Mr. E.S.L. Narasimhan, Hon. Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.**

Photo: Andhra Pradesh and Telangana Raj Bhavan



On 12th October, the Consul General of Japan in Chennai, Mr. Kojiro Uchiyama, presented the **Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation** to **Mr. B. Rama Bhadra, President of Asa Bhanu Japan Center** in Hyderabad.

Photo: Asa Bhanu Japan Center



On 16th November, the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai organized a **cultural program "Hello! Japan"** in **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**, and Ms. Hiroko Nagahama introduced Shodo (Japanese Traditional Calligraphy) to the students of Chinmaya Vidyalaya.

Photo: Alumni Society of AOTS Trivandrum Sub Center



On 29th November, the Consulate General of Japan in Chennai organized a **Reception on the occasion of the Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan**, at Taj Coromandel, in Chennai.

(Photo: Consulate General of Japan in Chennai)

MUMBAI



The Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, Mr. Ryoji Noda and Mrs. Noda, presented the certificate of **Foreign Minister's Commendation to Ms. Sarita Sundaram, President of the Teachers' Association of Japanese**, on 9th October, at the Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai. This commendation was conferred by Mr. Taro Kono, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, upon Ms. Sarita Sundaram, on 24th July, in recognition of her contribution to the promotion of Japanese Language in India.



The Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, Mr. Ryoji Noda, spoke at the opening ceremony of an event held by the NEC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. and NEC Corporation. Approximately 500 people participated in the inauguration. The event, named **NEC Innovative Solutions Fair 2018**, was held on 3rd December 2018, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Mumbai. NEC's state-of-the-art technologies and solutions were exhibited at this landmark event, which was hosted for the first time ever in India.



The Consul General of Japan in Mumbai, Mr. Ryoji Noda, gave a speech at the opening ceremony of the **Yokohama Festival**. This Festival was held on 7th December, at the ITC Maratha Hotel in Mumbai. The Yokohama Festival was held all day, with interactive seminars on various topics including education, tourism, and economics, chaired by experts from the respective fields. The Festival was attended by around 150 people.



The students from Mumbai University performed **Soran Bushi at 'Indradhanush 2018'**. Indradhanush, in which 600 people participated, was held on 2 days. 20th October 2018 was the day of performances by students learning Japanese at various institutes across Mumbai, and also performances by Japanese nationals living in Mumbai. The event was held at Y.B. Chavan Auditorium in Mumbai. 27th October 2018 was the day of various workshops like Yukata wearing, Ikebana and Origami workshops, and a Speak to a Native Corner.

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Mumbai)

BENGALURU



Consul General Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa met with the Deputy Chief Minister of Karnataka, Mr. G. Parameshwara, on 4th October, in Vidhana Soudha, to discuss Japanese investment in Karnataka and strategies for betterment of existing Japanese companies within the State. Accompanying the Consul General were Vice Consul Mr. Mitsuhiro Amao and Mr. Kenji Mori of TMEIC India.



The 13th Japanese Speech Contest – Bengaluru Division, organized by the Japan Habba Trust, in association with the Consulate General of Japan in Bengaluru, was held at the Indian Institute of Science on 3rd November. Consul General Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa and Vice Consul Mr. Mitsuhiro Amao were a part of the jury panel and award distribution.



Japan Food Fest 2018 organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Bengaluru at Hotel Shangri-La, on 11th November, brought together a crowd of 1500 people this year. People gathered to savour a variety of Japanese food, both authentic and fusion, from various restaurants all over Bangalore, under one roof. There was also free Japanese Sake tasting, other accompaniments, Sashimi demonstration, and cultural programmes for the entire family including children, to enjoy.



At the **Banga Roll Sushi Seminar** held in the Consul General's official residence, on 4th December, the Official Chef of Consul General Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Ms. Sunita Khatri, demonstrated how to make the newly-introduced Sushi Roll, the veg “Banga Roll”, made of nori seaweed and sushi rice, filled with edamame paste, cucumber, pickled ginger, tenkasu (crumbs of deep-fried tempura batter), and topped with edamame, red and yellow grilled pepper. Various restaurants who participated in the seminar shall soon introduce this new Sushi Roll in their menu.

(Photos: Consulate General of Japan in Bengaluru)

Exploring Japan: Experience the Beauty of Winter and Spring in Japan

Japan's winter season is December through February. In some mountainous areas and northern parts of Japan, the large amounts of snow make conditions perfect for skiing, snowboarding and other winter sports. Winter festivals, such as the Sapporo Snow Festival held in Hokkaido, are a must-see, and various snow and illumination events are held across the country. As the snow begins to melt and the days gradually become warmer, spring is the season when one can experience the beauty of cherry blossoms, or sakura. These beautiful white and pink flowers draw visitors from all over the world, eager to watch the blooms float gracefully to the ground.

From snow and slopes to blossoms and blooms, Japan is stunning all year round. Shown here are some beautiful photographs based on the theme of winter and spring, received as entries for THE CLICK! JAPAN PHOTO CONTEST 2018 held earlier this year. (Please see October 2018 issue of 'Japan Calling'.)



A sunny, snowing morning

Mr. Abhishek Talapatra (Contest Participant)



Heaviest snowfall, but Kamisama still has visitors

Ms. Bipasha Kaur Chatterjee (Contest Participant)



Tranquility of white wilderness

Mr. Nitin Yadav (Contest Participant)



Going back in time

Ms. Varnita Sharma (Contest Participant)



Sakura covered selfie

Mr. Ketan Kapadia (Contest Participant)



Sakura Season – the ultimate mirror of life

Mr. Amit Kumar Srivastava (Contest Participant)

Embassy of Japan in India Officially on Facebook

Come and  our Facebook Page!

([https://www.facebook.com/
Embassy-of-Japan-in-India-956032147863673/](https://www.facebook.com/Embassy-of-Japan-in-India-956032147863673/))



ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

16th Floor, Hindustan Times House
18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg
New Delhi 110 001
Tel: 4909-7000 Fax: 4909-7001 ~ 04
<http://www.jica.go.jp/india/english/>

Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)

306, 3rd Floor, World Mark 2, Asset No. 8
Hospitality District, Aerocity
New Delhi 110 037
Tel: 4352-2900 Fax: 4352-2950
<https://www.jbic.go.jp/en/about/new-delhi.html>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

4th Floor, Eros Corporate Tower
Nehru Place,
New Delhi 110 019
Tel: 4168-3006 Fax: 4168-3003
<http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/jetro/worldwide/asia/>

The Japan Foundation New Delhi

5A, Ring Road,
Lajpat Nagar 4
Near Moolchand Metro Station
New Delhi 110 024
Tel: 2644-2968/69/71/72 Fax: 4172-9128
<http://www.jfindia.org.in/>

New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO)

15th Floor, Hindustan Times House
18-20, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Connaught Place
New Delhi 110 001
Tel: 4351-0101 Fax: 4351-0102
http://www.nedo.go.jp/english/india_office_index.html

Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

Tel: 011-4905 7650
Fax: 011-4905 7696
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<http://www.jnto.go.jp/>

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