

Mr. Charan Philips, a staff member at Ambassador' s residence passed away suddenly on 14th January. He worked at the Embassy of Japan from 1999 to 2024. We would like to thank late Mr. Charan Philips for his invaluable contributions during his 24 years of service and extend our most sincere condolences to his family. May his soul rest in peace.

<Remarks by Ambassador H.E. Hiroshi Suzuki, at the memorial ceremony for late Mr. Charan Philips on 19th January 2024>

Charan ji,

I still cannot believe that you have suddenly left for heaven.

Every morning when I leave my Residence, you always used to work at the terrace. This morning, when I left the Residence, I was about to say "good morning" to you just like I always did before. I looked around, searching for you and realised that you were nowhere to be found in the garden. I felt so lonely and saddened.

Charan ji,

You have worked for the Embassy of Japan since 1999, the first 11 years at the office and the last 13 years at the Ambassador' s Residence. You were always smiling, diligent, humble, and sincere. You used to

counsel others on their personal problems and give them truthful advice based on your rich experience. You were loved and trusted by your colleagues. All the staff members at the Residence shared with me these episodes, with tears in their eyes.

Charan ji,

Thank you very much for your invaluable service to the Embassy of Japan for the past 24 years. From now on, please watch over our Embassy from heaven.

Thank you for everything. And good-bye. Until we meet again.