# India Independence Day

## Resilient bonds built on mutual trust

H.E. SUIAN R. CHINOY AMBASSADOR OF INDIA TO JAPAN



On the occasion of dence Day, I extend my warm greetings to Their Majesties the Emperor and of Japan. I also take

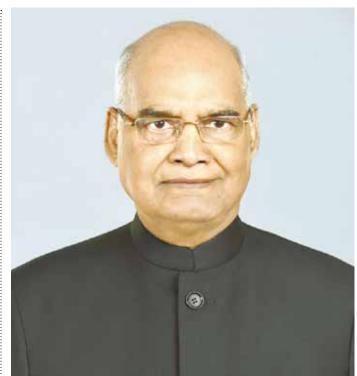
India's 71st Indepen-Empress, the government and the people

this opportunity to convey special greetings to the growing number of fellow Indians in Japan who are stakeholders in the rapidly evolving Special Strategic and Global Partnership between

India and Japan. Today, India stands as a bulwark of democ racy and stability. Seventy years ago, we took our first steps in charting a sovereign future based on values and ideals inherited from our ancient civilization and guided by the key principles of truth and non-violence that defined our independence movement.

Ties between India and Japan are cemented by close bonds forged on the anvil of Buddhism, which spread from India to other countries in Asia, including Japan. Our bilateral relationship is founded on shared values of democracy, respect for the rule of law and an abiding commitment to peace. We have a growing convergence on strategic and economic issues.

Under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's economy has been growing at more than 7 percent. Today, India is the world's fastest-growing large economy, as it emerges as a global hub for manufacturing and innovation. With the introduction of the goods and services tax we are optimistic that gross domestic product growth will reach 8 percent or more in the near future. The Indian economy offers unparalleled opportunities for Japanese companies to participate in flagship programs such as "Make in India." "Skill India." "Smart Cities" and "Industrial Townships and



President of India H.E. Ram Nath Kovind

in energy security and clean energy.

Today, Japanese companies are participating in skill transfer initiatives such as the India is Japan's largest official development assistance partner and Japan is the third-largestablishment of Japan-India Institutes est investor in India, Japan Bank for Internaof Manufacturing in India, which aim to tional Cooperation surveys over the last three enhance the manufacturing base in India years have consistently ranked India as the by training 30,000 people over the next 10 years in Japanese-style manufacturing skills most-preferred medium-term destination for and practices. On a parallel track, India is Japanese manufacturing companies. Japanese investment in India rose sharply over the prepreparing to dispatch interns to take part in vious year's figure to reach \$4.7 billion for the Japan's Technical Intern Training Program. 2016-17 fiscal year. The Mumbai-Ahmedabad India is also working to promote Japanese High Speed Railway project is a symbol of our thriving and mutually beneficial partnership. The recent exchange of notes for entry into force of the India-Japan Agreement for facturing skills, would further facilitate the

Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear entry of Japanese companies to India. Energy is testimony to the deep mutual trust and confidence between India and Japan. It ship with Japan in science and technology, begun in 1985, has been further strengthened will pave the way for enhanced cooperation with the signing of memorandums of under-

Prime Minister of India H.E. Narendra Modi

anguage education in India. The availability of well-trained human resources adept in the apanese language, as well as Japanese manu-India's longstanding and close partner-

standing on space cooperation and collaboration in marine science and technology in

> In a world of growing challenges and opportunities, the relationship between our two countries is a key factor in promoting stability in Asia and fostering a peaceful and multipolar world buttressed by increased connectivity and an inclusive, open and balanced regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific region. The recently concluded trilateral Malabar exercise between India, Japan and the U.S. off the coast of India is a significant event in our maritime cooperation and renews our commitment to freedom of navigation in the seas. The "Act East Policy" of India complements the "Enhanced Partnership for Quality Infrastructure" of Japan

The visit of Prime Minister Modi to Japan It is my privilege and honor to represen in November was a major milestone in our my country in Japan during such an excit-

#### Infrastructure, personnel projects increasing

CHAIRMAN, THE JAPAN-INDIA ASSOCIATION On the occasion of India's 71st Independence Day, I have the great honor to send the most heartfelt congratulations of the Japan-India Association to the people and the

of our big neighbor in the region.

On the bilateral front, major projects

relations. Our two prime ministers recently

met on the sidelines of the G-20 summit

in Hamburg and expressed satisfaction at

the progress of our bilateral relationship.

The government and people of India are

looking forward to the forthcoming visit of

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to India for the

next annual summit meeting. It will further

the Year of India-Japan Friendly Exchanges

in the field of culture and tourism. To facili-

tate people-to-people exchanges, India has

extended its "Visa-on-Arrival" program and

as 10-year business visas for Japanese entre-

preneurs as part of ongoing efforts to pro-

The year 2017 is being jointly celebrated as

strengthen our multifaceted partnership.

government of India. The Japan-India relationship is rapidly developing thanks to the efforts of the governments and peoples of both countries. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has consolidated his political base and achieved many reforms, including the long-waited introduction of a goods and services tax. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has successfully launched the Indo-Pacific Strategy, which is well-combined with India's Act East Initiative. Enhanced coordination on foreign and security policy is welcome in view of aggressive activities

More and more young Japanese are learning Indian dances, musical instruments, voga and cuisine. Cool Japan is welcomed in India and tourism is becoming very popular in both directions, thanks to the easing of obtaining visas. I hope India's 71st independence day will be another milestone in our important relationship.

funded by Japanese official develop-

ment assistance such as industrial corri-

dor projects between Delhi and Mumbai

on one hand and Chennai and Bengaluru

between Mumbai and Ahmedabad and

many metro projects in major cities of

India are making progress. Additionally,

the long-pending Agreement for Coop-

eration in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear

exchange, a new horizon is being enlarged.

In addition to conventional scholarship

and training programs organized by the

governments and private sector, student

universities and even by students them-

selves. Internship programs are being

expanded at many Japanese companies

exchange initiatives are being organized by

Energy has finally been enacted.

In the area of people-to-people

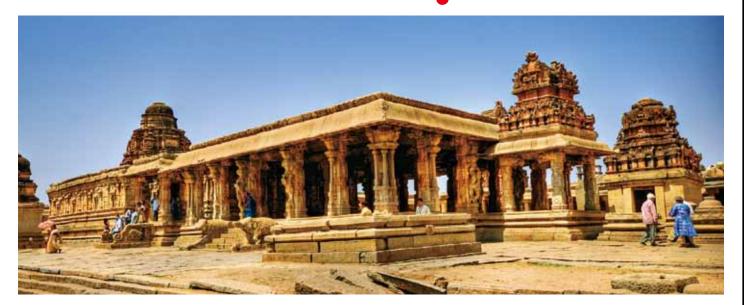
on the other, the shinkansen system

"e-Tourist" visas for Japanese travelers, as well ing phase in our relations, and to engage the government of Japan, the Japanese people, the business community and academia on a broad range of issues. The India and Japan partnership promises to be a defining one in



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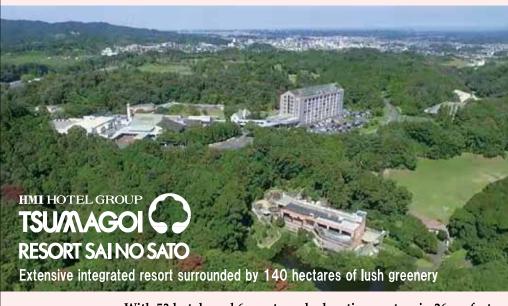
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Minister Narendra Modi shakes hands with his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe during the G-20 summit in July inHamburg, Germany MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDIA

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# India Independence Day

## Abiding support from close ally

RYUKO HIRA HONORARY CHAIRMAN THE INDIAN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION JAPAN



received the Anglo-American treaty for comments, and on Aug. 23 it sent its views in a communication to the U.S. It noted that the draft ignored two

objectives that, in its opinion, the peace treaty should serve. It stated that the draft failed to "concede to Japan a position of honor, equality and contentment among the community of nations," and that the peace treaty should be so framed as to enable all countries especially interested in "the maintenance of a stable peace in the Far East to subscribe to the treaty sooner or later." And then it went on to specify aspects of the draft that it found unacceptable. It questioned the wisdom of keeping the Ryukyu and Bonin islands under U.S. trusteeship and considered it "an arrangement which cannot but be a source of dissatisfaction to large sections of the Japanese people and must carry seeds of future dispute and possible conflict in the Far East." It also disputed the legality of Article 6, which gave Japan the right to permit the stationing of foreign armed forces on its territory under any bilateral or multilateral agreement with one or more Allied Powers. In its view, Japan could exercise such a right only after it had become fully sovereign. It argued that the article was bound to give rise to the impression that the agreement did not represent a decision taken by Japan in "full enjoyment" of its freedom as a sovereign

being specific regarding the return of Formosa to China

That the U.S. should react sharply to the Indian stand was not unexpected. What India did not expect was that a number of Japanese, too, would hold different views. Some Japanese thought India was not right in regarding the treaty as not giving Japan "a position of honor, equality and contentment." Others wanted India to be as specific about the justness of Japan's demand for the restoration of the Kurils as it was about the undesirability of keeping the Ryukyu and Bonin islands under U.S. trusteeship. Yet some others hoped that India would have taken an even more strik-

ingly "neutral" posture. Notwithstanding these differences, India decided to resume bilateral relations with Japan without any further delay. In its note dated Aug. 23, it clearly stated that while it would not be a party to the San Francisco Peace Treaty, it would terminate the state of war between itself and Japan as early as possible. Later, on Sept. 8, it informed Tokyo that although it might terminate the state of war with the coming into force of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, it would want to conclude a separate peace treaty with Japan. Accordingly, on April 28, 1952, India ended the state of war with Japan, and the two countries agreed to exchange ambassadors. On June 9 they signed a bilateral peace treaty. This treaty, which came into effect on Aug. 28 and which was officially designated as a "treaty of perpetual peace and amity," envisaged the conclusion of agreements to place their trading, maritime, aviation and other commer-

Japanese Peace Treaty was Article 6, by which India decided to waive all its claims to reparations from Japan. Japan hailed this as an extraordinary demonstration of India's friendliness to the Japanese people. The real worth of India's gesture can be better under stood against the background of Japan's

numerous difficulties in forging relations

with the countries of South-East Asia. These countries were opposed to normalzing relations with Japan without receiving adequate reparations. They stood strictly by the terms of the treaty's Article 14, which recognized their claim to reparations. Thus at a time when Japan was totally excluded from the rest of Asia, India's gesture came as great relief. Furthermore, it persuaded Burma under Prime Minister U Nu to settle the rep-

arations question in 1954 with little acrimony. From 1957 to 1960 the government of Japan under then-Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi made focused efforts to promote close political and economic relations with other Asian countries. In May 1957, in the course of his tour of several Asian countries, Kishi isited India and discussed many questions of mutual interest with then-Prime Ministe

Iawaharlal Nehru. In October and November 1957, Nehru returned the visit. His trip to Japan was of historic importance, in that he was one of the first Asian leaders to visit Japan after 1945. In the international arena, the memories of World War II were still fresh, and Japan had not yet regained its full credibility, meanng that Nehru's visit considerably boosted the morale of the Japanese people, and he received affectionate welcomes from them wherever he went in Japan.

Seven decades of deep friendship, trust and ever-evolving relations have significantly benefitted both Japan and India, jointly contributing to peace and prosperity of Asia.

CHAIRMAN, THE JAPAN-INDIA BUSINESS COOPERATION COMMITTEE

> Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee (JIBCC) I would like to offer gratulations on the occasion of the 71s Independence Day

On behalf of the

Japan and India have built amicable relations as two of Asia's largest democracies for many years. Japan and India have agreed to transform their special strategic and global partnership into a deep, broadbased and action-oriented partnership. The leaders of our two countries have already had top-level meetings on nine previous

occasions, and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is planning an official visit to India later this year. It is greatly expected that the two countries will cooperate with each other in every field, working together for the peace and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region and the world.

Meanwhile, in addition to these develop-

ments, the number of Japanese companies

in India reached 1,305 in October, up 6 per-

cent from the figure of 1,229 in 2015, and a

Investment opportunities continue to grow

number of large-scale projects are currently in progress. The operation of a bullet train line based on Japan's shinkansen is scheduled to start in 2023. The Indian economy is showing an upward trend despite uncertainties in the world economy, achieving an economic growth rate of more than 7 percent in fiscal 2016. In addition, reforms in the business environment are underway, including the introduction of a goods

of business momentum in India, the pace of penetration by Japanese companies is expected to accelerate. The JIBCC was established in 1966

to enhance mutual understanding and friendship and facilitate economic relations between Japan and India. The com mittee will hold its 42nd regular joint meeting with the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee in Delhi in Janu ary next year, where they will actively discuss the further expansion of trade and investment between the two countries. The JIBCC hopes to contribute to the further development of business between the two countries through animated

I will conclude by once again offering m congratulations on the 71st independence day of India, as well as my sincere wishes for India's increasing development and and services tax in July. With the increase prosperity in the future.

### Trade growth continues on long-lasting ties

CHAIRS OF KEIDANREN COMMITTEE ON

On behalf of Keidanren, we would like to offer our sincere congratulations to the

people of India on the occasion of their 71st Independence Day. Japan and India enjoy a long-standing diplomatic relationship and in recent times our two nations have built close, mutually beneficial relations through shuttle diplomacy between our state leaders. On countries has been steadily increasing and Japanese investment in India has increased

environment is improving, as exemplified by the historic introduction of a goods and services tax under the strong leadership of His Excellency Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July. We highly expect bilateral

now do business in India. The business

economic exchanges to continue growing. by more than sevenfold over the past 10 Since 2007, Keidanren has held Indiayears, while over 1,300 Japanese companies | Japan Business Leaders Forums with the

Indian business community. The ninth forum took place in Tokyo in November, coinciding with the Indian prime minister's visit. Participants in the forum exchanged views on encouraging business ties, improving the business environment and developing infrastructure, with the joint report of the forum submitted to both orime ministers. The 10th forum will be held to coincide with the Japanese prime minister's visit to India later this year. This forum will forge even stronger cooperative economic and industrial relationships between Japan and India and contribute to further develop the special strategic globa partnership between our two countries.

We kindly ask for your continued support

and cooperation in this endeavor.

## Exchanges set to expand across many areas

cial relations on a stable and friendly basis. It

was the first bilateral peace treaty that Japan

signed with an Asian country in the post-war

era and it served as a model for similar such

Another important feature of the Indo-

treaties with Burma and Indonesia.



nation. It also disagreed with the draft for not



On behalf of the Iapan-India Parliaship League, I would

sion of their 71st Independence Day. India, the world's-largest democracy, is one of the most important partners for Japan. India and Japan share universal

values such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law and maintain a friendly relationship founded on a long history of

The relationship between India and Japan has steadily developed through the mutual trust and leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Through the visit of the prime minister to Japan last November, the two leaders agreed to coordinate the "Free and Open India and Pacific Strategy" and the stability of the Indo-Pacific region. I truly expect that the exchanges between the two countries will be expanded further in wide-ranging fields and levels. The Japan-India Parliamentarians'

Friendship League visited New Delhi last year, and called on the prime minister and related ministers. As many Japanese par-

ians who visited Japan this May. ing actively to the further deepening of the

#### PRESIDENT OF THE JAPAN-INDIA



like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the govern-

Wish you a Happy Independence Day 2017

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Congratulations

**Heartiest Independence Day Greetings** 

THE INDIAN COMMERCE AND

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liamentarians have visited India, there is a consensus across the political spectrum in Japan to strengthen relations with India. Our friendship leagues also exchanged opinions with young Indian parliamentar-Our parliamentarian friendship league remains strongly committed to contribut

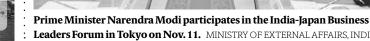
> key relationship with the largest potentia for growth. I would like to send my best wishes to the people of India for their further prosperity and for the continued development

of our cordial relationship















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> THE INDIA CLUB Hon. President: Hiren Zaveri



