Independence Day of India

India, Japan flourish amid shared policies 🐞



By H.E. Sujan R. Chinoy

On the occasion of India's 71st Independence Day, I extend my warm greetings to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan

and to the government and the people of Japan. I also take this opporspecial greet-ings to the growing num-ber of fellow Indians in Ja-



pan who are stakeholders in the

rapidly evolving Special Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan.
India stands today as a bulwark

of democracy 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 nonviolence 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 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 well over 7 percent. Today, India is the world's fastest-growing large

economy. It is emerging as a glob-al hub for manufacturing and inno-vation. With the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax, we are optimistic India's gross domestic product will grow 8 percent or more in the near future. The Indian economy offers unparalleled opportunities to Japanese companies to participate in flagship programs such as Make in India, Skill India, Smart Cities and Industrial

Townships and Corridors. India is Japan's largest official de-velopment assistance (ODA) partner, and Japan is the third-largest investor in India. The Japan Bank for International Cooperation's (JBIC) Surveys in the last three years have consistently ranked India as the most preferred medium-term destination for Japanese manufacturing companies. Japanese investments to India rose sharply over the previous year's figure to reach \$4.7 billion in fiscal year 2016-17. The Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway project is a symbol of our thriving

and mutually beneficial partnership.
The recent exchange of notes for the entry into force of the India-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy is testimony to the deep mutual trust and confidence between India and Japan. It will pave the way for enhanced cooperation in energy security and clean energy.

Today, Japanese companies are participating in skill transfer initiatives such as the establishment of Japan-India Institutes of Manufacturing in India, which aim to enhance the manufacturing base in India by training 30,000 people over the next 10 years in Japanese-style manufacturing

Incredible India



skills and practices. On a parallel track, India is preparing to dispatch its interns to take part in the Technical Intern Training Programme of Japan. India is also working to promote Japanese lan-guage education in India. The availability of well-trained human resources adept in the Japanese language, as well as Japanese manufacturing skills, would further facilitate the entry of Japanese companies into India.

India has had a close, longstanding partnership with Japan in science and technology since 1985, and this relationship was further strengthened with the signing of a memorandum of understanding on space coopera-



science and technology in November 2016.

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, multi-polar world buttressed by increased connectivity and an inclusive, open and balanced regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific region. The recently concluded trilateral Malabar naval exercise held off the coast of India by India, Japan and the United States 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 Infra-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, left, and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe shake hands during the Group of 20 summit in Hamburg last month

structure of Japan.
The visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Japan November 2016 was a major milestone in our relations. The two prime ministers recently met on the sidelines of the Group of 20 Summit in Hamburg and exsatisfaction at the progress in our bilateral relation ship. The government and people of India are looking forward to the forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to India for the next annual India-Japan Summit meeting, which will further strengthen

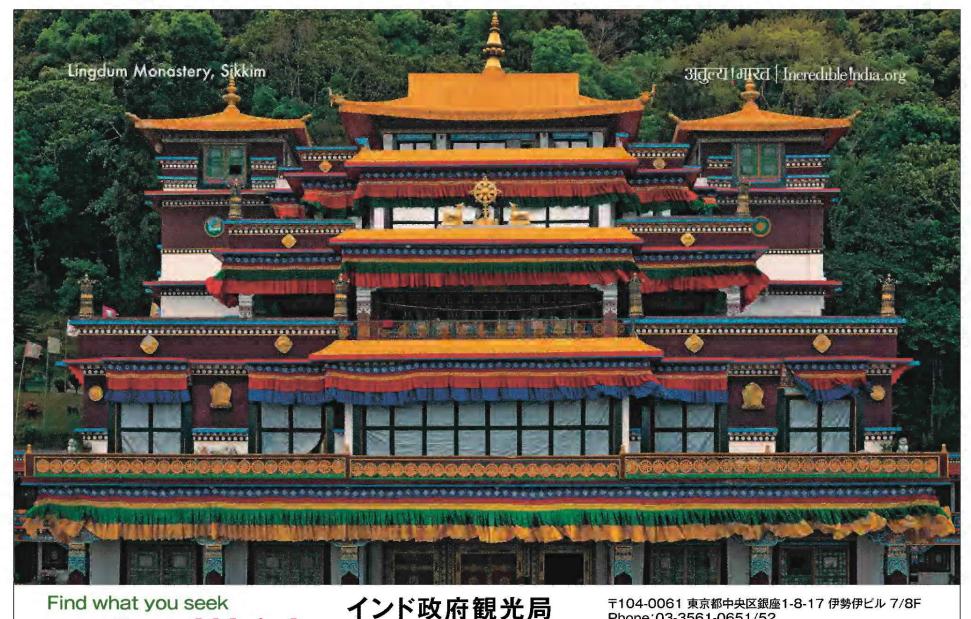
our multi-faceted partnership.
The year 2017 is being jointly celebrated as the Year of India-

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Japan Friendly Exchanges in the field of culture and tourism. To facilitate people-to-people ex-changes, India has extended Visaon-arrival and e-Tourist visas to Japanese travelers and 10-year business visas to Japanese entrepreneurs as part of ongoing efforts to promote business ties.

It is my privilege and honor to represent my country in Japan during such an exciting phase in our relations, and to engage the government of Japan, the Japanese people, the business com-munity and academia on a broad range of issues. The India-Japan partnership promises to be a defining one in the 21st century.



Indiatourism Tokyo

Independence Day of India

Japan-India relationship continue to grow rapidly

Chairman of the Japan-India Association

On the occasion of India's 71st Independence Day, it is my great

honor to send heartfelt congratulations from the Japan-India Associto the people and government

Japan-India relation-

ship is quickly developing thanks to the efforts of the governments and people of both countries. has consolidated his political base and achieved many reforms, including the long-waited intro-duction of the Goods and Services Tax. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has successfully launched the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy," which combines well with the "Act East" Initiative of Prime Minister Modi. Enhanced coordination on foreign and security policy is wel-come, in view of the aggressive activities of our big neighbor in

the region.
On the bilateral front, big projects funded by Japanese official development assistance, such as Industrial Corridor projects between Delhi and Mumbai – on the one hand – and Chennai and Bengaluru on the other, a shinkansen system between Mumbai and Armedabad, many Metro projects in major cities of India are making progress. The long-pending bilateral Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy has finally

New horizons are being de-

to-people exchanges. In addition to conventional scholarship and training programs or-ganized by Japan and India's governments and the private sector, student exchange initiatives are being organized by universities and even by students themselves. Japanese companies are enlarging their internship programs, and more and more Japanese young people are studying Indian dance and musical instruments, yoga and Indian cuisine. Cool Japan is welcomed in India. Tourism between our two nations is becoming very popular, thanks to eased regulations on the issuance of visas.

I hope the 71st Independence Day of India will mark another milestone in our important rela-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, center right, is welcomed by the Indian community in Tokyo during his visit to Japan in November 2016.

Lawmakers' friendship league committed to enhancing relations with India

sident of the Japan-India Parlia Friendship League

On behalf of the Japan-India Parliamentarians' Friendship Leaque, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the government and people of the of its 71st Independence Day.

world's largest democracy, is most imporant partners for Japan, India and Japan share universal values such as democracy, human rights and



friendly relationship founded on

their long history of exchange. 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 Japan last November, the two

"Free and Open Indo-Pacific Stra-tegy" and the "Act East" policy for prosperity and stability of the Indo-Pacific region. I truly expect the exchange between the two countries to be expanded further in a wide range of fields and on many different levels.

Members of the Japan-India Parliamentarians'

League visited New Delhi last year, and called on Prime Minister Modi and related ministers. Many Japanese parliamentarians have visited India, and there is a consensus across the political spectrum in Japan to strengthen relations with India. Our friendship league also exchanged opinions with young Indian parliamentarians who vis-

Our league remains strongly committed to contributing actively to the further deepening of this key relationship with the

largest potential for growth.

I would like to send my best wishes to the people of India for their further prosperity and for continued development of our cordial relationship.





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Independence Day of India

Japan's investment in India sharply rising

By Hiroaki Nakanishi and

On behalf of Keidanren, we would like to offer our sincere congratulations to the people of India on the occasion of its 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 their state leaders. On the economic front, trade between two countries has been increasing steadily, Japanese investment in India has increased by more than 7.7-fold over the past 10 years and over 1,300 Japanese companies now do business in India. The business environment is improving, as exemplified by the historic introduction of the Goods and Services Tax under the





strong leadership of His Excellency Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July this year. We highly expect bi-lateral economic exchanges to con-

tinue growing. Since 2007, Keidanren has held India-Japan Business Leaders Forums with the Indian business community. The ninth forum took place in Tokyo in November last year, coinciding with the visit by Prime Minister Modi. Participants in the forum exchanged views on encour-

business environment, and developing infrastructure, and the Joint Report of the Forum was submitted to Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The 10th Forum will be held to coincide with Prime Minister Abe's visit to India this year. This forum will forge even stronge cooperative economic and industrial relations between Japan and India, and contribute to the further develop ment of the special strategic global partnership between our two countries. We kindly ask for your continued support and cooperation in this endeavor.

Nakanishi is Vice Chair and Chair of the Committee on South Asia, Keidanren, and Chairman & CEO, Hitachi, Ltd. Hirai is Chair and President and CEO, Sony Corporation

Bilateral relations prospering

By Masami lilima

Chairman of the Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee and Chairman of the

On behalf of the Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee I would like to

cere congratulations on the occasion of pendence Day of India.

India



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, broad-based 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 this year. It is greatly expected that the two countries will cooperate with each other in every field, working to-gether for the peace and prosperty of the Indo-Pacific region and the world.

Meanwhile, in addition to these developments, the number of Japanese companies in India reached 1,305 in October 2016 – up 6 percent from the figure of 1,229 in 2015, and a number of large-scale projects are currently in progress. The operation of a bullet train line adopting the Japanese Shinkansen system 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 7.1 percent in fiscal 2016. In addition, reforms in the business environment are under way, such as the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

from this July. With the increase of business momentum in India, the pace of Japanese companies working in our nation is expected to accelerate.

The Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee was established in 1966 to enhance mutual understanding and friendship and facilitate economic relations between Japan and India. The committee will hold the 42nd regular joint meeting with the India-Japan Business Cooperation Committee in Delhi in January next year, where they will actively discuss the further expansion of trade and investment between the two countries. JIBCC hopes to contribute to the further development of business between the two countries through animated discussion.

I will conclude by once again offering my congratulations for the 71st Independence Day of India, and my sincere wishes for India's increasing development and pros-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacts with members of the India-Japan Business Leaders' Forum in Tokyo on Nov. 11, 2016.

Ties contributing to Asia's peace, growth

By Ryuko Hira

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On April 28, 1952, India ended its state of war with Japan, and the two countries agreed to exchange ambassadors. On June 9 of the same year, the nations signed a bilateral "treaty of perpetual peace and amity" to place their trading, maritime, aviation and other commercial relations on a stable and friendly basis. It was the first bilateral peace treaty that Japan had signed with another Asian country, and it served as a model for similar treaties with Burma and Indonesia.

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Happy Independence Day



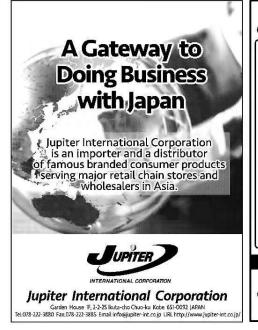
An important feature of the Indo-Japanese Peace Treaty was Article 6, in which India waived all its claims to reparations from

Japan, Japan hailed this as an extraordinary demonstration of India's friendly feelings toward the Japanese people.

In May 1957, in the course of a tour of several Asian countries, Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi visited India and discussed many questions of mutual interest with

Prime Minister Jawaharlal
Nehru. In October and November 1957, Prime
Minister Nehru became one of the first Asian leaders to visit Japan after 1945. Memories of World War II were still fresh among the international com-munity, and Japan had not yet regained its full credibility. Nehru's visit, therefore, considerably boosted the morale of the Japanese people. He received an affectionate welcome from them wherever he went. One direct result of Nehru's visit was that in 1958 Japan extended its first yen credit to India. This indeed marked the starting point of Japan's eco-

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





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The Japan News by The Yomiuri Shimbun

Independence Day of India

ICCJ to mark 80th year soon

By Shri Ram Kalani Pessumal Honorary President of the Indian Chamber of nerce in Japan

As our 70th year draws to a close and another starts, we are reminded of the im-

portance of this day once again. As our memories and experiences grow year on year, we become more aware of this day and how special it is to all of us. This is the one part of our history that connects all the people in India. Our sincere con-

gratulations to the people of India on this memorable occasion. This is a time to celebrate and a reminder once again of how great the nation of India truly is. Over the global symbol. The size and shape of the

democracy that is reflected is truly an inspiration, as illustrated when other nations come to India to study its system of voting and democracy

With warm wishes to the beloved Emperor and Empress, and the esteemed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, we would like to thank the Ambassador of India, H.E. Mr. Sujan Chinoy, and the Embassy of India for all the hard work and support they have devoted to making this year another great one. This year also contains another special

occasion: The Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICCJ) is celebrating its 80th year anniversary. Having been established before our independence day, we are having celebrations in September to commemorate this special event.

The Indian Chamber of Commerce started in 1937 in Kobe. Kobe is one of Japan's first international ports, and initially had a business community that imported textiles into Japan.

With over 200 member firms, the Chamber of Commerce was very active until the war, when it closed down for several years before restarting in Tokyo with 20 member firms in 1947. Eventually, it moved back to Kobe in 1949 and relocated to Osaka in 1954. The Consulate General of India in Kobe moved its office

Having reestablished premises in Osaka, member firms increased in the following years to an impressive 180. During the '60s, '70s and '80s, The Indian Chamber of Commerce enjoyed great growth and recognition in the Japan-India relationship.

We would like to wish all Indian citizens and people with Indian origins far and near heartiest congratulations on this spe-cial day. We are excited to celebrate this momentous occasion together in this country far away from home but close to





India's Commerce Secretary Rita Teaotia, front row, center, and her team for business discussions at the Indian Chamber of Commerce on Aug. 2 this year



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Congratulations on the 71st Independence Day of India With Warm Wishes

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Incidentally, this is a special year for The Indian Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ICCJ). We are commemorating 80 years.

We are having a special celebration and looking for sponsors for this 80th anniversary occasion. Please see our website for further details: 80iccj.org

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