PM Modi dedicated National War Memorial to the Nation

The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi dedicated the National War Memorial to the nation in a solemn ceremonial function on Feb 25th. The National War Memorial, near India Gate in New Delhi, is a fitting tribute to our soldiers who laid down their lives defending the nation, post-independence. The National War Memorial also commemorates the soldiers who participated and made the supreme sacrifice in Peace Keeping Missions, and Counter Insurgency Operations. The layout of the National War Memorial comprises four concentric circles, namely, the ‘Amar Chakra’ or Circle of Immortality, the ‘Veerta Chakra’ or Circle of Bravery, the ‘Tyag Chakra’ or Circle of Sacrifice, and the ‘Rakshak Chakra’ or Circle of Protection. The National War Memorial complex includes a central obelisk, an eternal flame, and six bronze murals depicting famous battles fought by Indian Army, Air Force and Navy. Busts of the 21 awardees of Param Veer Chakra have been installed at Param Yoddha Sthal. National War Memorial represents the culmination of the collective aspiration of a grateful nation to pay a fitting tribute to the martyrs.

The Indian National Flag is a horizontal tricolour of deep saffron at top (indicates strength & courage of the country), white in middle (indicates peace & truth) and dark green at bottom (fertility, growth & auspiciousness of the land) in equal proportion. The ratio of width to length is 2:3. In the centre of the white band is a navy-blue wheel which represents the chakra (adopted from Sarnath Lion Capital of Ashoka and it has 24 spokes).

PM Modi inaugurated First Super Computer under NSCM

PM Modi inaugurated 'Param Shivay', the first supercomputer of 883 teraflop capacity, under the National Super Computing Mission at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Banaras Hindu University (BHU). India's first supercomputer PARAM 8000 was launched in 1991. In recent times, Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology has Pratyush, National Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting has Mihir, IISc has SERC-Cray.
India launched various women safety initiatives

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh launched various initiatives for women safety. These initiatives will include launch of Emergency Response Support System in 16 states/UTs and Mumbai city, Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences (ITSSO) and Safe City Implementation Monitoring Portal. The 16 states/UTs are Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, UP, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Puducherry, Lakshadweep, Andaman, Dadar Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, & J&K. To provide effective deterrence against the offence of rape, the Government has enacted the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018. And for effective implementation of the Act the measures to strengthen investigation and prosecution machinery and to instil a sense of security amongst women, Government is launching these initiatives.

IIT Kharagpur students win the Honda Young Engineer and Scientist's (Y-E-S) Award for 2018-19

Three students from IIT Kharagpur have won the Honda Young Engineer and Scientist's (Y-E-S) Award for 2018-19. Lakshmi Vasanta Majety, Nirmalya Panigrahi and Sabyasachi Sen (all 03 3rd year, Mechanical Engineering) have been awarded by the Honda Foundation for their academic brilliance in the area of science & technology and promise of leading society towards an eco-technological orientation.

In addition to promoting dissemination of eco technology among the young generations the Honda Y-E-S Award focuses on strengthening interaction and exchange between Japanese youth and young people expect to lead science, technology and industry in their respective countries.

Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador, Embassy of Japan presented the award to the students.

PM Modi receives Seoul Peace Prize for 2018

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 22nd Feb 2019 received the prestigious Seoul Peace Prize for 2018 for his contribution to international cooperation and fostering global economic growth. The award was presented to him by the Seoul Peace Prize Foundation at a grand ceremony in Seoul. A short film on the life and achievements of Mr. Modi was screened at the event. While conferring the award on Mr. Modi, the award committee recognised his contribution to the growth of Indian and global economies, crediting ‘Modinomics’ for reducing social and economic disparity between the rich and the poor. The committee also pointed to his contribution to regional and global peace through a proactive policy with countries around the world.

"Period. End of Sentence" wins the Oscar

A film on taboos around menstruation, set in rural India, titled "Period. End of Sentence” wins the Oscar in the Documentary Short Subject category at the 91st Academy Awards. Award-winning filmmaker Rayka Zehtabchi directed the short film, which was co-produced by Indian producer Gunet Monga’s Sikhya Entertainment. There has been an increased focus on period hygiene in India, which was also the subject of a mainstream Bollywood movie Padman, starring Akshay Kumar in the lead role in a biopic on Arunachalam Muruganantham, who started making low cost pads in his village despite being ostracised.

Interestingly, to address the need of menstrual hygiene among adolescent girls residing primarily in rural areas, Government of India is supporting the Menstrual Hygiene Scheme, under which, funds are provided to States/UTs through National Health Mission for decentralized procurement of sanitary napkins packs for provision primarily to rural adolescent girls at subsidized rates.

India to attend 46th Session of Council of Foreign Ministers of Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) as ‘Guest of Honour’ to attend the Inaugural Plenary at the invitation of the host i.e. UAE Foreign Minister. India see this invitation as a welcome recognition of the presence of 185 million Muslims in India and of their contribution to its pluralistic ethos, and of India’s contribution to the Islamic world.

India’s first Braille Laptop

For the first time in India, the researchers at Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, has developed a ‘DotBook’ - the country’s first Braille laptop for the blind students and the community. This laptop which is exclusively created for the differently abled will be affordable and have refreshable Braille display.

The Indian Connection

Indian Artists won Japan’s Snow Sculpting

Ravi Prakash, Sunil Kumar Kushwaha and Rajnish Verma have won the first prize at the International Snow Sculpting Competition in Japan’s Nayoro (6-9 February) for their carving which depicted an Avatar of Lord Vishnu.
Final Operational Clearance of Indigenous LCA Tejas MK I for IAF

20th February 2019 is a significant day in the journey of Light Combat Aircraft Tejas MK I for Indian Air Force (IAF), when the formal declaration of Final Operational Clearance (FOC) of the aircraft was made by Secretary Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy. The day also witnessed the handing over of FOC Certificate and Release to Service Document (RSD) to the Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, in the presence of Defence Secretary and Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

FOC involves addition of key capabilities to the Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) aircraft which are Beyond Visual Range Missile capabilities. Air-to-Air Refuelling, Air-to-Ground FOC earmarked weapons and general flight envelope expansion.

The RSD provides the capabilities, features and technologies that FOC standard Aircraft will have on Induction into IAF. The FOC standard Aircraft drawings have already been handed over to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to start production after incorporating key changes over the IOC standard Aircraft.

Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) of the aircraft took place in the year 2013 and IOC standard Aircraft were inducted into IAF No. 45 Squadron, in July 2016. The IAF Squadron has since flown over 1500 sorties successfully on the Aircraft. It is a proud day for all the agencies involved in the design, development and production of the aircraft i.e., Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA), the autonomous society of DRDO as the design agency and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) as the manufacturer. Many other DRDO laboratories like ADE, GTRE, LRDE, CEMILAC etc., as well as other agencies such as BEL, CSIR, DG-AQA, and Private sector agencies have contributed in the journey of LCA.

Aero India 2019 & India-Japan Defence Industry Business Forum meeting

Asia's largest military aviation exhibition “Aero India 2019” was held in Bengaluru from 20 - 24 February 2019. A high-level delegation from Japan participated in the event. Around 51 countries participated in the event.

To further India-Japan bilateral Defence Technology Cooperation, India-Japan Defence Industry Business Forum chaired by Dr Nazmuddin, Joint Secretary & Economic Adv, Ministry of Defence, India & Mr Nobuaki Miyama, Commissioner ATLA (Acquisition, Technology & Logistics Agency) of Ministry of Defence, Japan held on sidelines of Aero India 2019. The forum was started in 2017.

Lt. Gen. Hirohide Inoue, JASDF called on Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa, CAS, Indian Air Force (IAF) at Aero India 2019 and discussed furthering defence cooperation between JASDF and IAF.

Excerpts from the President of India speech during the award ceremony – “Mr Sasakawa has been instrumental in helping us win crucial battles in the war against leprosy – to prevent and eradicate the disease, and to end stigma and discrimination. Mr Sasakawa is a shining sample of the best characteristics of our Japanese friends. As Rabindranath Tagore said in Tokyo in 1924, “I have a deep admiration for you people … In your character you have combined the brilliance of fire and the fluidity of water.” On behalf of India, I must appreciate the services of Mr Sasakawa and his Foundation.
A 42 member FICCI delegation led by Mr. Onkar S. Kanwar, the Chairman of India Japan Business Cooperation Committee (IJBCC) met Ambassdor H.E. Shri Sanjay Kumar Verma on February 26, 2019 prior to their participation in the 43rd Joint meeting of IJBCC at the Japan Chambers of Commerce and Industry building, Tokyo. The delegation members who are drawn from a wide spectrum of sectors including automobile, engineering, IT, legal, business consultancy, hospitality and tourism industries. During the briefing, Ambassador apprised the delegates about the expectations of the Japanese investors while highlighting the scope of increased bilateral collaboration in the areas such as digital connectivity, ICT, Artificial Intelligence, IOT, health care and joint cooperation for projects in Africa under Asia Africa growth corridor. Deputy Chief of Mission Mr. Raj Kumar Srivastava made a presentation outlining the road map of future Indo-Japan cooperation.

At the 43rd IJBCC meeting (Feb 26, 2019) Ambassador delivered the welcome address. The plenary session of the meeting witnessed many presentation from Japanese and Indian members on AI, Make in India, Business environment and Investment opportunities in India. The Chairman of JIBCC Mr. Masami Lijima gave the closing remarks. On February 27, a B2B meeting was held at the Embassy of India where more than 60 Japanese companies interacted with the Indian delegation. At the same time, some selected CEOs including the Secretary General of FICCI made courtesy calls on the Japanese officials at METI, MLIT, JICA and JETRO.

Outreach Event on Business Opportunities in India—Okayama (18th Feb 2019)

An Outreach Event on Business Opportunities in India was held in Okayama by the Embassy and Consulate General of India and co-organised by JETRO Okayama. Opening remark given by Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma. Hon. MP Mr. Aisawa Ichiro, Member of House of Representatives addressed the gathering. Welcome remarks was given by Mr. Tadashi Watanabe, Director for International Affairs Division, Okayama Government focusing on economic opportunities in India. Presentations were made by Dr. Satya Pal Kumar, First Secretary (Trade) on “Overview of India – Business Environment and Opportunities”, Mr Tomofumi Nishiizawa, JETRO on “Growing India and Japanese Companies in India”, by Mr. Ochiai Masafumi, JITCO on Human Resource Exchange through TITP between India and Japan, and experience sharing by Japanese Company Marugo Rubber Industries, Ltd. As part of outreach event, Ambassador also called on to Mr. Ryuta Ibaragi, Governor, Okayama Prefecture, Mr. Masao Omori, Mayor, Okayama City on 18thFeb, 2019 and also met Mr. Akira Okazaki, Chairman of Okayama Chamber of Commerce and Industry and members to explore and increase partnership in mutual area of interest.

High level Indian Textile delegation visited Tokyo

A high level delegation led by Shri Raghvendra Singh, Secretary (Textiles) comprising representatives of different government department and various industries association visited Tokyo from 14-16 Feb, 2019 to strengthen ties in bilateral trade and investment in Textiles sector and to discuss a road-map for enhancing exports and to collaborate with the Japanese Textile Industry. A seminar on “Textile Industry in India- Collaboration Opportunities” was organized by Embassy of India in the VCC Auditorium on Feb15, 2019. The inaugural remarks were made by Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma with key note address by Secretary (Textiles). The Seminar received very encouraging response from the Japanese investors and around 100 participants attended the seminar. The Embassy also coordinated for G2G meeting with METI and JETRO and B2B meeting with different companies for the delegation.

43rd India Japan Business Cooperation Committee (IJBCC) Meeting, Tokyo

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A delegation from Ministry of Railways comprising 40 young officials of various services visited Embassy of India for an interactive session regarding training program on High Speed Rail Technology. Members from JICA, JIC and JICE also attended the program. Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma addressed the gathering about India Japan bilateral cooperation, shared values, mutual benefits due to special economic partnership and interacted with the participants regarding training program, feedback and suggestions. The training includes visit to actual Shinkansen construction sites, station area development, multimodal transport plan, Rolling Stock manufacturing facility, Maintenance Center, General Education Center etc.

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations organized a special event at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra in Delhi today, to felicitate delegates from 188 countries, who participated in the Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, joined the 188 delegates including from Japan for a historic group photo.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister said he is happy to meet the delegates who have just returned from the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj.

He said that until one actually visits the Kumbh Mela, one cannot appreciate completely, what a great heritage it is. He said that this tradition has continued uninterrupted for thousands of years.

He said the Kumbh is as much about social reform as it is about spirituality. He said that the Kumbh has been a forum for discussion among spiritual leaders and social reformers, to chart a roadmap for the future, and monitor progress.

The Prime Minister said that the effort is now to blend modernity and technology, with faith, spirituality, and cultural consciousness, at the Kumbh Mela. He said that the world will recognize India, both for its modernity, and for its rich heritage.

He thanked the delegates from across the world, and said that their participation has also been an important part of the success of the Kumbh.

The Prime Minister described the Indian Parliamentary elections as a “Kumbh of Democracy.” He said that just like the Kumbh Mela, Indian Parliamentary elections, with their huge scale and complete impartiality, can be a source of inspiration for the world at large. He said people from across the world must also come to see India conduct its Parliamentary election.
Minister of State (IC) for AYUSH, GoI, Shripad Yesso Naik has launched the e-AUSHADHI portal, for online licensing of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy drugs and related matters recently at New Delhi. Aushadi is a sanskrit word meaning Medicine.

This new e-portal is an acronym for Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy Automated Drug Help Initiative. This portal will aid the licensing authority, manufacturers and consumers, as well will provide real time information of the licenced manufactures and their products, cancelled and spurious drugs, contact details of the concerned authority for specific grievances.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) and the Global Digital Health Partnership (GDHP) hosted a global intergovernmental meeting on digital health i.e. ‘4th Global Digital Health Partnership Summit’. Aim of the summit was to discuss the implication of digital health interventions to health services accessibility, quality and affordability and explores ways of leveraging digital health technologies to strengthen the healthcare delivery systems globally.

It need a mention that GoI's recently launched comprehensive healthcare scheme named as "Ayushman Bharat" is primarily dependent on maximising the use of digital tools for effective implementation and monitoring. The scheme is completely digital wherein all the processes from beneficiary identification to hospital empanelment and settlement of claims are done electronically. Hence all the benefits of the scheme are delivered in a mode that is cashless, paperless & completely transparent for all stakeholders.

AI-based healthtech startup Niramai Health Analytix has raised $6 million in Series A funding led by Japanese VC firm Dream Incubator, Beenext and other investors. Earlier investors such as Binny Bansal, Co-founder, Flipkart, pi Ventures, Axilor Ventures and Ankur Capital also participated in this round of funding. Dream Incubator has so far invested in more than 160 companies across eight countries, and has supported 28 IPOs. It will now be supporting Niramai’s international expansion, including Japan. The funding will be primarily used to scaling the healthcare startup’s operations in India, hiring, and getting the additional regulatory approvals needed for international expansion.

Niramai was founded in 2016 by Geetha and Nidhi Mathur, who have previously worked for organisations like Hewlett Packard Labs and Xerox Reserach. The startup had raised seed funding of $1 million in April 2017. The company’s product Thermalytix is a portable, non-invasive, radiation-free, and non-contact solution for early stage detection of breast cancer. The product is clinically proven and can be used with high accuracy for women of all age groups. Thermalytix can also be used for other areas of diagnostics, said a release.

The Ministry of Commerce & Industry, GoI cleared a proposal aiming at simplifying the process of exemptions for Start-ups under Section 56 (2) (vib) of Indian Income Tax Act.

With this, the definition of Start-ups will be expanded. Now an entity will be considered as a Start-ups upto a period of ten years from the date of incorporation and registration in place of the earlier duration of 7 years. Similarly, an entity will continue to be recognised as a Start-ups, if its turnover for any of the financial years since incorporation and registration has not exceeded Rs. 100 crore in place of Rs. 25 crore earlier.
Proposal to encourage investments in Start-Ups cleared

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Cabinet approves setting up a new company under Department of Space

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval to the Setting up of a new company under Department of Space (DoS), to commercially exploit the research and development work carried out by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) Centers and constituent units of DOS.

Salient features:
The following areas/avenues provide opportunities for commercial exploitation of ISRO programmes:
- Small satellite technology transfer to industry, wherein the new company shall take license from DoS/ISRO and sub-license to industries;
- Manufacture of small satellite launch vehicle (SLV) in collaboration with the Private Sector;
- Productionisation of Polar SLV through industry;
- Productionisation and marketing of Space-based products and services, including launch and applications;
- Transfer of Technology developed by ISRO Centers and constituent units of DoS;
- Marketing of some spin-off technologies and products, both in India and abroad; and
- Any other subject which Government of India deems fit.
**FDI in India - Entry routes**

- **Automatic Route** is the entry route through which investment by a person resident outside India does not require the prior Reserve Bank approval or Government approval.

- **Government Route** is the entry route through which investment by a person resident outside India requires prior Government approval. Foreign investment received under this route shall be in accordance with the conditions stipulated by the Government in its approval.

- 'Government approval' is approval from the erstwhile Secretariat for Industrial Assistance (SIA), Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India and/or the erstwhile Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) and/or any of the ministry/department of the Government of India, as the case may be.

- Aggregate Foreign Portfolio Investment up to 49 percent of the paid-up equity capital on a fully diluted basis or the sectoral/statutory cap, whichever is lower, will not require Government approval or compliance of sectoral conditions, if such investment does not result in transfer of ownership and control of the resident Indian company from resident Indian citizens or transfer of ownership or control to persons resident outside India. Other investments by a person resident outside India will be subject to conditions of Government approval and compliance of sectoral conditions as laid down in Regulation 16 of FEMA 20(R).

- Foreign investment in sectors/activities under government approval route will be subject to government approval where:
  - The ownership and of an existing Indian company, currently owned or controlled by resident Indian citizens is transferred on to a non-resident entity as a consequence of transfer of shares and/or fresh issue of shares to nonresident entities.
  - It is clarified that Foreign investment shall include all types of foreign investments, direct and indirect. Foreign Currency Convertible Bonds and Depository Receipts being in the nature of debt, shall not be treated as foreign investment. However, any equity holding by a person resident outside India resulting from conversion of any debt instrument under any arrangement shall be reckoned as foreign investment.
  - Investment by NRIs will be deemed to be domestic investment at par with the investment made by residents.
  - A company, trust and partnership firm incorporated outside India and owned and controlled by non-resident Indians will be eligible for investments.

The entry routes, sectoral caps/investment limits, pricing guidelines and other attendant conditions, however, will not apply in case the transferee is an NRI or an OCI or a company/trust/partnership firm incorporated outside India and owned and controlled by NRIs or OCIs acquiring such investment on a non-repatriation basis.

For more information visit the following links—
https://dipp.gov.in/foreign-direct-investment/foreign-direct-investment-policy
https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/notification/PDFs/MD11_04012018B4D0DB4E6DA04CC4B7AF62AA03D902BE.PDF

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**Japan India Startup Hub:** It is an online platform to bridge the gap between Indian & Japanese startup ecosystems and enable meaningful synergies to promote joint innovation in both economies. The Hub was conceptualized as part of a joint statement signed between the METI (Japan) and MoC&I (India) on 1st May 2018. The Hub enables collaborations between startups, investors, incubators, & aspiring entrepreneurs of both countries and provide them requisite resources for market entry & global expansion.
The c-Tourist Visa which was introduced in September 2014 with 46 countries has now been made applicable for 166 countries. Recently, government has made series of amendments in e-visa regime, liberalizing it further and making it more tourist friendly. The Ministry of Tourism has been working very closely with Ministry of Home Affairs for easing of the Visa Regime in the country over a period of time.

Important modifications are highlighted as under:-

- Duration of stay in India of e-Tourist and e-Business Visas is maximum upto 1 Year with multiple entry subject to the stay stipulations.
- Also, the existing restriction of allowing foreigner for a maximum of three times has also been removed
- Changes in e-Tourist Visa:
  - On e-Tourist Visa continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 90 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa except nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan.
  - In case of nationals of USA, UK, Canada and Japan continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days.
  - In all cases no registration will be required.
- Changes in e-Business Visa
  - Continuous stay during each visit shall not exceed 180 days in case of nationals of all countries who are eligible for grant of e-visa
  - No registration will be required if the stay is for a period of less than 180 days.
- Other changes:
  - e-Visa is valid for entry through 2 (two) more designated Airports (Bhubaneswar and Port Blair) raising the total number of such airports to 28.
  - Attending Destination wedding under normal e-Tourist visa or Tourist visa- No separate category of Destination Wedding Visa
  - Foreign nationals who fall sick during their stay in India can now avail medical treatment without converting their visa into Medical Visa. This would take care of sudden medical emergencies.
  - Visa-on-Arrival facility extended to the nationals of Republic of Korea.
  - For more details visit http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1564759
**OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPIC 2020 - HOST TOWN INITIATIVE - INDIA-OKUIZUMO TOWN, SHIMANE PREFECTURE**

Okuizumo, is a small town of 13,000 people situated in the Western part of Honshu Island’s Shimane prefecture, roughly 900kms from Tokyo. From being known as a major producer of iron in Japan a few centuries ago, this town has made a name for itself as one of the strongest bases of hockey in Japan. This town alone has produced 4 Olympic level and 11 national level players over the past decade and aims to continue striving for excellence both on national and international arena. Okuizumo was recognized as a host town for the Olympic camp after thorough consideration by the Japanese government authorities in 2017. Okuizumo town has been making a lot of efforts to establish a close relationship with India and has been hosting cultural and hockey exchange programs for the past 2 years towards the realization of this hockey event. In October 2017 & December 2018, town hosted high school students from India under the JENESYS Program for a hockey exchange, which was also apparently the first of its kind. This whole exchange event was covered by NHK News of Japan, who later broadcasted it nationally. Recently, NHK broadcasted it internationally on NHK World’s NEWSLINE segment on 21st February at 8AM JST. Okuizumo town is planning to invite the Indian National Hockey Team to Okuizumo for a Pre-Olympic Camp.

**Super-global high school program of MEXT, Government of Japan**

The super-global high school program of MEXT, GoJ aims to foster globalized leaders who will be able to play active roles on the international stage through education at high schools that contribute to this mission. Students will achieve goals such as awareness and deep knowledge of social issues, communication ability and problem-solving skills. High schools designated as Super Global High Schools design a profile for the type of globalized leader they envision. They conduct multidisciplinary, comprehensive and exploratory studies on social and business issues at the global level, in collaboration with domestic and overseas universities that promote globalization as well as corporations and international organizations. This program requires high school students to conduct fieldwork both domestically and internationally on a research topic as part of their learning, in order to broaden their views and pursue their goals. The designated schools are expected to design a profile of their ideal leader, set specific research topics and education content in consideration of their regional characteristics and features of the schools.

Under the programme, in the year 2016-17, G. D. Goenka Public School, New Delhi, India and Fukiai High School, Kobe, Japan organised an online web-based interaction. The theme was ‘Fashion’. The project was a comparative study of fashion trends popular among teenagers of Japan and India. It examined the role of fashion in the lives of today’s adolescents and its serious impact on them. The students engaged in deliberations and reflected on an aspect that is such an integral part of their everyday lives. It was for students of Grades 10-12 (15-18 years old) and Number of students were 16-20 from each of the two schools.

**School Outreach**

Embassy of India hosted students from Taimei Elementary School, Tokyo. They were familiarized with aspects of India with Q&A, yoga. Students performed Indian Dance too. Books on Gandhi were handed over for the school library.
Cultural evening of folk music & dance at Embassy of India

DHOAD, a folk dance and music group from Rajasthan state of India performed in the Embassy of India at it’s Vivekananda Cultural Centre. The group consisted of its founder Mr. Rahis Bharti and other members. The artists presented the masterpieces of Rajasthani songs like “PadharoMhare Des”, “NimbudaNimbuda” and other songs in addition to the folk dances in Rajasthani style performed by the Japanese dancers. At the end of the event, the artists were felicitated by HE Shri Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan.

Bodhisena

The tie between India and Japan started when Buddhism reached Japan from India. Some 200 years later from the arrival of Buddhism to Japan, a monk from Tenjiku (India) came to Japan in 736, on board the nineth Japanese missions to Tang China. This monk was Bodhisena who was also called Baramon Sojo or Bodai Sojo. He was highly respected by poeple. Bodhisena became widely known when he performed a critical role in the eye-opening ceremony for a new statue of the Buddha Vairocana (or Great Buddha) at Todaiji Temple in 752. The eye-opening ceremony is considered to be very important ritual because it is believed that by painting eyes of Buddha statue, one can invite the holly spirit into it. Bodhisena was specially requested by the Emperor Shomu to be the master of the ceremony. The ceremony performed by a monk, who came from the land of Buddha, bore great significance. Since then, Bodhisena serve as a bridge to further promote Japan-India exchanges at various levels as well as Buddhism.

Sopore Fruit Mandi

Sopore Fruit Mandi, which is Asia's second largest fruit wholesale market and is the biggest economy hub in Jammu and Kashmir. To explore more visit the link https://www.facebook.com/IndiaInJapan/videos/844187569248562/
Ayurveda in Japan

Japan Ayurveda Society (JAS) as a group of doctors and persons interested in Ayurveda has been functioning particularly as “Ayurveda Study Group” since the 1960’s and on basis of years of conducting conferences and research changed into JAS in 1999. Presently, it has about 500 members of which about 50 doctors mostly practicing western medicine including Dr Kazuo Uebaba, a pioneer of Ayurveda in Japan. JAS’s activities may be characterized as “Promotion of Ayurveda with a view to promoting overall health and prevention of diseases”. JAS provide information and education on various aspects of traditional Ayurveda and provide a “Self-care certification” to participants. The current President of JAS is Dr. Tsuyoshi Kitanashi and Vice President is Dr. Inamura Hiroe Sharma. Their official website is https://avv-gakkai.com/index.html.

Dr. Inamura Hiroe Sharma, President, Osaka Ayurveda Institute has co-translated from Sanskrit to Japanese language the most comprehensive ancient text of Ayurveda ASTANGA HRDAYAM by great scholar of Ayurveda Vagbhata. The book was inaugurated during the annual meet of Ayurveda Society in Japan at Kanazawa University on 21st October 2018.

Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between India and the Kanagawa Prefectural Government of Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness signed during PM Modi’s visit to Japan in Oct 2018 with aim to promote bilateral cooperation, for the first time, in Indian traditional medicinal systems such as Ayurveda and Yoga.

ICCR Scholarship 2019-20

The interview and English eligibility test for Japanese applicants for the ICCR General Scholarship Scheme was conducted at the Embassy of India. This programme is offered to Japanese nationals for studying Undergraduate, Post-graduate and Ph.D courses in various subjects for the academic year 2019-20.
ADMISSIONS 2019-20

Located in Rajgir near the site of its ancient predecessor, Nalanda University is an avant-garde International University supported by 17 partner countries of East Asia Summit. It is designated by the Government of India as an ‘Institution of National Importance’ under the Ministry of External Affairs.

MASTERS’ PROGRAMS
SCHOOL OF ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT STUDIES
M.Sc./M.A.
Focus Areas
- Human Ecology
- Hydrology
- Soil Ecology
- Food and Agriculture
- Climate Change
- Energy Studies
- Coastal and Marine Studies
- Remote Sensing and GIS
- Disaster Management

SCHOOL OF BUDDHIST STUDIES, PHILOSOPHY, AND COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS
M.A.
Focus Areas
- Asian Connections
- Buddhist Studies
- Buddhist Archaeology and Art
- Interaction of Religious Traditions
- Asian/Indian Philosophy
- Vedic Studies/Hindu Studies
- Yoga Philosophy
- Theory and Method of Religious Studies

SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL STUDIES
M.A.
Focus Areas
- History of Science
- East Asian History and Civilization
- Cultural History of India
- Oral Histories of India
- Asian Interconnections
- Economic History
- Archaeology

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES & LITERATURE / HUMANITIES
CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA
(Korean/Sanskrit/English)
Focus Areas
- Advanced Language Proficiency
- Language and Culture
- Translation
- Languages Taught:
  Sanskrit, Japanese, Korean, Pali, Tibetan, English, Hindi

“From time immemorial India opened up novel paths of learning. Wherever Buddha traversed, seeds of knowledge sprouted and flourished. For centuries, Nalanda was a beacon of learning which attracted scholars from all over the world and became a symbol of Asian wisdom. It is now poised to embark on a similar journey on an expanded scale with Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean countries joining in. If the world’s future lies in achieving a multi-polar system, it is necessary that an institution such as Nalanda charts the course of a new knowledge system for the 21st Century”

Vice Chancellor
Prof. Susaina Singh

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Scholarship for the Academic Session, 2019-20 under the Scheme of Propagation of Hindi Abroad at Central Institute of Hindi (KHS) Agra. Brochures and the application forms of the Kendriya Hindi Sansthan are enclosed, herewith, however it can be downloaded from www.khsindia.org.

インド政府ヒンディー語研究奨学金留学生募集要項

1. 専攻分野： ヒンディー語
2. 受入機関： Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (Central Institute of Hindi, Agra)
   公式ウェブサイト：www.khsindia.org
3. 料金期間： 1学年間（2019年8月1日～2020年4月30日）
4. 待遇： 挙学金：月額 6,000ルピー
   国際便往復航空費（エコノミークラス最短距离分）支給
   書籍代：年額 1,000ルピー
   医者の受診料免除
5. 応募資格：
   (1) 日本国籍を有する者
   (2) 健康な者
   (3) 21歳以上35歳以下の者（2019年8月1日現在）
   (4) 高等学校を卒業している者（又は留学開始時までに卒業予定）
   (5) ヒンディー語を少なくとも1～2年間学んだことのある者
6. 出願書類提出先及び問い合わせ先：
   駐日インド大使館教育部
   （受付時間：月曜日～金曜日 午前9時30分～午後5時）
   〒102-0074 東京都千代田区九段南2－2－11
   TEL：03-3262-2391（内線407）
   E-mail：edt.tokyo@mea.gov.in iecwing.tokyo@mea.gov.in
7. 出願書類提出期限： 2019年3月15日（金曜日）
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