

**Video Message by H.E. Mr. Sibi George, Ambassador of India  
to Japan @ India-Japan Cancer Symposium, Kanazawa  
University on July 24, 2023**

Good afternoon everyone,

It is my pleasure to address the gathering at the India-Japan Cancer Symposium. I congratulate the Cancer Research Institute of Kanazawa University, Kanazawa Association of Tumor Biologists and other Co-organizers for hosting this 2 day event.

I am told that the India-Japan Cancer symposium has been designed to facilitate international joint cancer research between India and Japan and to strengthen the networking and partnership in cancer research areas. It is through collaborative efforts like the one between India and Japan that we can make significant strides in the fight against this disease.

India and Japan have a long-standing relationship built on shared values and mutual respect. Both countries have a strong tradition of scientific research and innovation, and it is this shared commitment to scientific progress that has paved the way for the remarkable collaboration in cancer research. This partnership holds immense potential for addressing the challenges posed by cancer and improving the lives of countless individuals.

One of the key aspects of this collaboration must be the exchange of ideas and information. Through joint research programs, conferences, workshops, and symposiums, scientists and researchers from both countries can share their findings and learn from each other's experiences. This exchange of knowledge not only enhances the quality of research but also fosters a spirit of cooperation among the scientific community. It will promote a culture of open collaboration, where breakthroughs in cancer research can be shared and built upon for the greater benefit of humanity.

Another significant aspect of the India-Japan cancer research collaboration is its potential for cost-effective solutions. By joining

forces, India and Japan can work towards developing affordable and accessible cancer care options that cater to the unique needs and challenges faced by their populations. This collaboration can lead to the development of innovative technologies, diagnostics, and therapeutics that are both effective and affordable, making cancer care more accessible to all.

I am happy to learn that a few initiatives have already been undertaken viz: (i) India and Japan have established a Ministerial level Joint Commission Meeting mechanism on Health Partnership, and the 2nd meeting was held recently in May 2023 in Tokyo. The wide range of cooperation in the Health Sector also includes emphasis on R&D, medical exchanges and capacity building for non-communicable diseases, and several initiatives have been taken in tackling cancer. (ii) A MoU signed between Tata Memorial Centre of India and National Cancer Center of Japan to strengthen collaborative Cancer Research and Training of Young Oncologists (Feb, 2022). (iii) JICA has agreed to extend ODA loan of INR 560 crores for Super-Specialty Cancer and Research Center project in Mizoram, India (Feb, 2023).

I am confident that the India-Japan collaboration in cancer research has the power to create a ripple effect in the broader health care ecosystem. The knowledge and advancements gained from this collaboration can be applied not only to cancer but also to other diseases and medical conditions. It can lead to the development of new research methodologies, improved diagnostic tools, and more personalized treatment approaches that benefit a wide range of patients. This collaboration can set a precedent for international partnerships in health care, inspiring other countries to join forces and tackle pressing global health challenges together.

I wish all the participants the best and once again congratulate the organizers for this wonderful initiative.

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