

Embassy of India Tokyo Newsletter

"The Indian Connection"

India On the Move

Government measures increase FDI inflows in the country

The Measures taken by the Government on the fronts of FDI policy reforms, investment facilitation and ease of doing business have resulted in increased FDI inflows into the country as

- India Attracts total FDI inflow of US\$ 72.12 billion during April, 2020 to January, 2021
- Computer Software & Hardware emerged as top sector with 45.81% of total FDI Equity inflow
- Japan leads the list of Investor countries with 29.09% of the total FDI Equity inflows during January, 2021

These trends in India's Foreign Direct Investment are an endorsement of its status as a preferred investment destination amongst global investors.

Details <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1709654>

FY 2020-21 witnessed strong Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI) inflows into Indian equity markets

Government of India's major policy initiatives led to inflow of Rs 2.74 lakh crore (~37 billion USD) Foreign Portfolio Investments (FPI) in Indian equity markets in FY2020-21.

Steadfast Growth Reflects steadfast confidence of foreign investors in fundamentals of Indian Economy. Government and regulators had also undertaken major policy initiatives directed at improving ease of access and investment climate for FPIs in the recent past. These include simplification and rationalisation of the FPI regulatory regime, operationalisation of the online Common Application Form (CAF) for the purpose of registration with SEBI, allotment of PAN and opening of bank and Demat accounts etc.

The growth forecast for India in FY 2021-22 have been pegged above 10% by the World Bank, IMF and several global research organisations underscoring that India will continue to remain an attractive investment destination in the near future.

Details <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1709788>

One more Green initiative by Government of India!!

Union Cabinet approved Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for 'National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules' with budgetary outlay of INR 6,238 crore (~612mn USD).

Details <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1710113>

Message from the
Ambassador H. E.
Mr. Sanjay Kumar
Verma

I am pleased to bring forth this edition of the newsletter of the Indian Embassy 'The Indian Connection'.

This edition brings you stories of growing India as well as initiatives of the Indian Government and resulting success stories besides stories of India-Japan.

Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony.

MAHATAMA GANDHI

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Raisina Dialogue 2021 held virtually from 13-16 April, 2021

- 6th Edition of the prestigious Raisina Dialogue was held virtually from 13-16 April, 2021.
- Raisina Dialogue is India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics, held annually since 2016. It is jointly organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation.
- Due to the exceptional circumstances of Covid-19 pandemic, the organisers decided to hold the Dialogue virtually.
- Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Dialogue through a video message on 13 April. President of Rwanda, Paul Kagame and Prime Minister of Denmark, Mette Frederiksen also joined the Inaugural Session as Chief Guests. Prime Minister of Australia, Scott Morrison and the President of the European Council, Charles Michel will also participate in the conference, in subsequent sessions.
- The theme for the 2021 Edition is "#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control".
- Over the course of four days, the Dialogue, had panel conversations on five thematic pillars -
 1. WHOse Multilateralism? Reconstructing the UN and Beyond;
 2. Securing and Diversifying Supply Chains;
 3. Global 'Public Bads': Holding Actors and Nations to Account;
 4. Infodemic: Navigating a 'No-Truth' World in the Age of Big Brother;
 5. The Green Stimulus: Investing in Gender, Growth, and Development.
- Event also saw the presence of Carl Bildt, Former Prime Minister of Sweden; Anthony Abbott, Former Prime Minister of Australia, and Helen Clark, former Prime Minister of New Zealand. Foreign Ministers of France, Portugal, Slovenia, Romania, Singapore, Nigeria, Japan, Italy, Sweden, Australia, Kenya, Chile, Maldives, Iran, Qatar, Poland, Turkey and Bhutan also participated.
- The 2021 Edition had 50 sessions with participation of 150 speakers from 50 countries and multilateral organisations. More than 2000 attendees pre-registered from over 80 countries and a large number of participants joined the Dialogue through various social media platforms.
- In the past six years, the Raisina Dialogue has grown in stature and profile to emerge as a leading global conference on international affairs. It attracts leading minds from the global strategic and policy-making community to discuss broader foreign policy and strategic issues facing the world.
- More details are available at www.orfonline.org/raisina-dialogue/



Press Release : https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/33796/Raisina_Dialogue_2021_begins_tomorrow_in_virtual_mode

At Raisina Dialogue 2021, a Message from the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Japan H.E. Mr Toshimitsu Motegi.

Youtube Link <https://youtu.be/vIDcuy64NLg>



Session at Raisina Dialogue 2021 "Future of Conflict: How Will Democracies Respond?" had speakers incl CDF Australia, Chief of Staff, **Joint Staff of Japan Self-Defense Forces (JSDF)** and Chief of Defence Staff, India.

Youtube Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhFEzHfAWYM>



Session at Raisina Dialogue 2021 "The Architecture of the Future: Building a New Indo-Pacific" had speakers including Mr Tadashi Maeda, Governor, **Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)**, Japan & Minister, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, GoI . Youtube Link youtu.be/UN1SRTnCtnU



Excerpts from Address by Prime Minister at the inaugural session of Raisina Dialogue 2021

This edition of Raisina dialogue takes place at a watershed moment in human history. A global pandemic has been ravaging the world for over a year. The last such Global pandemic was a century ago. Although Humanity has faced many infectious diseases since then, the world today is under-prepared to handle the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our scientists, researchers and industry have answered some questions.

What is the virus?

How does it spread?

How can we slow it down?

How do we make a vaccine?

How do we administer vaccine at a scale and with speed?

To these and many other such questions many solutions have emerged. And no doubt many more are yet to come. But as global thinkers and leaders we must ask ourselves some more questions.

For over a year now, the best minds of our societies have been engaged in battling this pandemic. All the governments of the world at all levels are trying to contain and control this pandemic. Why did it come to this? Is it perhaps because in the race of economic development the concern for welfare of humanity has been left behind.

Is it perhaps because in the age of competition, the spirit of cooperation has been forgotten. The answer to such questions can be found in our recent past. Friends the horrors of the first and second World War compelled the emergence of a new world order. After the end of the second world war, over the next few decades many structures and institutions were created but under the shadow of the two wars they were aimed at answering only one question, how to prevent the Third World War?

Today, I submit to you that this was the wrong question, as a result all the steps taken were like treating a patient symptoms without addressing the underlying causes. Or to put it differently, all the steps taken were to prevent the last war not the next one. In fact while humanity has not faced the Third World War, the threat of violence has not reduced in people's lives. With a number of proxy wars and unending terror attacks, the prospect of violence is ever present.

So, what would have been the right question?

They could have included:

Why do we have famines and hunger?

Why do we have poverty?

Or most fundamentally

Why can't we cooperate to address problems that threaten the entire Humanity?

I'm sure that if our thinking has been along such lines, very different solutions would have emerged.

It is not too late even now. The mistakes and misdeeds of the past seven decades need not constrain our thinking for the future. The Covid-19 pandemic has presented us an opportunity to reshape the world order, to reorient our thinking. We must create systems that addresses the problems of today and challenges of tomorrow. And we must think of the entire humanity and not merely of those who are on our side of the borders. Humanity as a whole must be at the center of our thinking and action.

During this pandemic, in our own humble way, within our own limited resources, we in India have tried to walk the talk. We have tried to protect our own 1.3 billion citizens from the pandemic. At the same time we have also tried to support the pandemic response efforts of others. In our neighborhood, we have encouraged our coordinated regional response to the crisis. Last year we shared medicines and protective equipment with over a hundred and fifty countries. We understand fully, that mankind will not defeat the pandemic unless all of us, everywhere, regardless of the color of our passports, come out of it. That is why, this year despite many constraints, we have supplied vaccine to over 80 countries. We know that the supplies have been modest. We know that the demands are huge. We know that it will be a long time before the entire humanity can be vaccinated. At the same time we also know that hope matters. It matters as much to the citizens of the richest countries as it does to the less fortunate. And so we will continue to share our experiences, our expertise and also our resources with the entire Humanity in the fight against the pandemic.

As we gather virtually at the Raisina dialogue this year, I call upon you to emerge as a powerful voice for a human centric approach, As how said elsewhere while we may be used to having Plan A and plan B, there is no Planet B, only planet Earth. And so we must remember that we hold this planet merely as trustees for our future Generations.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1711594>

Leaders' Summit on Climate (April 22-23, 2021)

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the Leaders' Summit on Climate at the invitation of President of U.S.A. Joseph R. Biden, was held virtually on 22-23 April 2021. Prime Minister made his remarks in the Leaders' Session 1 on 22 April 2021 on "Our Collective Sprint to 2030".

Nearly 40 other world leaders participated in the Summit representing countries which are members of the Major Economies Forum (India is a member), and those vulnerable to climate change, among others. The Leaders exchanged views on climate change, enhancing climate actions, mobilising finance towards climate mitigation and adaptation, nature based solutions, climate security as well as technological innovations for clean energy. The Leaders also deliberated on how the world can align climate action with inclusive and resilient economic development, while respecting national circumstances and sustainable development priorities.

The Summit was a part of a series of global meetings focusing on climate issues, being held in the run up to COP26 in November 2021.



Excerpts from Address by Prime Minister at the Leaders' Summit on Climate 2021

Humanity is battling a global pandemic right now. And, this event is a timely reminder that the grave threat of Climate Change has not disappeared.

In fact, Climate Change is a lived reality for millions around the world. Their lives and livelihoods are already facing its adverse consequences.

For humanity to combat Climate Change, concrete action is needed. We need such action at a high speed, on a large scale, and with a global scope. We, in India, are doing our part. Our ambitious renewable energy target of 450 Gigawatts by 2030 shows our commitment.

Despite our development challenges, we have taken many bold steps on clean energy, energy efficiency, afforestation and bio-diversity. That is why we are among the few countries whose NDCs are 2-degree-Celsius compatible.

We have also encouraged global initiatives like International Solar Alliance, The Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT), and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

As a climate-responsible developing country, India welcomes partners to create templates of sustainable development in India. These can also help other developing countries, who need affordable access to green finance and clean technologies.

That is why, President Biden and I are launching the "India-US climate and clean energy Agenda 2030 partnership". Together, we will help mobilise investments, demonstrate clean technologies, and enable green collaborations.

Today, as we discuss global climate action, I want to leave one thought with you. India's per capita carbon footprint is 60% lower than the global average. It is because our lifestyle is still rooted in sustainable traditional practices.

So today, I want to emphasise the importance of lifestyle change in climate action. Sustainable lifestyles and a guiding philosophy of "Back to Basics" must be an important pillar of our economic strategy for the post-Covid era.

I recall the words of the great Indian monk Swami Vivekananda. He called on us to "Arise, awake and stop not until the goal is reached". Let us make this a Decade of Action against climate change.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1713442>

The India & Japan Stories

Phone call between Prime Minister of India and Prime Minister of Japan

On 26 April 2021, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had a phone call with His Excellency Suga Yoshihide, Prime Minister of Japan.

The two leaders discussed the COVID-19 situation in the respective country and exchanged views on various regional and global challenges posed by the pandemic. They highlighted the importance of close India-Japan cooperation to overcome these challenges, such as by working together to create resilient, diversified and trustworthy supply chains, ensuring reliable supply of critical materials and technologies, and developing new partnerships in manufacturing and skill development. In this context, the two leaders emphasized the need for early operationalization of the Specified Skilled workers (SSW) agreement in order to synergize their strengths and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. They also highlighted the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) project as a shining example of their cooperation and welcomed the steady progress in its execution.

The two leaders appreciated the support and facilitation provided to resident citizens in each other's country during the COVID-19 pandemic, and agreed to continue such coordination.

Prime Minister Modi also thanked Prime Minister Suga for providing assistance to India for combating the pandemic. He also expressed hope that he would be able to receive Prime Minister Suga in India at the earliest in the near future once the COVID-19 situation stabilizes.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1714094>

Australia-India-Japan Trade Ministers' Joint Statement on Launch of Supply Chain Resilience initiative

On 27th April 2021, the Trade Ministers of India, Japan and Australia formally launched the Supply Chain Resilience initiative in a Trilateral Ministerial Meeting held virtually on 27.04.2021. The following is the text of the Joint statement adopted in the Meeting:

1. Mr. Dan Tehan, Australia's Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Mr. Piyush Goyal, India's Minister for Commerce and Industry, and Mr. Kajiyama Hiroshi, Japan's Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry held a Ministerial videoconference on 27 April 2021.
2. The Ministers acknowledged that the COVID-19 pandemic was having an unprecedented impact in terms of lives lost, livelihoods and economies affected, and that the pandemic had revealed supply chain vulnerabilities globally and in the region. The Ministers also noted that some supply chains have been left vulnerable due to a range of factors.
3. Based on the high level consultations among Australia, India and Japan since September last year, the Ministers noted the importance of risk management and continuity plans in order to avoid supply chain disruptions and affirmed their commitment to strengthen resilient supply chains. Possible policy measures may include: (i) supporting the enhanced utilization of digital technology; and (ii) supporting trade and investment diversification.
4. The Ministers hereby launch the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI). The Ministers instructed their officials to implement the following as initial projects of SCRI and further develop the Initiative: (i) sharing of best practices on supply chain resilience; and (ii) holding investment promotion events and buyer-seller matching events to provide opportunities for stakeholders to explore the possibility of diversification of their supply chains.
5. The Ministers decided to convene at least once a year to provide guidance to the implementation of the SCRI as well as to consult on how to develop the Initiative. The Ministers noted the important role of business and academia for the Initiative. The Ministers directed their officials to meet as often as required to take the Initiative forward. The SCRI aims to create a virtuous cycle of enhancing supply chain resilience with a view to eventually attaining strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth in the region. The Ministers consented that expansion of the SCRI may be considered based on consensus, if needed, in due course.
6. To quickly take forward the initiative, the Ministers explored convening the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting, once in four months.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1714362>

MoU between India and Japan for Academic and Research Cooperation and Exchange

On 07 April 2021, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, is apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL), Dept of Space, Government of India and Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan for Academic and Research Cooperation and Exchange on November 4, 2020 and November 11, 2020 at respective institutes and exchanged by post.

Objectives

- This MoU shall enable NARL and RISH to continue their cooperation in areas of atmospheric science and technology, collaborative scientific experiments/campaigns and related modelling studies utilising the research facilities of RISH and NARL, exchange of scientific materials, publications and information, joint research meetings and workshops, exchange of faculty members, students and researchers.
- This MoU would lead to mutual utilization of facilities such as the Middle and Upper atmosphere (MU) radar in Shigaraki, Japan, the Equatorial Atmosphere Radar (EAR) in Kototabang, Indonesia and complementary instruments available from RISH, and the Mesosphere-Stratosphere-Troposphere (MST) radar and complementary instruments available at NARL.

Background

NARL and RISH have been collaborating in the area of atmospheric science and technology as well as exchange of scientists. This arrangement was formalised in 2008 through an MoU. The above MoU was renewed in the year 2013. A fresh MOU to promote collaborative research, as per the new guidelines, was signed in November 2020 by both sides and exchanged.

NARL scientists worked as resource persons in the international school on atmospheric radar conducted by RISH. A team of Professors and Researchers of Kyoto University visited NARL and conducted focused workshop to strengthen cooperative research being carried out by the two institutes.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1710115>

Indian Navy Ships and Aircraft participated in exercise La Perouse

Indian Navy Ships INS Satpura (with an integral helicopter embarked) and INS Kiltan alongwith P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft participated, for the first time; in multi-lateral maritime exercise La Pérouse, conducted in the Eastern Indian Ocean Region from 05 to 07 April 2021. The Indian Navy ships and aircraft exercised at sea with ships and aircraft of French Navy (FN), Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Japan Maritime Self Defence Force (JMSDF) and United States Navy (USN) during the three day exercise at sea.

The exercise La Pérouse, led by French Navy, had participation by FN Ships *Tonnerre*, an amphibious assault ship and frigate *Surcouf*. United States Navy represented in the exercise by amphibious transport dock ship *Somerset*. Her Majesty's Australian Ships (HMAS) *Anzac*, a frigate and tanker *Sirius* had deployed by RAN for participation in the exercise while Japan Maritime Self Defence Ship (JMSDF) was represented by the destroyer *Akebono*. In addition to the ships, integral helicopters embarked onboard ships also participate in the exercise.

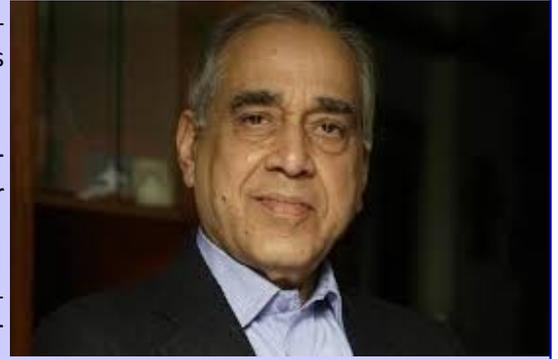
Exercise La Pérouse witnessed complex and advanced naval operations including surface warfare, anti-air warfare and air defence exercises, weapon firing exercises, cross deck flying operations, tactical manoeuvres and seamanship evolutions such as replenishment at sea. The exercise showcased high levels of synergy, coordination and interoperability between the friendly navies. Participation by the Indian Navy in the exercise demonstrates the shared values with friendly navies ensuring freedom of seas and commitment to an open, inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order.



Indians among Government of Japan's 2021 Spring Decorations

On 29th April 2021, the Government of Japan announced the foreign recipients of the 2021 Spring Decorations. Following Indians are among this year's foreign recipients.

- Mr. Nripendra Misra, former Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister of India ("The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star" for Strengthening the economic relationship between Japan and India);
- Mrs. Indira Misra, former President of the Ikebana International Gurgaon Chapter ("The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays" for Promoting Ikebana in India and mutual understanding between Japan and India);
- Mrs. Shyamala Ganesh, Former Director of the Japanese Language School & Former President of the Bangalore Chapter of Ohara Ikebana (The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays for promoting Japanese language and culture in India and friendship between Japan and India)



Details : <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/100182760.pdf>

Japanese Business Establishments in india-2020

The Embassy and Consulates General of Japan in India, and JETRO, have jointly compiled the list, with the cooperation of Japanese chambers of commerce and industries in India. The findings released in March 2021 are as follows:

- (1) The total number of Japanese companies registered in India is 1,455 (2) The total number of Japanese business establishments in India is 4,948

More details https://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/Japan-India-Relations/Japanese_Business_Establishments.html

Source : EoJ, New Delhi

On 12 April 2021, 12th JCM of Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project happened. Reviewed progress which has been maintained despite tough Pandemic times. Civil tender worth ~Rs 25000 Crores finalised in record time of 35 days. Both Japan & India reaffirmed their commitment for Project.



On 19 April 2021, General MM Naravane COAS attended the 'Chief of Army Symposium 2021' CAS2021 via video conferencing. The COAS addressed the CAS2021 on 'Geopolitics of Indo Pacific Region'. The Chiefs of Japan GSDF, Australian Army, Indonesian Army & Singapore Army also addressed the CAS2021. Senior Officers of Australian Army, government officials & Defence Attachés from Indonesia, Japan, Singapore & India viewed the CAS2021.



Signing of Loan Agreement for "Climate Change Management Project" in India: Supporting India to reduce the emission of greenhouse gas through Private Sector Investment Finance

On March 25, 2021, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a Loan Agreement for a maximum amount of JPY 10 billion with Indian Non-Banking Financial Company, Tata Cleantech Capital Limited (TCCL) to support the company to offer loans to businesses across India that focus on renewable energy generation, electric vehicles (EV) as well as energy efficiency following the Green Loan Principles (Note). This loan will be provided through Private Sector Investment Finance scheme of JICA and is co-financing with the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC).

TCCL, a joint venture between Tata Capital Limited (Tata Group) and IFC (World Bank Group) is a first of its kind Private Sector Green Investment Bank with focus on climate finance and advisory services. Internationally recognized by its induction in the coveted Green Bank Network, TCCL is the premier Indian entity and first Private Sector Climate Finance Institution to be part of this network. TCCL has contributed to the development of ~9.8 GW renewable energy which has averted annual carbon emissions of 15.1 MT.

JICA's loan will support TCCL to mitigate the impact of climate change by offering green finance, which will contribute to decrease the emission of GHG in India. It will also contribute to SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) Goals 7 and 13. JICA will continue its support for climate change initiatives in the world and continue to mobilize private finance for this sector.

Source : JICA

Signing of Yen Loan Agreement for India

On March 26, 2021, Mr. SUZUKI Satoshi, Ambassador of Japan to India, and Dr. C.S. Mohapatra, Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India, exchanged Notes in New Delhi, concerning the provision of yen loans and of a grant aid.

Overview of the main loan projects:

- (1) Bengaluru Metro Rail Project (Phase 2)
- (2) Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project (Phase 4)
- (3) Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project (Phase 2)
- (4) Rajasthan Rural Water Supply and Fluorosis Mitigation Project (Phase 2)

Overview of the grant project :

The Project for Improvement of Power Supply in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Source : EoJ [https://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00161.html]
& JICA [https://www.jica.go.jp/press/2020/20210326_31.html]



JICA's support for ecological restoration and sustainable livelihoods

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is providing its strong support to the sector for the last three decades and its efforts are in line with the national target of Government of India of bringing 33% forest coverage in the country. Since 1991, JICA has extended support for enhancing the afforestation, protection and conservation efforts of India through the Joint Forest Management (JFM) approach by granting Official Developmental Assistance (ODA) loans of 270 billion Japanese Yen (approximately INR 18,000 Crore) to the country. JICA ODA supports a total plantation area of 3 million hectares (ha) in India.

Source : JICA [<https://www.jica.go.jp/india/english/office/topics/press200321.html>]

Grant Contracts (G/Cs) relating to 4 projects funded under the Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP) scheme were signed on 30th March 2021 with representatives of the respective recipient organizations.

https://www.in.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00165.html

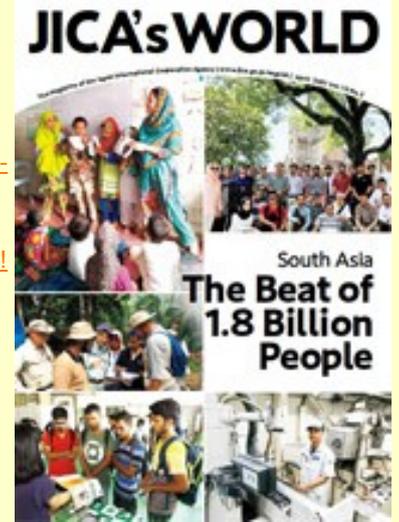
Source : EoJ, New Delhi

JICA's World Special Issue (April 2021)

South Asia The Beat of 1.8 Billion People

- [Human Resources Development - Engineering & Technology × Industry-Academia Partnerships: Results from Tag-team India-Japan Collaboration](#)
- [Human Resources Development - Engineers: Japanese Companies Expanding in India! Aiming for New Business Developments](#)

Read : <https://www.jica.go.jp/english/publications/j-world/2104.html>



Japanese telecom company NTT and India's Telecommunications Consultants of India Limited (TCIL) have come together to cooperate in the areas of fifth generation (5G) technology, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, and submarine cable systems. The two-year long extendable deal with NTT Advanced Technologies would enable both companies to co-provide services in the telecom, networking, information, and related applications to their customers.

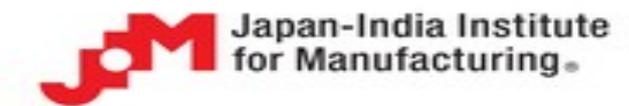
Source : <https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/ntt-tcil-team-up-for-5g-ai-submarine-systems/82230264>

On 19 April 2021, NHRCL signs MoU with Japan Railway Technical Services for Training & Certification and Advisory services for construction of track works for #MAHSR corridor.



"Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing" & "Japanese Endowed Courses"

JIM (Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing) and JEC (Japanese Endowed Courses) Schemes are part of joint-governmental initiatives of the Government of Japan and India for skilling the manufacturing-related human resources in India. An MOC (Memorandum of Collaboration) was signed between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) of the Government of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, (METI) of the Government of Japan in November 2016 with a goal to "Train 30,000 floor shop leaders and engineers to Japanese standards in the next 10 years." The Reasons leading up to the creation of the "Japan-India Institute for Manufacturing (JIM)" and the "Japanese Endowed Courses (JEC)" Schemes include the need for better Job-related Technical skills and understanding of Japanese-manufacturing practices such as 5S, Kaizen, etc. and bettering of soft-skills (discipline, work-culture) amongst the human resources that are currently studying to join the manufacturing sector. As on May 2021, 16 JIMs and 5 JECs have been launched. More details at <https://jim-jec.in/index.html>



HOME ABOUT JIM/JEC DEVELOPMENT OF JIM/JEC INFORMATION FOR COMPANIES DOWNLOAD PDF

16 JIMs and 5 JECs have been launched.

Click the icon to see the names of each JIM/JEC.

JIMs	Start Date
Maruti Suzuki	08/2017
Toyota Kirloskar Motor	08/2017
Daikin Airconditioning India	08/2017
India Yamaha Motor	07/2017
Tata Hitachi Construction Machinery	12/2017
Ahreaty India	07/2018
Techno Trend Auto Park	07/2018
Terumo Pimpri	12/2018
SiCity	04/2019
Maruti Suzuki	09/2019
Bellsonia Auto Component India	05/2019
Otsuka Pharmaceutical Factory	11/2019
ASB	12/2019
Mitsui Kinzoku	01/2021
Tohiba Energy Systems	04/2021
NICHIREN	05/2021

JECs	Start Date
Medienaha	09/2017
Mitsubishi Electric	05/2018
Nitta Gelatin & Frasco	03/2019
Panasonic India	11/2019
Maruti Suzuki	02/2020

India in Japan

On 19.04.2021, H.E. Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma met H.E. Ambassador-Designate of Afghanistan to Japan Mr. Shaida Mohd Abdali and discussed India-Afghanistan bilateral relations.



On 16.04.2020, H.E. Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma called on Dr. Michinari Hamaguchi, President of Japan Science & Technology Agency. Both discussed ways to further India-Japan collaboration in frontier & emerging areas of Science & Technology.



On 13.04.2021, Amb Sanjay Kumar Verma address to students of Keio University Indo-Japan Lab's course "Culture, environment & technology of #India" was delivered. Amb highlighted importance of co-creation, co-innovation & co-production to achieve sustainable development goals #SDGs. Professor Rajib Shaw, Director of India Japan Laboratory of Keio University initiated the course titled "Culture, environment and technology of India" with aim to enhance understanding the importance of bilateral cooperation among younger generations in Japan. In total, 85 students registered for the course. Among other dignitaries were HE Hiroshi Hirabayashi, Former Japanese Ambassador to India and President, The Japan India Association. The course will continue until first week of July.

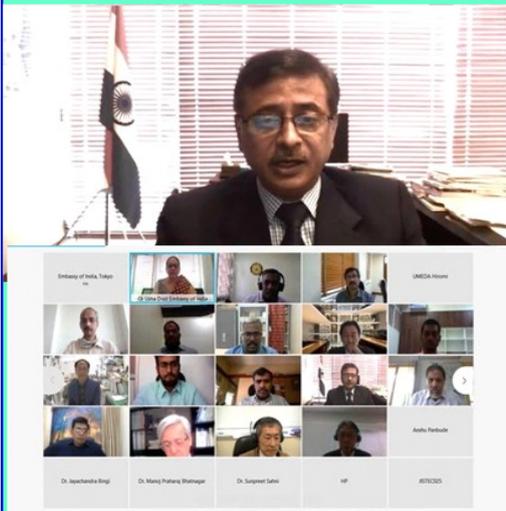
On 13.04.2021, Embassy of India had a fruitful interaction with Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan to discuss potential collaboration in education and partnership with educational Institutions in India.



On 19.04.2021, Mr. HASHIMOTO Toru, Director General, International Affairs, City of Yokohama Yokohama-shi, Kanagawa, Japan Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan and Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma discussed Yokohama-Mumbai Sister City arrangement & activities.



09 April'21 Embassy of India Tokyo with METI Japan, organised India-Japan Webinar on "Innovative Technologies in Technical Textiles" to explore possibilities to develop research collaborations with active participation from various Government & Private Sector.



On 22.04.2021, Ambassador Mr Sanjay Kumar Verma met Dr. Yasuji Yamaguchi, Professor of Philosophy (Retired), an author and Vice President of Japan Vedanta Society. Dr. Yamaguchi has authored & translated (into Japanese language) many books on #Indian Philosophy including "The Life Divine" by Aurobindo; "Practical Vedanta" by Swami Vivekananda; "Indian Philosophy" & "An idealist View of Life" by Dr. S Radhakrishnan.



Ambassador visited Wakayama Prefecture Japan

Visit included various business meetings, visit to shrines & Exhibitions and Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations

On 13 April 2021, Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma called on H.E. Nisaka, Governor of Wakayama Prefecture. They discussed ways of strengthening the continuing relationship between Wakayama and Maharashtra as sister states & further explored possibility of B2B and TITP/SSW seminars.

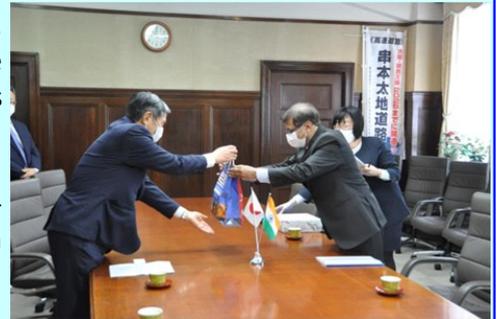
Ambassador next met Mr Kishimoto, Speaker of Wakayama Prefecture Assembly and Mr Niijima, Chairman of the Japan-India Friendship Promotion Group; and other members.

Post meetings, Ambassador paid respects at the Hongu Taisha, one of the three most important shrines in Kumano. The Grand Shrine's 3-day Reitai-sai Festival also started today with a ritual ceremony in which young boys purified by spring water are carried on the shoulders by their fathers.

Ambassador also visited the permanent exhibition on the UNESCO world heritage sites of Ajanta and Ellora at the Kumano Hongu World Heritage Center.

On 14 April 2021, on the occasion of **Ambedkar Jayanti**, Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma paid floral tributes to Bharat Ratna Dr. B R Ambedkar at Koyasan University Wakayama Prefecture Japan. Ceremony commemorating Dr Ambedkar's birthday was also attended by members of Wakayama Prefecture Assembly Japan-India Friendship Promotion Group. Also present was Rev. Ryusho Soeda, President of Koyasan University. Ambassador Sanjay Kumar Verma also delivered a lecture titled "India : a Cultural Microcosm" at Koyasan University, Wakayama Prefecture #Japan.

Ambassador visited the Kongobuji Temple, the head temple of Shingon Buddhism. Ambassador was hosted by Wakayama Prefecture for a shoujin ryouri (vegetarian cuisine originally based on dietary restrictions of Buddhist monks) lunch, with Koya Town Mayor Mr Yoshiya Hirano at the Muryokoin temple.



On 16.04.2021, as part of IndiaJapanAt70, Ambassador's Spouse Mrs Gunjan Verma, organised a Japanese Tea Ceremony with a renowned Tea Ceremony Master and a YouTuber Ms Mako San at Embassy's Vivekananda Cultural Centre.



India-Japan Webinar on "De-carbonization: Exploring the Hydrogen Prospects and Innovative Technologies"

The Embassy of India in Tokyo, in association with the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, TERI - The Energy and Resources Institute and The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), organized an India-Japan Webinar on "De-carbonization: Exploring the Hydrogen Prospects and Innovative Technologies" on April 19, 2021 to explore possibilities to develop research collaborations.

Opening Remarks were delivered by H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan. He highlighted that Japan has a good ecosystem for R&D and commercialization which could be used by the Scientific and Commercial Communities of the two countries. India and Japan have strategic relationships and this has to be elevated to a strategic partnership enabling sharing of knowledge without any inhibition on Hydrogen and utilization of H₂ in the future. He also emphasized on the exchange of knowledge between two countries related to hydrogen fuel cells, hydrogen supply chain, and electrolysis technologies for hydrogen production.

From Japan, Opening Remarks were delivered by Mr. MIYAMOTO Shingo, Minister, Head of Economic Section, Embassy of Japan in India, New Delhi, GoJ. He shared that India & Japan are in a very good position to work together in the area of producing eco-friendly hydrogen for example from bio-fuel with a huge possibility of the two countries cooperating in this area.

Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DST), GoI, delivered the Keynote Address and complemented the Embassy's effort in identifying the relevant S&T issues in a timely manner. He highlighted that the potential of hydrogen technologies is extraordinary and needs to work together on basic research, materials, machinery, large storage options, and green hydrogen technologies.

Special Remarks were delivered by Mr. OHIRA Eiji, Director-General, Fuel Cell and Hydrogen Group, New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Japan; Prof. KAZUHIKO Takeuchi President, The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan; and Dr. Vibha Dhawan, Director General, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), India

Further, Remarks were delivered by Mr. SUGIMOTO Ryuzo, Director of the International Cooperation and Sustainable Infrastructure Office, Ministry of Environment (MoEJ), GoJ; and Ms. ARAKI Mai, Deputy Director, International Affairs Division, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy, Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI), GoJ.

Dr. P. C. Maithani, Scientist-G, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), GoI, discussed Initiatives at MNRE; and Dr. Sangita Kasture, Scientist-F, Department of Bio-Technology (DBT), GoI, delivered a talk on DBT initiatives to promote R&D in Bioenergy during the Webinar.

During the webinar 12 presentations were made by experts (Mr. OHIRA Eiji, Mr. SUGIMOTO Ryuzo, Dr. Nandakumar Janardhanan, Prof. KOJIMA Yoshitsugu, Prof. Tatsuoki KONO, Prof. SUGIYAMA Masakazu, and Mr. SHIBATA Yoshiaki) from Japan and (Prof. Raghuram Chetty, Prof. S. Dasappa, Prof. Rangan Banerjee, Prof. Shailendra Kumar Shukla, and Mr. Mohit Bhargava) from India.

Way Forward & Closing Remarks were delivered by Mr. TAKAHASHI Yasuo, Executive Director, IGES, Japan. Dr. Usha Dixit, Counsellor (S&T), Embassy of India, Tokyo, concluded the webinar with the vote of thanks.



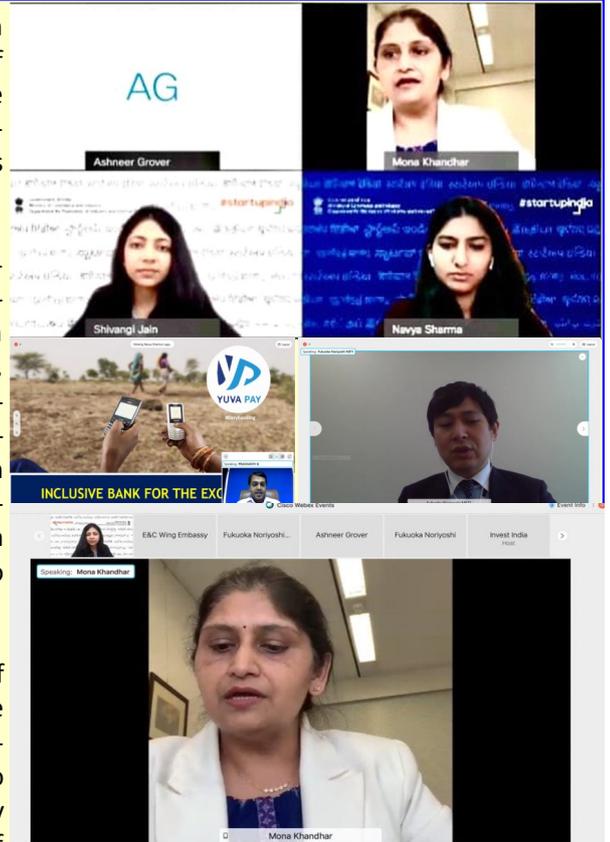
Virtual Pitching Event by Indian Start-ups (4th Session) focusing on finance sector

A Virtual Pitching Event by Indian Start-ups (4th Session) focusing on finance sector was jointly organized by Startup India and Embassy of India, Tokyo on 15th April, 2021. The objective of the event is to provide Indian startups a platform to pitch their innovations to Japanese investors and business corporations to explore investment, strategic business and technical collaboration.

Ms. Mona Khandhar, Minister (Economic & Commerce) delivered opening remarks at the event highlighting the announcement of Hon'ble Finance Minister of India during Union Budget 2021-2022 to set-up a global Fintech Hub at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City), India's International Finance Centre. She also explained that India's Fintech ecosystem is growing at a rapid pace with more than 2,100 Fintech Startups and that the financial services in India is growing through several reforms and transformation offering vast opportunities for Fintech. She also urged startups to look for the possible opportunities in insurance sector, equity and bond market besides banking and micro solutions.

Mr. Noriyoshi Fukuoka, Director, Southwest Asia Office, Ministry of Economy, Trade & Industry (METI) in his special address emphasized the importance of India-Japan Digital Partnership and pointed out that Fintech is one of the most promising area of cooperation between the two countries. He mentioned that the cooperation between the two country is progressing steadily despite the COVID-19 pandemic. One example of that is the establishment of US\$ 100 million fund to accelerate mutual business cooperation between Indian startups and Japanese companies in addition to the subsidy programme by the Japanese Government for India collaboration project that contribute to digital transformation of Asia.

During the event, 9 Financial Startups from India (M/s Paymart India Private Limited is working on replacing ATMs with a network of merchants, creating cash points across the nation; M/s Nearby Technologies Private Limited is working on a B2B2C model where they will partner with neighborhood retail stores who can offer assisted digital financial services using the PayNearby App; M/s GC Web Ventures Private Limited has a unique product called "IndiaLends" that provides a marketplace for financial products such as personal loans, line of credit, credit cards & free credit reports; M/s Kashi Capital Private Limited offers unsecured, semi-secured, and secured loans to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises in the trading, manufacturing and service sectors; M/s Aryadhan Financial Solutions Private Limited is a post harvest sector lender catering to the credit needs of farmers, farmers organizations and small traders through innovative packed financial solutions; M/s Resilient Innovations Private Limited has a product platform called "BharatPe", a platform enabling UPI payments and lending along with other financial services to merchants belonging to SME sector; M/s Roi Net Solution Private Limited is a technology driven financial services company trying to enable access to banking and other financial services for the unbanked-underserved population of India; M/s Udma Technologies Private Limited has a product called "YUVA PAY", which enables financial inclusion by delivering banking services and banking habits at an affordable cost to disadvantaged and low-income group in urban and rural India; M/s Zerone Microsystems Private Limited has a product called "Zerone Payment Interface" which is a cross-platform mobile app that converts any smartphone into a payment terminal with no other hardware required) made a live pitch to Japanese stakeholders covering areas such as micro payment solutions, financial products, extending credit, securing loans to MSMEs, financial inclusion through extending banking services to unserved / underserved areas and smartphone based payment solutions. Closing remarks was made by Ms. Shivangi Jain, Assistant Vice President, Startup India introducing their activities on how they could assist Japanese companies planning to make investments in India. More than 40 participants attended the live pitching event.



INDO-JAPAN Investment Symposium: Investment Opportunities in the State of Punjab

The Embassy of India in Tokyo in association with Invest Punjab, The State Government of Punjab, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and supported by Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee organized an on-line webinar titled "INDO-JAPAN Investment Symposium: Investment Opportunities in the State of Punjab" on April 16, 2021 from 14:30 to 16:30 hrs (JST). The purpose of the webinar was to sensitize Japanese stakeholders about industrial policy of Punjab and emerging investment opportunities in the State of Punjab in India.

During the Inaugural session, opening remarks was made by H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador, Embassy of India in Tokyo underlining the investment opportunities in state of Punjab in India. He also emphasized the improvement of business environment for doing business in India.

Hon'ble Chief Minister, Captain Amarinder Singh gave the presidential address during the event. He invited Japanese companies to invest in Punjab, highlighting the high ranking ease of doing business of the state of Punjab in India and safe business environment of the State.

Mr. Osamu Onodera, Deputy Director General for Trade Policy, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Government of Japan gave a special address about Opportunities in India & Punjab for Japanese businesses. Ms. Vini Mahajan, Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab made a speech about Punjab Industrial Landscape. Mr. Kazuya Nakajo, Executive Vice President, JETRO gave a special address mentioning specific advantages of Punjab and suggested that good connectivity with Delhi & Mumbai will further improve business climate. Ms. Mona Khandhar, Minister (Economic & Commerce) gave concluding remarks for the Inaugural Session of the event. She spoke about the available opportunities for the Industries in the state of Punjab, Indo-Japan bilateral relations and encouraging policy of the Indian Government for investment by foreign companies in India.

2nd session was titled opportunities in Punjab, Mr. Alok Shekhar, Principal Secretary, Department of Investment Promotion, Government of Punjab gave opening remarks & context setting during the session. Mr. Rajat Agarwal, CEO, Invest Punjab made a detailed presentation on the opportunities available for the companies in Punjab. Mr. Yugo Hashimoto, MD, M/s SML ISUZU India Ltd. and Mr. Kazunori Ajiki, MD, M/s Yanmar India Pvt. Ltd. made presentations sharing their experience of doing business in the state of Punjab in India. Ms. Priya Rawat, Vice President, Invest India made a presentation about strengthening economic and commercial relations between Japan and India. Ms. Isha Kalia, IAS, ACEO, Invest Punjab, Government of Punjab gave concluding remarks during the session.

Open House for Q&A sessions were held during which Japanese companies and Indian companies raised the questions to the panelists through chat box. The webinar was attended by around 70 participants from Japan and India.

Visit Invest Punjab website <http://investpunjab.gov.in/home>



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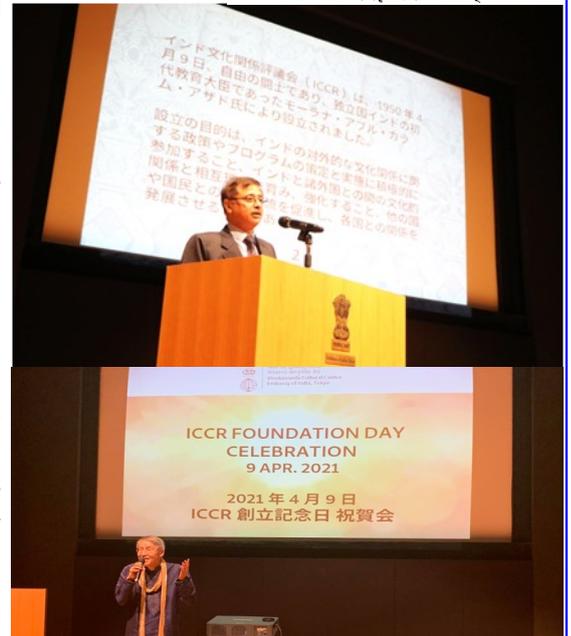
71st ICCR Foundation Day Celebrations



Indian Council for Cultural Relations
भारतीय सांस्कृतिक सम्बंध परिषद्

The 71st ICCR Foundation Day was celebrated at the Embassy of India on 9th April 2021. In his address to the audience, H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan, highlighted the tremendous role the Indian Council of Cultural Relations has played in connecting people around the world with Indian culture. Ambassador then launched "Little Guru", the first game-format app for learning Sanskrit which was developed by ICCR. This was followed by a video message from Sh. Dinesh Patnaik, DG (ICCR) highlighting the importance of Sanskrit and introducing the various benefits of the new app. After a brief introduction about ICCR's activities by VCC, Mr Kazumasa Kuboki, President of the India Research Institute and an ICCR alumni, gave a talk about his experiences in India under an ICCR fellowship programme. More details of ICCR activities at <https://www.iccr.gov.in/>

This was followed by a variety of presentations and performances by the teachers and students of yoga, tabla and dance classes of Vivekananda Cultural Centre. The programme was well-attended by university students, ICCR alumni, academicians and members of the public.



ICCR Foundation Day [9 April]: A video message from Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) <https://youtu.be/yC2yVKnXy38>



The Embassy of India, Tokyo, cordially invites you to join for the 100 day long virtual programme "Yoga for Unity & Wellbeing" which started on 14th March and will culminate on **International Day of Yoga** on 21st June 2021. Interested participants may register at the following link: <http://hfn.link/yogaforunity>



The Embassy of India, Tokyo participated in a webinar organized on the theme of **"Hindi Teaching in Japan"**, jointly organized by the World Hindi Secretariat (Mauritius), Kendriya Hindi Sansthan (Agra), Vaishvik Hindi Parivar (Delhi) and Sangam Singapore. **Prof. Tomio Mizokami, Padma Shri awardee and Emeritus Professor at Osaka University** and Prof. Suresh Rituparna, Former Professor, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies threw the light on the tradition of **Hindi teaching at Osaka and Tokyo** respectively. Prof. Siddharth Singh, Director, Vivekananda Cultural Centre, Tokyo highlighted the efforts being done by the Embassy and its Vivekananda Cultural Centre in order to propagate Hindi in Japan.

The concluding remarks were delivered by noted Indian journalist Mr Rahul Dev and a vote of thanks was expressed by Mr Padmesh Gupt, Vatayan U.K. The programme was conducted by Ms Sandhya Singh, Sangam Singapore. An open discussion was organized after the main speeches, in which several Hindi scholars from the whole world like Ms Divya Mathur, Mr Narayan Kumar, Mr Vijay Malhotra, Mr Rajesh Kumar, Mr Jawahar Karnavat, Mr Vinod Kumar Mishra and others actively participated.



As per a recent notification published in the Gazette of India on 13 April 2021, the Ministry of AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy), will now be known as the Ministry of Ayush. The Ministry of Ayush includes the seven traditional systems of healthcare, namely, Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa-Rigpa and Homoeopathy.



"Talks on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Indian Independence"

The Embassy of India, Tokyo, held a special lecture session on 19 April 2021 titled "Talks on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose & Indian Independence" as part of the celebration of the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji and India @ 75. The programme commenced with opening remarks by H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan, who highlighted the vital role played by Netaji in the struggle for Indian independence. This was followed by a lecture by Prof. Pema Gyalpo, Gifu Women's University, on "Great Indian Leaders in Japanese Textbooks, with special focus on Netaji and Japan". Prof. Masaaki Fukunaga, Gifu Women's University, then gave a lecture titled "How Japanese Society Understands the Leaders of the Indian Independence Movement: What's Next?". The event was attended by dignitaries including Mr Hiroshi Yamada, Member of the House of Councillors; and, Mr Mitsuaki Kojima, Former Ambassador of Japan to Nepal and Luxembourg. A special preview of the forthcoming exhibition at the Vivekananda Cultural Centre titled "Glimpses of India in Japan" was held on this day and was viewed by the attendees of the lecture session.



Government Simplified process for re-issue of OCI Cards

In a decision which is expected to significantly ease the process for re-issue of Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards, Government has decided to simplify the process.

As per the extant law, a foreigner of Indian origin or a foreign spouse of an Indian citizen or foreign spouse of an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cardholder, can be registered as an OCI cardholder. OCI card is a life-long visa for entry into and stay in India with a number of other major benefits attached to it which are not available to other foreigners.

Presently, the OCI card is required to be re-issued each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age, in view of biological changes in the face of the applicant. With a view to facilitate the OCI cardholders, it has now been decided by the Government of India to dispense with this requirement.

A person who has got registration as OCI cardholder prior to attaining the age of 20 years will have to get the OCI card re-issued only once when a new passport is issued after his/her completing 20 years of age, so as to capture his/ her facial features on attaining adulthood. If a person has obtained registration as OCI cardholder after attaining the age of 20 years, there will be no requirement of re-issue of OCI card.

With a view to update the data regarding new passports obtained by the OCI cardholder, it has been decided that he/ she shall upload a copy of the new passport containing his/her photo and also a latest photo on the online OCI portal, each time a new passport is issued up to 20 years of age and once after completing 50 years of age. These documents may be uploaded by the OCI cardholder within 3 months of receipt of the new passport.

However, in the case of those who have been registered as OCI cardholder as spouse of foreign origin of a citizen of India or an OCI cardholder, the person concerned will be required to upload on the system, a copy of the new passport containing the photo of the passport holder and also a latest photo along with a declaration that their marriage is still subsisting each time a new passport is issued. These documents may be uploaded by the OCI cardholder spouse within three months of receipt of his/ her new passport. The details will be updated on the system and an auto acknowledgement through e-mail will be sent to the OCI cardholder informing that the updated details have been taken on record. There will be no restriction on the OCI cardholder to travel to/ from India during the period from the date of issue of new passport till the date of final acknowledgement of his/ her documents in the web-based system.

All the above services of uploading documents will be provided on gratis basis to the OCI cardholders.

Details : <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1712082>

On 29 April 2021, the Commemoration Ceremony for the 37th Anniversary of the Passing of the Most Ven. Nichidatsu Fujii was held at the Nipponzan Myohoji Daisanga Temple in Kamogawa City, Chiba. A written message by H.E. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan, was distributed to the attendees. Ambassador's message highlighted the contributions of Most Ven. Nichidatsu Fujii, known in India as "Fujii Guruji", in spreading the message of harmony, peace and co-existence as well as his deep connection with Mahatma Gandhi. Prof. Siddharth Singh, Director, Vivekananda Cultural Centre, attended the occasion and gave remarks on behalf of the Embassy. As part of Buddhist engagement, Prof. Singh also visited two notable temples: Tanjoji, located where Nichiren Daishonin, the founder of Nichiren Buddhism was born; and, Seichoji, where he was ordained. Prof. Singh interacted with Rev. Motohiko Kaneko, Chief Priest of Seichoji and representatives of Tanjoji.

