

Closing remarks by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the 4th India-Japan Forum on 8 December 2025 (Video message)

**Indrani Bagchi, CEO of Ananta Aspen Center,
Distinguished speakers and panelists from India and Japan,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

Greetings from Tokyo

I am happy to be with all of you at the close of two days of reflection on the India-Japan relationship.

It is very much in keeping with the depth and strength of our partnership with Japan that the Ananta Aspen Centre hosts this Forum regularly and four editions of it have now been held. India's partnership with Japan is deep-rooted, purposeful and forward-looking. It shapes the contours of a more stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific and contributes to the stability of the world.

This year Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's visit to Japan and its substantive outcomes have given a fresh momentum to our bilateral ties. Our agreed initiatives included cooperation in trade and investment, economic security and the need for secure and diversified supply chains, critical minerals collaboration, next-generation mobility solutions, joint Research into clean energy technologies, and scaling up cooperation in green hydrogen and ammonia to name a few. The reaffirmation of cooperation in digital public infrastructure, Artificial Intelligence and cyber-security has positioned our partnership at the heart of the global conversation on new technologies.

Our two sides placed a renewed emphasis on human resource cooperation. The Action Plan for India-Japan Human Resource Exchange and Cooperation announced during the recent Annual Summit targets an exchange of at least 500,000 personnel in both directions in the next five years, including 50,000 skilled personnel and budding talents from India to Japan. This marks a step toward synergising our demographic strengths. The focus on enhancing collaboration between universities, research centres, and innovation hubs will further nurture the next generation of the India-Japan knowledge partnership.

Check Against Delivery

The age-old ties that bind us - our shared Buddhist heritage, our common practices of meditation, holistic healing, our commitment to non-invasive medical systems like Ayurveda, the Indian inspiration from dance forms like Kalaripayattu for eastern martial arts – all of these form the bedrock of our civilisational relationship that continues to be of value to both our peoples.

I understand that your discussions also highlighted the importance of emerging technologies and the opportunities they create for inclusive growth. The upcoming AI Impact Summit, to be held in New Delhi in February 2026, will examine these issues in detail. I hope to see strong Japanese participation at this Summit.

I hope that our academic communities continue to meet and hold such discussions and to inform opinion on both sides on the ongoing importance of our bilateral relationship.

Thank you.
