

Independence Day of India

PUBLICITY

India-Japan ties growing with new dynamism

By Nagma Mohamed Mallick
Ambassador of India

On behalf of the government and people of India, I pay my respects to those who lost their lives in the earthquake that occurred in Kumamoto Prefecture on July 28. India stands in solidarity with Japan and the Japanese people.



Nagma Mohamed Mallick

August 15 will mark 80 years of our independence, a landmark moment that transformed the lives of billions. On this important occasion, I extend warm greetings to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress and to the government and the people of Japan. I also convey my special greetings to the Indian community in Japan.

India's journey toward independence, one defined by peace and nonviolence, is a remarkable one. Its growth and development, post-independence, to become one of the fastest-growing large economies in the world is also extraordinary. What underpins these strong growth credentials is a polity marked by a vibrant democracy, pluralism and a commitment to inclusion. This dynamic has created a fertile base for innovation and advancing technological prowess — evident in our startups that have successfully launched privately developed orbital rockets to space, and in our home-grown digital public infrastructure that has expanded financial inclusion and empowered Indians across the length and breadth of the coun-



H.E. Smt Droupadi Murmu, Honorable President of India

try.

India also lays great store by its relationship with Japan. We are natural and indispensable partners. Our Special Strategic and Global Partnership is rooted in shared values and a high-level of mutual trust. The bonhomie between our countries was in abundant display recently, when India and Prime Minister Narendra Modi warmly welcomed Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi in Delhi on July 1-3. Her first official visit to India helped underscore the strategic convergence and mutual complementarity in our partnership, a key to a resilient and prosperous Indo-Pacific and beyond.

The India-Japan relationship is bolstered by regular high-level meetings and engagements across domains. Prime Minister Takaichi's video message to the AI Impact Summit hosted by India in February 2026 highlighted our AI and advanced technology cooperation. Our foreign ministers met for a substan-



H.E. Shri Narendra Modi, Honorable Prime Minister of India

tive exchange of views during the bilateral strategic dialogue on Jan. 16, and more recently during the latest Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting on May 25-27. They also interacted with each other on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in March 2026. Japan's economic security minister, Ms. Kimi Onoda, visited India in May 2026.

Our two countries are taking important strides for advancing cooperation, particularly in the priority areas of economic partnership including economic security, energy resilience, technology and innovation; defense and security cooperation; and people-to-people exchanges.

There is considerable momentum in our economic ties. In 2025, we had set a private investment target of ¥10 trillion in India over the next decade. Between then and July 2026, 120 business-to-business MoUs have been signed, resulting in an aggregate investment of



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi hold the 16th India-Japan Annual Summit in New Delhi on July 2.

around \$10 billion. These MoUs span various sectors — from manufacturing to financial services to advanced technologies and film production. They are truly reflective of our vibrant economic relationship. Even more so, it displays the confidence Japanese industry and economic actors have in the Indian economy and ecosystem. For four consecutive years now, surveys by the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) have shown that Japan Inc. ranks India as its most promising country for overseas business expansion. India's commitment to doing business with Japan is evident from Prime Minister Modi's recent announcement that he would hold a Japan Week at the Prime Ministers' Office.

Economic security has become one of the foundational pillars of our relationship. We are advancing tangible and project-based collaboration

in key sectors such as semiconductors, critical minerals, information and communication technology, clean energy and pharmaceuticals. On the energy front also, we are advancing cooperation on strategic stockpiling and reserve mechanisms for crude oil and petroleum products, as well as exploring joint investments in maritime energy transport value chains. Our cooperation in technology and innovation is taking on new salience and depth. India and Japan are advancing collaboration across the entire AI stack, from the necessary physical infrastructure to developing AI applications for public good. These are backed by robust institutional linkages.

Defense and security cooperation is on an upward trajectory. Not only are our two countries working on concrete projects in the defense equipment and technology segment, but our respective forces are advanc-

ing cooperation through regular exercises like Dharma Guardian 2026, JAIMEX-25 and Japan's participation in India's International Fleet Review in February.

India and Japan are also closely working together to bolster our people-to-people exchanges and cooperation for our mutual benefit. India's youth and talent can become a key resource for Japan as it looks to address its demographic challenge. The Action Plan for India-Japan Human Resource Exchange, which is promoting a two-way exchange of 500,000 people, that includes 50,000 skilled and semi-skilled personnel going from India to Japan by 2030 continues to guide our efforts.

There is significant momentum in the interactions between Indian states and Japanese prefectures — they contribute significantly to our economic, cultural and people-to-people relationship. The establishment of the India-Japan Governors' Network for Friendship and Exchange and the Japan-India Mayors' Alliance for Co-creation exemplify the dynamism in our sub-national level engagements.

Next year marks the 75th in our bilateral diplomatic relationship. Our leaders have announced that we will commemorate it as the "Year of Shared Horizons," a phrase that brings out our shared destiny and our shared ambitions.

We look forward to engaging deeply with Japan and the Japanese people to elevate our ties further. What India and Japan do together is of considerable significance for peace, stability and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific. Our cooperation based on our mutual complementarities is key to achieving our national priorities.

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Congratulations on the 80th Independence Day of India

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15th August
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ICCJ keeps strengthening India-Japan relations

Namaste
On the proud occasion of the 80th Independence Day of India, I extend my warmest greetings, on behalf of the Indian Chamber of Commerce-Japan (ICCJ), to all Indians and friends of India in Japan.

India's Independence Day reminds us of the courage, vision and sacrifices of the countless men and women who secured our nation's freedom. It is also an opportunity to reflect on India's remarkable journey as the world's largest democracy and its continued progress across diverse sectors, including manufacturing, the digital economy, startups and space exploration.

This year also holds special significance as we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Asian Games. From the inaugural Games in New Delhi in 1951 to the 20th

Asian Games Aichi-Nagoya 2026, this remarkable journey creates a unique connection between India and Japan while highlighting the shared values that unite the nations of Asia.

India and Japan continue to deepen their partnership across trade, investment, technology, education and people-to-people exchanges. With our two nations bound by shared democratic values and mutual trust, our cooperation continues to create new opportunities for businesses and communities in both countries.

Since its establishment in 1937, ICCJ has served as a bridge between India and Japan by promoting



Paramjit Chadha

business, investment, cultural exchange and professional networking. We remain committed to supporting our members and contributing to stronger economic and commercial ties between our two nations.

I sincerely thank the Embassy of India in Japan and the Consulate General of India in Osaka-Kobe for their continued guidance and support. Their continued support has been invaluable to ICCJ's mission.

As we celebrate this Independence Day, let us renew our commitment to building an even stronger partnership between India and Japan. I wish you and your families a joyful and memorable 80th Independence Day.

Jai Hind!

Paramjit Chadha
Honorary President
The Indian Chamber of Commerce-Japan (ICCJ)