

Indian economic growth: A special

Ties growing from strength to strength

SIRI GEORGE
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA

On India's 79th Independence Day, I extended warm greetings to the Japanese people, the emperor and the people of Japan, members of the Indian community and all friends of India in Japan. India and Japan are civilizational countries whose relationship goes back millennia. The legend of Bodhidharma, an Indian monk whose legacy lives on in Japan as Dharma, embodies the spiritual and philosophical bridge between our nations. Yoga

has found deep resonance in Japan. The International Day of Yoga 2025 was co-hosted in Tokyo, where over 200 people participated, including Indian Minister Ishiba, speaker of Prime Minister Ito. Shigeru Ishiba, and Madan Sinha, speaker of Foreign Minister Ito. Takeda Inoue. India-Japan ties have grown from strength to strength in recent times. The 79th India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ishiba met twice in the past year. Speaker of the Lower House Ito, Fukuhara Nobuyuki visited India in May and two meetings were held between External Affairs Minister Ito and Japanese Foreign Minister Ito. Takeda Inoue this year. Both countries are now realizing intense preparation for the next annual summit.

Beyond the bilateral partnership, India and Japan cooperate in multiple multi-

lateral and plurilateral forums including the "Quad" security dialogue group of Japan, India, Australia and the United States, the Group of 20 leading rich and developing nations and the Group of Four (Japan, India, Germany and Brazil), whose interests and values align.

India and Japan share a robust economic partnership, with around 1,500 Japanese companies investing across key sectors, and India fast emerging as a manufacturing and export hub. High-tech industry visits and the launch of an economic security dialogue have further deepened this collaboration. In 2025, our "India One Product Challenge" from 2025 to 2028 has been declared the Year of Science, Technology and Innovation Exchange — reflecting our shared commitment to harnessing scientific progress for mutual growth.

India-Japan defense ties continue to strengthen with military drills like Thumra Guardian and the Japan-India Maritime Exercises, and growing strategic dialogue. Key engagements include the "two-phased" dialogue in August 2024 and the Defense Minister's meeting in New Delhi in May.

Moscow, India's strong presence at Expo 2025 has been a highlight of the year. The India Pavilion showcases India's progress in science, space, digital innovation, wellness and culture, attracting thousands through cultural events, business forums and a "One India One Product Challenge".

Our regional cooperation has also witnessed Indian growth, with Japanese governments visiting India and welcomed by the Indian chair ministers to Japan over the past year. Institutional partnerships set up between Toyota and Andhra Pradesh,



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Yamashita and Uttar Pradesh, and Shizuoka and Odisha — highlight our success in connecting industries and prefectures.

As we celebrate the 79th Independence Day of India, we also acknowledge the ending, and evolving partnership between India and Japan. I am confident that the India-Japan partnership under the theme



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

of "Connecting Himalayas with Mount Fuji" will continue to flourish in the coming years.

This content was compiled in collaboration with the embassy. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the newspaper.

Working together to face global challenges

YOSHIOHIDE SUGA
CHAIRMAN, THE JAPAN-INDIA
ASSOCIATION

On behalf of the Japan-India Association, I extend my congratulations to the government and people of India on the 79th Independence Day of the Republic of India.

Since its establishment in 1993 by former Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba and Ichiro Shibusawa, the Japan-India Association has stood at the forefront of fostering friendly relations between our nations. Ever since India gained independence in August 1947, your esteemed nation has supported Japan's return to the international community and

helped expand our friendly ties.

The end of the Cold War in 1989, followed by India's shift in foreign policy and the facilitation of trade economic liberalization, significantly propelled Japan-India relations forward. In 2000, after various transitions, then Prime Minister Yoshiko Mori, who served as JIA chairman until May 2022, made an official visit to India, subsequently launching the Japan-India global partnership. This relationship was further elevated to a special strategic and global partnership in 2014 during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Tokyo and his meeting with then Prime Minister Shiro Abe, who succeeded Mori as JIA chairman.

We faced immense difficulties during the COVID pandemic, yet even in such trying times, our bond remained unbroken. As Japan's chair of the time, I am proud that Japan provided assistance to India to help our friends cope with the pandemic. Since

taking on the role of JIA chairman in 2023, I have been dedicated to further strengthening these ties.

With a commitment to promoting peace and prosperity in the region, we are working together toward the "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" vision. Our nations will continue to cooperate in addressing various global challenges such as peace and stability, climate change and clean energy.

Bilateral relations have also dramatically expanded in economic cooperation, trade and investment. Japanese investment in India is becoming more prominent than ever across various economic sectors in India. People-to-people exchanges are also vibrant, including cultural exchange, scholarship programs, youth exchange initiatives, tourism and efforts by local governments to establish direct contact. On this occasion, I extend my sincere congratulations to the people of India.

TAKESHI YAMAGUCHI
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-INDIA BUSINESS
COOPERATION COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Japan-India Business Cooperation Committee, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the people and government of India on the historic celebration of India's Independence Day.

Established in 1966, the JIBC aims to deepen mutual understanding between Japan and India, promote friendship and foster the development of economic relations between our countries. Since its inception, we have been committed to advancing bilateral business cooperation, trade, invest-

ment and various economic activities.

In March, we had the honor of hosting the 48th Japan-India Joint Economic Commission meeting in New Delhi. Under the theme "Building a Japan-India Strategic Partnership for Industrial Growth and Regional Development", many prominent companies and organizations from Japan and India actively participated in substantive discussions.

Earlier, we held a courtesy visit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. During this time, we exchanged views on numerous topics, including the shared desire for steady progress toward achieving a public-private investment target of ¥5 trillion over the next five years, as well as on Speaker of the Lower House Fumio Kishida's proposal to promote exchanges involving more than 50,000 engineers and students in the information technology sector over that same period. Building on Modi's expressed expecta-

tions, further business development between Japan and India is anticipated across various fields. Collaboration with Japanese companies will be key in sectors such as semiconductors, electronics, chemicals and automobiles — especially electric vehicles.

Additionally, strengthening people-to-people connections through tourism promotion, expanding Japanese language education in India, and increasing the acceptance of skilled Indian professionals and essential workers by Japan are also all important. These efforts will contribute to forging deeper interpersonal connections and business exchanges between our nations. Once again, I wish to sincerely congratulate the esteemed people of India on the auspicious occasion of their Independence Day and express my heartfelt wishes for India's continued growth and prosperity.

CONGRATULATIONS

78TH ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS



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(opening 1st quarter 2028)

CONGRATULATIONS

78TH ANNIVERSARY INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS



GENERAL INCORPORATED FOUNDATION

SAI HIRA
INDIA FOUNDATION

Dedicated to India-Japan economic, educational, cultural and parliamentary exchanges.

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FELICITATIONS TO INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY



公益社団法人 在日インド商工協会
THE INDIAN COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION JAPAN
ESTB 1921

MORE THAN 100 YEARS
OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Established in 1921, ICIJ is the oldest association representing the Indian diaspora in Japan. Its membership includes several of the largest corporate groups operating in the region. As the apex body, ICIJ plays a leading role in organizing India-related trade fairs, exhibitions, seminars and symposia.

The organization also hosts dynamic monthly seminars focused on a wide range of topics, including Indian-Japan startups, global investment opportunities, finance, mergers and acquisitions, wealth management, taxation, visa regulations and Japan's labor and legal systems.

To support the next generation, ICIJ has established a dedicated Youth Group for young Indian residents in Japan. Additionally, ICIJ has signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement with the Edogawa City Office and the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, Edogawa Chapter.

President: Mr. Jagmohan Chandrani, Chairman: Mr. Ruyko Hira, Vice president: Mr. Subramania Natarajan, Directors: Mr. Satish Thigarajan, Mrs. Pooji Karoda, Mr. Nitin Hingharh, Mr. Vashdev Rupani, Mr. Debendra Mohanta, Mr. Markus, Internal auditor: Mr. S. K. Rangwani, Auditor: Mr. Veerasureshkumar Veerappan
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India Independence Day Special

Sustainability central to joint partnership

RYUO HIRA
CHAIRMAN, THE INDIAN COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION JAPAN



As India celebrates its 75th Independence Day anniversary, it stands as the world's largest democracy and one of the fastest-growing major economies. The call 2023-25 growth domestic product growth is projected at around 6.5%, maintaining its strong position in the Group of 20 leading rich and developing nations after last year's remarkable 8.2%. This growth is driven by digital transformation, a \$200 billion information technology business process outsourcing industry and reforms enhancing competitiveness.

Japan remains a trusted partner, with ties rooted in mutual respect and shared values. Japan has pledged \$42 billion (¥6 trillion) over five years, supporting public and private projects. Key initiatives include the \$3.4 billion Patna Metro railway project and contributions to India's digital revolution through information and communications technology and talent

development, addressing urban challenges and advancing Indian digital leadership. People-to-people connections thrive through programs like Sakura Science and the Indian Department of Science and Technology and the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science fostering research collaboration and nurturing young innovators. Japanese language classes and scholarships enable Indians to contribute to Japan's economy while Indian information and technology and artificial intelligence professionals bolster Japan's digital industries.

Sustainability is central to the partnership. The Green Amnoria Project, led by Aesne and BIL, aims to cut 54 million tons of carbon dioxide, while the International Seier Alliance promotes clean energy and climate action, reflecting shared environmental responsibility. The startup ecosystem also shows promise with India's innovation—driven by over 100 unicorns—aligning with Japan's expertise in manufacturing, robotics and quality. Joint venture funds and incubators support entrepreneurs tackling global challenges. The spiritual dimension of ties is increasingly vibrant. India brings yoga, meditation, ahimsa and vaishadha kutumbam (the world as one family) while Japan offers

zen, wa (harmony) and coexistence with nature. Together, these values add ethical depth, inspiring innovation, sustainability and harmony for a better future.

The Indian Commerce and Industry Association Japan, with a history spanning over 100 years, serves as an apex body to provide support, guidance and advisory services to all interested parties, enabling them to fully develop the economic potential and investment between Japan and India.

On behalf of all ICIJ members, I convey our deepest appreciation to readers of The Japan Times.



Prime Ministers Shigeru Ishiba and Narendra Modi. EMBASSY OF INDIA

Best Wishes From

ROKKO SAREES & FABRICS CO., LTD.
NIA *Natra Insurance*
Agent for New India Assurance Co., Ltd.
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Premises 107, 1-7-3, 1900,
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Heartiest Independence Day Greetings



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Congratulations
to the People of India
on the Anniversary of
their Independence

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Heartiest Independence Day Greetings

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IN JAPAN**

**THE INDIAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE-JAPAN**
Hon. President: Paramjit Chadha

THE INDIAN SOCIAL SOCIETY
Hon. President: Sagar Rohra

THE INDIA CLUB
Hon. President: Bhaven Javeri



Congratulations
on the Anniversary of
the Independence of
the Republic of India



Mita Kusan Co., Ltd.
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Congratulations
to the People of India
on the Anniversary of
Their Independence



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Sustainability central to joint partnership

RYUKO HIRA

CHAIRMAN, THE INDIAN COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION JAPAN



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