



Gateway

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President's Message



Dear Friends,
India-Japan relations continue to grow stronger across political, economic, technological and cultural spheres. The recently concluded Aichi-Nagoya 2026 Asian Games showcased the growing importance of sports diplomacy,

paving the way for deeper people-to-people exchanges and cooperation, particularly as both countries prepare to celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations in 2027.

The Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IJCCI) is delighted to witness this growing partnership under the Special Strategic and Global Partnership, with renewed cooperation in economic security, defence, technology, supply chain resilience and artificial intelligence. Regular high-level engagements continue to strengthen this relationship and create new opportunities for business and innovation.

Despite global uncertainties, India and Japan remain committed to sustainable growth, advanced technology, semiconductor cooperation, and clean energy. Japan seems committed to injecting some 10 Trillion Yen, or US\$ 65 billions, into high tech sectors with a view to driving rapid joint research, supply chain stability in semi-conductors, AI and rare minerals. New Delhi and Tokyo are also keen to build 1000 biogas and organic fertilizer plants across India to facilitate the transition to clean energy.

IJCCI remains committed to strengthening bilateral ties through business delegations, institutional partnerships, and youth engagement. Our recent Speech and Essay Competitions, involving 150 students from more than 20 colleges, reflects our commitment to nurturing the next generation of India-Japan ambassadors.

We look forward to welcoming the Japanese Business Delegation from Osaka on November 20 and hosting a Business Networking Meeting in Chennai. The Chamber is also pleased to announce that a 16-member business delegation will visit Japan in November-December to explore new opportunities and further strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Together, we look forward to building an even stronger and more dynamic India-Japan partnership.

Regards,
S. Padmanabhan

The 18th BRICS Summit 2026

The 18th BRICS Summit during September 12 - 13, 2026 in New Delhi brought together leaders and delegations from the 11 member countries - Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the United Arab Emirates.



BRICS : New Delhi Declaration and the 2026 Summit

Marking 2 decades of cooperation, India hosted the BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12 & 13, 2026, under the Chairmanship theme, “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.”

The Summit adopted the New Delhi Declaration, outlining the bloc’s priorities in global governance, trade resilience, financial cooperation, and institutional reform. Key take aways include:



- **Artificial Intelligence and Technology:** AI emerged as a key area of cooperation with members emphasising global AI governance frameworks and deeper technological collaboration.
- **Local currencies and financial cooperation:** Discussions focused on strengthening financial integration, developing cross-border payment mechanisms, and expanding the use of national currencies in the international transactions. However, the creation of a common BRICS currency remains off the table.
- **Trade and Economic Cooperation:** The bloc reaffirmed its support for a rules-based, transparent, and inclusive multilateral trading system centred on the World Trade Organisation (WTO). Members also expressed opposition to unilateral coercive measures and discriminatory carbon-border adjustment policies.
- **Institutional Reform:** BRICS reiterated its call for greater representation of emerging markets and developing economies in international financial institutions and the United Nations (UN) bodies.
- **Security and Counter-Terrorism:** Members emphasised a zero-tolerance approach to terrorism, peaceful resolution of disputes, enhanced cybersecurity cooperation, and stronger governance frameworks for emerging technologies, including AI.

As BRICS expands its footprint across Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America, its evolving multilateral architecture continues to shape regional trade dynamics, financial cooperation, and the broader landscape of global economic governance.

Japanese investment push accelerates

24-27 August, India’s Commerce & Industry Minister Mr. Piyush Goyal led a business delegation of 200+ Indian representatives to Tokyo, Nagoya and Osaka. Discussions covered manufacturing, semiconductors, AI, automotive, clean energy, finance, startups and infrastructure. A key objective is India's target of attracting JPY 10 trillion (₹10 lakh crore) of Japanese private investment over the next decade. Mr. Goyal met major Japanese financial institutions including MUFG, Mizuho, Nomura, Nippon Life and Development Bank of Japan.

Why it matters: Japanese capital is increasingly being directed towards India’s technology, manufacturing and infrastructure expansion rather than traditional automotive investment alone.

Semiconductors and AI became the central technology theme: On 25 August, Mr. Goyal chaired an India-Japan industry roundtable on semiconductors and AI in Tokyo. India presented a six-pillar semiconductor strategy covering:

• **chip design** • **semiconductor equipment & materials** • **fabrication** • **ATMP/OSAT** • **R & D** • **talent development** Japan’s technology and India's engineering/talent base were explicitly positioned as complementary. The discussions also focused on the infrastructure required for semiconductor clusters, including reliable power, ultra-pure water, skilled manpower and supporting social infrastructure, particularly around Dholera and Sanand, Gujarat.



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IJCCI Delegation to Japan

A 16-member, multi-sector IJCCI delegation, led by Mr. S. Padmanabhan, President of IJCCI, will visit Japan from 30 November to 4 December 2026. The delegation will travel to Tokyo, Yokohama, Kochi, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, and Osaka.

As part of its preparations, the delegation held a pre-delegation meeting in Chennai on 24 October 2026 to discuss the visit and strengthen engagement with Japanese business and industry representatives.



IJCCI Intercollegiate Competitions 2026



The Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (IJCCI) organised its Intercollegiate Speech and Essay Competitions 2026, centred on the India-Japan theme. The awards ceremony was held on 21 October 2026, with the Hon'ble Mr. Takahashi Mueno, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, as the Chief Guest and Mr. N. Ravi, Director, Kasturi & Sons, The Hindu Group of Publications, as the Guest of Honour. Mr. S. Padmanabhan, President of IJCCI, along with the distinguished guests, presented trophies, cash awards and certificates to the winners in recognition of their achievements and contributions to promoting India-Japan understanding and friendship.

Tata Electronics and Japanese companies build Dholera semiconductor supply chain

On 18 September, Tata Electronics, Sojitz Corporation and NRS Corporation signed an MoU to develop a supply/storage framework for critical semiconductor materials supporting 'Tata Electronics' ₹ 91,000-crore Dholera semiconductor fab. Then on 19 September, Sumitomo Chemical signed an MoU with Tata Electronics to explore collaboration on semiconductor materials, including the possibility of establishing a semiconductor-chemicals facility in India. This is significant because: Japan's participation is moving beyond investment into the actual semiconductor supply chain - chemicals, logistics, materials and manufacturing inputs.



Western Dedicated Freight Corridor completed

One of the largest Japan-India infrastructure milestones came on 8 September with completion and operationalisation of the 1,506-km Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) from Dadri to JNPT near Mumbai.

The project received substantial Japanese financial and technical support through JICA. JICA's cumulative ODA loans to the project total about JPY 620.8 billion (Rs. 37,658 crore).

The final sections opened in September total 326 km, at a cumulative cost of approximately ₹ 20,703 crore.

The corridor should:

- improve freight connectivity between northern India and western ports
- reduce logistics bottlenecks
- connect industrial clusters with ports
- shift more freight toward rail
- reduce pressure on Mumbai's passenger rail network
- support lower logistics costs and transit times



What changed in August–September 2026?

Area	Recent development	Direction
Investment	JPY 10tn Japanese private-investment target reinforced	Expansion
Semiconductors	Japanese materials/logistics companies linking with Tata Electronics	Rapidly developing
AI	India AI-Japan GENIAC cooperation + industry discussions	Emerging
Freight infrastructure	Western DFC completed	Major milestone
Automotive	Continued Japanese manufacturing/supplier engagement	Expansion
Startups/deep tech	India–Japan startup roundtables	Increasing
Clean energy	Identified as a priority investment area	Developing
Infrastructure finance	JICA/JBIC and Japanese institutional capital engagement	Expanding
Business regulation	BIS certification and ease-of-doing-business issues discussed	Reform focus

Abe Memorial Corridor Inaugurated in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

The Abe Memorial Corridor was inaugurated on 7th October 2026 at Rudraksh International Cooperation and Convention Centre in Varanasi by Ms. Akie Abe and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mr. Yogi Adityanath. A photo gallery at the memorial documents the close relationship between Japan and India, including former Japanese Prime Minister Mr. Shinzo Abe's visit to Varanasi in December 2015 with Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. Recalling the visit, Ms. Abe spoke of her husband's participation in the *Ganga Aarti* ceremony.

Built with Japanese grant assistance through JICA, the Rudraksh Convention Centre was inaugurated by Mr. Modi in July 2021. During the event, Mr. Adityanath announced that a 500-acre Japan City was being developed near Jewar Airport. He also highlighted Uttar Pradesh's collaboration with Yamanashi Prefecture on a pilot project for green hydrogen.

On 8th October 2026, in New Delhi, Mr. Modi met Ms. Abe and expressed his appreciation for her continued association with India. He described Abe as a dear friend and visionary leader who had played a defining role in elevating India-Japan relations. The Memorial's location in Varanasi, Mr. Modi's parliamentary constituency further underscores the personal ties and diplomatic engagement that helped strengthen the bilateral relationship.

India-Japan Joint Crediting Mechanism: operational Manual launched

On 30th September 2026, Japan's Ambassador to India, Mr. Keiichi Ono, and Mr. Tanmay Kumar, then Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change (MoEFCC) jointly launched the operational manual for the India-Japan joint crediting mechanism (JCM) in New Delhi. The Ministry announced the launch on 5th October 2026.

The manual build on the memorandum of cooperation signed on 7th August 2025 and the rules of implementation adopted on June 8, 2026. It establishes a procedural frame work for implementing bilateral projects under article 6.2 of the Paris Agreement, covering the entire project cycle – from the submission of a Project Idea Note to the issuance and authorisation of JCM credits.

The mechanism aims to facilitate the deployment of advances low-carbon technologies in India, mobilise climate finance, and support measurable green house gas emission reduction. In practical terms, Japanese technological expertise and investment can help Indian businesses adopt cleaner technologies, with verified emission reductions potentially generating carbon credits under the mechanism. The framework also establishes procedures to strengthen transparency, project oversight, and the integrity of carbon markets.

For businesses, particularly those in energy-intensive industries and manufacturing, the mechanism could create opportunities to explore low-carbon technology partnerships, access climate finance, and develop eligible emissions-reduction projects. The Chamber is considering briefing sessions through its energy and manufacturing committees to familiarise members with the operational framework, project requirements and potential commercial implications.

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