



## How the India-Japan friendship can help global peace, prosperity

*Seventy years after diplomatic relations were established between the countries, they have evolved into natural partners*

### India-Japan relationship brief:

1. The year 2022 marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India. Formal relations between Japan and India began in 1952.



2. After the Second World War, instead of signing the multilateral San Francisco Peace Treaty, India opted for concluding a bilateral peace treaty with Japan, considering that honour and equality should be ensured for Japan to rejoin the international community.
3. This is the cornerstone of our long-standing friendship. But even before the establishment of diplomatic relations, the goodwill between the people of the two countries was deeply rooted through business, academic and cultural exchanges.
4. In 1951, when India hosted the first Asian Games in New Delhi, it invited Japanese athletes. This was one of the first occasions where the Japanese flag was hoisted after WWII. This experience soothed the minds of Japanese people who were struggling to rebuild their country.
5. After 70 years of multi-layered exchanges, the relationship between our two countries grew into a "Special Strategic and Global Partnership". Our partnership is based on a deep respect for each other's contributions in promoting peace, stability and development in Asia and beyond.
6. We recognise each other as natural partners to work together for a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP)" and various other global issues.

18.01.2022

Tuesday



<http://www.sriramsias.com>



*Four major islands of Japan*

### *History of interaction:*

1. We also have a long history of people-to-people exchanges that can be traced back to the sixth century. Buddhism was brought to Japan and, in 752, an Indian monk, Bodhisena, performed the consecration ceremony for the Great Buddha Statue at Todai-ji, which is one of the most important temples in Japan.
2. Fast-forward to the Meiji Restoration in the late 19th Century — Japan needed natural resources to modernise its industry. Many Japanese travelled to India to purchase cotton, iron ore, etc.
3. The exchanges among artists should also be mentioned. This includes an interaction between the Nobel Laureate in literature, Rabindranath Tagore and Okakura Tenshin, a Japanese philosopher.



## Special Strategic and Global Partnership

1. We are continuing our efforts to build a rules-based free and open international order. There are a plethora of fields that we can cooperate in security issues including cyber security, outer space and economic security.
2. Second, our economic relations can be further augmented. For a long, Japan has been the largest ODA (Official Development Assistance) donor to India. One of the most recent and ongoing examples of our collaboration is the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project.
3. Japan is also one of the largest investors in India. Both countries have also promoted economic cooperation in other countries to enhance social infrastructure and connectivity. Our economic partnership can further strengthen the economy of the Indo-Pacific, as well as the world economy.
4. Third, cultural exchanges including literature, movies, music, sports and academics are essential for our relations, enabling a better understanding.

## AAGC



18.01.2022

Tuesday



<http://www.sriramsias.com>

- ① The Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) is an economic partnership agreement between the governments of India and Japan.
- ① The AAGC will envisage people centric sustainable growth strategy, details of which would be evolved through a process of detailed consultations across Asia and Africa, engaging various stakeholders.