

# 70th Anniversary of the Japan-India Diplomatic Relations

Chairman: Amb. of Japan to India Mr. Satoshi Suzuki



- | Traditional cultural activities: Yabusame (horseback archery), etc.
- | Information Sharing: Creating collaborative videos with YouTubers, etc.
- | Youth Exchange Program: "Hack the Innovative Future"



## 900km • Ideathon “Hack The Innovative Future”

Youth Exchange Program EC

PM : Yoji Taguchi, Mitsubishi Corporation India

2030/2040: Develop core talents for the future of the geopolitically important Indo-Pacific.





## Project Background

2022

**Apr**

Planning: 900km Idea-thon  
Details like application guidelines  
website, budgeting, coordination of venues,  
conducting pre-visits, etc.

**Jun**

Start participant recruitment (various HP, SNS,  
news agencies, etc.)

**Jul**

Application deadline: (IND: 4,270, JPN: 628)  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Screening (IND: **50**, JPN: **50**)

**Aug**

Remote interview final selection  
(IND: **20**, JPN: **20**)

The jury members were touched by the interviews of  
Japanese-Indian youth during the screening process, 1.5  
months taken for the complete selection process.

**Sep**

Final selection, orientation/pre-seminars  
were held, guidebooks were given,  
assignments were given, and program was from  
from 16th - 24th.

## Orientation

### □ Sep 2

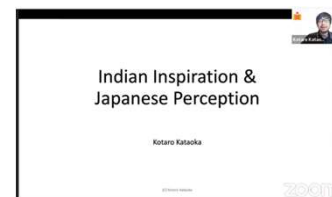
First meeting of participants, expl. of event  
contents & homework on the history of the  
two countries

Discuss the future of both India and Japan, presentations were  
made about the history of one's own country, to link the  
historical similarities and differences between Japan and India to  
the ideathon.



## Pre-Seminar

- Lecture by Associate Professor Kataoka, IIT  
Hyderabad, 5<sup>th</sup> Sep
- Lecture by Prof. Ashok Kumar Chawla, Advisor on  
Japan, Ministry of External Affairs, India, 6<sup>th</sup> Sep



## History Session (Organizer's lecture)



### Lecture on the India and Japan's HISTORY

- History session through ancient times, the Middle Ages, the Industrial Revolution, modern times, the present, leading into future, to understand the similarities and differences between the two countries.
- Explanation: Importance of the geopolitical position of Japan and India as the intersection of Indian and Pacific Oceans form a new "Enlarged Asia", importance of strengthening cooperation in the future.



#### Located at the ends of two oceans, 'Japan' a maritime nation and 'India' a subcontinent

##### ❖ 'Japan' a maritime nation and 'India' a subcontinent



Japan's **Exclusive Economic Zone** is the **8th largest in the world** (and with 62nd largest territory in the world)

India's **territorial extent** is the **7th largest in the world** (and its **Exclusive Economic Zone** is the **18th largest**)

<http://ran-king.jp/eez/>



##### ❖ Former Prime Minister, Abe's speech at the Indian Parliament ~Confluence of two Seas~



22 Aug 2007.  
Former Prime Minister  
Abe's speech to the  
Indian Parliament

"The Pacific and Indian Oceans are now united in one dynamic union, as a **sea of freedom and prosperity**. An 'enlarged Asia' is taking shape, breaking through the traditional geographical boundaries. Our two countries have the power and the responsibility to open it up and enrich it as an infinite, transparent ocean."

By linking Japan and India, 'Enlarged Asia' will grow into a vast network that extends across the Pacific, **involving the US and Australia**. It is an open and transparent network where people, goods, capital and wisdom come and go as they please. The seek for freedom and prosperity here is an important role for both democracies to play.

"**I believe** that as the two oceans of the Indian and Pacific Oceans associates and a new 'Enlarged Asia' is taking shape, **the two democracies at almost both ends of the spectrum must deepen their friendship at all levels of the society.**"





# Full Program

Delhi NCR

Agra

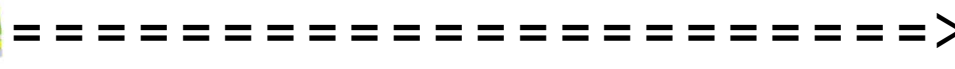
Lucknow

Allahabad

Varanasi



9/16(Fri)



9/24(Sat)

Participants learned about the differences and similarities between Japan and India in terms of history, culture, etc. through the journey to develop new ideas on how to use the strengths of the two countries to solve problems that lie ahead for both countries. They presented their ideas in Varanasi, the final destination of the competition.



900km





9/17(Sat)



## The capital of the world's fourth largest economy: a futuristic city

- Urban implementation of digital technology
  - India as a center for producing high-level IT and management personnel
  - India as a huge consumer market and export base
- Students actively asked many questions and discussions were lively.



Visits to Japan-India companies

GMDC (NEC provided traffic monitoring system)



Q&A session at Honda Motorcycle Plant



# Agra

Delhi NCR

Agra

Lucknow

Allahabad

Varanasi



9/18(Sun)



- Visited the World Heritage Sites of Taj Mahal and Agra Fort
- Expl. of historical, geographical, and cultural differences and similarities of both countries through a presentations



Agra Fort



Taj Mahal



History Presentations of Japan and India





# Lucknow

Delhi NCR

Agra

Lucknow

Allahabad

Varanasi



9/19(Mon)



- Experienced the old and new city centers of Lucknow, the capital of UP, India's largest state by population.
- Realizing the scale and speed of development in India's regional cities



**British Residency**  
Center of the Sepoy Rebellion



**Session on old & new towns of Lucknow**

- New town developed on the downstream sector of the old town
- Development of housing, malls, entertainment facilities, etc.



**Phoenix Palassio mall**  
■ Real sense of India's luxury malls







## Makino School: promotes organic farming based on Japanese technology since 1974

- Expl. of difficulty in implementing organic farming with Japanese technology in a poor rural Indian village.
- Discussion on women empowerment on small scale farms and different ways of development for rural communities.



# Varanasi

Delhi NCR

Agra

Lucknow

Allahabad

Varanasi



9/21(Wed)-23(Fri)



Youth of both countries create the future of 2040 at the new symbol of Japan-India exchange

## Varanasi Convention Center for International Cooperation (VCC)



### Reflections on the Trip



Lectures by experts



Ideathon



Final presentations

- ❑ Prime Minister Modi proposed the project at the Japan-India summit in Dec 2015, Former Prime Minister Abe agreed and the project was constructed with Japanese ODA.
- ❑ Rudraksh means "Bodhi tree fruit"

### [Theme]

Are the ideas based on areas in which Japan and India are strong or unique, and which will help solve issues facing both countries or deepen exchanges between the two countries?

### [Evaluation criteria]

Ideas with

- ① great social significance
- ② great economic impact
- ③ contribution to progress of the bilateral relations



## Ideathon Results

Delhi NCR

Agra

Lucknow

Allahabad

Varanasi



9/23(Fri)



### Digital matching service connecting Indian talent & Japanese companies

- ❑ AIM: connect the depleted digital human resources in Japan and the digital human resources in India who have not been able to utilize their skills, while solving the problems of adapting to the Japanese culture and language.

### Timely hospital matching transport service for Indian emergency patients (inspired by Japanese emergency medical services)

- ❑ AIM: solution for the failure to get emergency patients to the appropriate hospitals that actually occurred in India during the second wave of Covid19.

### India Small scale Farmer Incorporated Business

- ❑ AIM: increase agricultural productivity by digital application to provide a variety of services to Indian farmers.





# Ideathon Summary



Smiling faces of the youth of Japan and India



Amb. Suzuki gave a message to the participants



## Issues focused by the other teams

- Environment, agriculture, health care, garbage, recycling, food shortages, complementing human resources in various fields due to demographic differences, etc.

## Advisors

- University Professor
- Japan-India Entrepreneur
- Japanese priest

Various perspectives given to the students to broaden the discussion

## Ideas Discussion

Three days of sleepless nights and discussions

## Mentors in their 20s

- 6 Mentors from Japanese companies
- Many members helped from the Secretariat companies

Support from a viewpoint close to the student, even late at night

- Each team had an interesting angle. From theme selection, commercialization of ideas to presentation that used the strengths of both countries to solve issues, while using the digital technology, and delivered wonderful presentations full of enthusiasm.
- The friendship and trust between the young people of Japan and India was praised by the judges and sponsors, and for the thoughtful way in which they addressed the issues facing the two countries.



## The Future



Sep 27, 2022 India-Japan summit meeting

- Prime Minister Modi visited Japan to attend the state funeral of former Prime Minister Abe. He mentioned the following during the India-Japan summit meeting.

The 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and India is a major milestone, and many events are taking place. Among them, I am aware of a useful initiative called "Ideathon". We would like to follow up on this event as we look ahead to the 75th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Japan and India in five years' time.

**The Ideathon will continue to be a bilateral event that will produce 200 - 300 core talents who will support the future of Japan and India. The organizing committee hopes that in the near future, students who participated in the Ideathon will be active in Japanese companies aiming for India and vice-versa. We also hope for great progress in the future of India and the Pacific.**