

Record of discussions of the Third New Delhi Meeting of Indo-Japan Mixed Commission under the Cultural Agreement

The Third New Delhi meeting of Indo-Japan Mixed Commission under the Cultural Agreement concluded in 1956 between the two countries was held on June 4-5, 1981 at the Ministry of Education & Culture of India under the chairmanship of Mr. Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education & Culture. The Japanese delegation was headed by H.E. Mr. Masao Kanazawa, Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of Japan to India. The list of members of both delegations is attached as Annexure to this record of discussions.

Agenda Item I

Formal introduction of delegates: Opening remarks

Mr. Mir Nasrullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education & Culture in his opening address welcomed the Japanese delegation and expressed desire of the Indian side for cultural exchanges with Japan which has made tremendous progress in technological, scientific and industrial fields at the same time retaining its rich cultural heritage and value system. He then introduced the participants from the Indian side.

In response to Mr. Nasrullah's opening address H.E. Mr. Kanazawa, Ambassador of Japan to India, expressed appreciation, on behalf of the Japanese delegation of the warm reception given by the Indian side. He referred to the traditional approach in the cultural exchanges between the two countries and suggested that the spheres of interest in each other should be further enlarged, made more diversified and explored with greater imagination. He emphasised the importance of taking more positive and effective steps in cultural and academic exchanges between the two countries and the need for further augmenting these exchanges. Mr. Kanazawa then introduced the members of the Japanese delegation.

Agenda Item II

Review of past activities and
discussion of future programme

Both sides reviewed with satisfaction the activities in educational and cultural exchanges between the two countries. Noting that both nations have a rich cultural heritage, the two sides agreed that efforts should be made to expand these bilateral educational and cultural links.

(1) Exchange of persons:

The Japanese side stated that under the sponsorship of the Japan Foundation, two scholars and one designer of tapestry on a long term fellowship and two artists and one scholar on a short term fellowship would be invited by Japan during fiscal year 1981. The Indian side appreciated the programme for inviting Indian scholars to Japan. It was agreed that Japan Foundation would have consultations, through the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi, with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for effective and meaningful implementation of its programme of exchange of scholars, experts, artists, etc. In the selection of Indian scholars for Japanese studies in institutions in Japan, it was agreed that the Japanese Embassy in New Delhi will get in touch with the University Grants Commission and work out modalities in this regard.

It was noted that the Japanese Government had increased from fiscal year 1980, the quota for the annual scholarships granted for Indian students from eight to ten and that the Indian Government will increase the number of scholarships for Japanese students from four to six from 1982. At the suggestion of the Japanese side, the Indian side agreed to consider broadening the areas of studies by the Indian students going to Japan so as to include a few students in the field of humanities and social sciences also.

The Japanese delegation mentioned about some delays in grant of visa to Japanese scholars coming to India and requested the cooperation of the Indian side in this regard. The Indian side promised to give priority to the issue of visa for Japanese scholars and to do their best to improve the situation.

The Indian delegation expressed a desire for exchange of persons in the fields related to cultural heritage, like archaeology, conservation, ethnology, etc. The Japanese side expressed its readiness to study the possibility of enlarging the scope of exchange of persons. The Indian delegation desired to have experts in the fields of economics, landscape gardening, graphics, visual arts and colour printing and photography, etc., to inter-act and collaborate with Indian institutions and experts. The Japanese side agreed to consider and identify one or more fields in which it could send an expert on receipt of a concrete proposal in this behalf from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

It was noted that Indian youth groups had participated in the Japanese goodwill cruises organised every two years and that a number of youth organisations in Japan were already having exchanges with India.

Both sides agreed, in principle, to encourage exchanges in the field of sports.

(2) Academic activities including Japanese studies in India and Indian studies in Japan

The Japanese side stated that Japan Foundation will continue its programme of assistance for Japanese studies in India during the fiscal year 1981. The Indian side, while appreciating the Japanese assistance, desired to know if the Japanese side could provide the services of lecturers for Departments of Japanese language in universities outside Delhi. It was agreed that the Indian side will make available to the Japanese Embassy, New Delhi, a list of centres of Japanese studies and the assistance required for them.

The Japanese side agreed to make full use of such a list for exploring the possibilities of assistance.

The Indian side expressed a desire for development of contacts and exchanges between universities in the two countries. The Japanese side agreed to contact their universities in order to explore such possibilities.

Both sides noted with appreciation the holding in India of Japan-India symposia, providing opportunities for intellectual interaction between the two countries. It was noted that the Japanese side would continue this programme.

(3) Performing arts & exhibitions

The two sides noted with satisfaction the exchange^{activities} in the fields of performing and visual arts during the last 3 years and expressed a desire to continue such exchanges.

The Japanese side mentioned that the Asian Traditional Performing Arts Programme was taking place during June 1981 in Tokyo in which 3 Indian teams were participating.

The Indian side desired to receive a Japanese Puppet group particularly the Bunraku group. The Japanese side noted the Indian proposal with interest. It, however, felt that it may not be possible to send this group to India. The Japanese side, however, agreed to consider exploring the possibility of sending another group.

The Indian side mentioned that a prestigious dance-drama group consisting of 24-26 artists from Kalashetra, Madras, is scheduled to participate in Asian Festival in Hong Kong in October 1981 and thereafter give performances in the Republic of Korea. The Indian side desired the Japanese side to explore the possibility of the visit of this group to Japan before its performances in Hong Kong and Korea or thereafter. The Indian side

undertook to provide full details about the troupe and its programme to the Japanese side.

The Indian side also expressed a desire for exchange of exhibition of musical instruments along with taped music. The Japanese side agreed to transmit the wishes of the Indian side to adequate private organisations in Japan which may be interested in such an exhibition.

It was noted with appreciation that, at the request of Nihon Keizai Shinbun (Japan Economic Journal) National Museum of India has agreed to send to Japan an exhibition of Indian Classical Art during 1984. It was also noted that Nihon Keizai Shinbun has submitted to the Indian side a plan to send an exhibition of Ancient Arts of Japan. The Indian side suggested that the Japanese Government may associate itself ~~actively~~ with these projects.

The Japanese side noted with appreciation Indian participation in two exhibitions - 100 Years of Asian Arts in November, 1979 and Contemporary Asian Art Show, 1980 in November, 1980 at Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka Citry. The Indian side stated that it would continue to participate in such Asian Contemporary Art Exhibitions.

The Indian side suggested that the Japanese side may also send an exhibition of Modern Japanese Art to be shown in the National Gallery of Modern Arts in India. The Japanese side agreed to study the possibilities of sending such an exhibition.

Films

It was noted with appreciation that Japan has been participating in the International Film Festivals held in India. The Japanese side mentioned that there was a plan to hold an Asian Film Week in October, 1982 on the occasion of celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Japan Foundation. The Indian side expressed its intention to participate in the Film Week on receipt of details from the Japanese side. The Indian side

expressed a desire to have a non-commercial exchange of films for study purposes.

Agenda Item III Other matters

The Indian side mentioned about the International Book Fairs/Exhibitions organised in India every alternate year. It was stated that the next Fair will be held in February, 1982. It was further mentioned that seminars on various aspects of book development are also held at the time of such book fairs. The Indian side desired the participation from Japan in these book fairs/exhibitions and seminars. The Indian side also agreed to send detailed information in regard to the next book fair to the Japanese side who agreed to pass it on to the concerned associations/organisations in Japan for their consideration.

The Indian side mentioned about the intention of the National Library, Calcutta to exchange books and publications and microfils of rare books of mutual interest with five libraries/institutions in Japan. The Japanese side took note of the intention of the National Library, Calcutta which will be duly conveyed to the concerned institutions in Japan.

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The Japanese side explained the details of the cultural grant being made available by the Government of Japan for development of educational activities and for conservation of cultural properties in India. The Japanese side felt that the cultural exchanges with India could be increased through this cultural grant. The Indian side took note of the Japanese suggestion and mentioned that such cultural grant was being routed through the Ministry of Finance in the Government of India. It, however, assured that the cultural grant will be utilized only for educational and cultural programmes.

Agenda Item IV : Next meeting of the Commission

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Mixed Commission may be held in Japan in 1984, if possible, to coincide with the exhibition of Indian Classical Arts.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, sweeping initial 'M' followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small vertical stroke and a hook.

(MIR NASRULLAH)
FOR THE INDIAN DELEGATION

A handwritten signature in dark ink, written in a cursive style that reads 'Masao Kanazawa'.

(MASAO KANAZAWA)
FOR THE JAPANESE DELEGATION

RECORD OF DISCUSSION OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE
INDIA-JAPAN MIXED COMMISSION UNDER THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT

The 7th Meeting of the India-Japan Mixed Commission under the Cultural Agreement concluded in 1956 between the two countries was held on January 14-15, 1988, at the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Culture, under the Chairmanship of Shri Man Mohan Singh, Joint Secretary, Department of Culture. The Japanese delegation was led by Mr Takashi Tajima, Director General, Cultural Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The list of members of both delegations is attached as an Annexure to this record of discussion.

AGENDA ITEM-I: FORMAL INTRODUCTION OF DELEGATES

OPENING REMARKS:

Shri Man Mohan Singh, Leader of the Indian Delegation in his opening address welcomed the Japanese Delegation and spoke of the strong cultural relations between the two countries. He said that the cultural exchanges have had led to greater appreciation of each other's cultural traditions. He made particular mention of the Silk Road Exposition being organised in Japan in which India would participate and holding of Japan Month in India and Festival of India in Japan as instances of their desire for fruitful cooperation in the cultural field.

On behalf of the Japanese delegation Mr Takashi Tajima, Leader of the Japanese Delegation appreciated the warm welcome extended to their delegation and said that Japan accorded a very high place to their cultural relations with India. He noted the fact that in recent years cultural exchanges between the two countries had been carried out actively in various fields. Japan Month in India contributed in a great degree to development of mutual understanding between the two countries. He expressed his belief that the Japanese people would come to understand India much more thoroughly through Festival of India in Japan. He expressed the hope that the relations would be further strengthened through cultural exchanges and events like the Japan Month in India and the Festival of India in Japan.

He made special mention of Dr Lokesh Chandra, Director, International Academy of Indian Culture, being the first South Asian scholar to receive the Japan Foundation Special Prize last year for Buddhist studies in various countries including Japan. He expressed confidence that such events will go a long way in further strengthening the cultural relations between Japan and India and also promote understanding between the two countries.

Both sides introduced the members of their Delegation.

Both sides accepted proposed agenda for discussion and thereupon took the following decisions.

AGENDA ITEM-II: REVIEW OF PAST ACTIVITIES AND
DISCUSSION OF FUTURE PROGRAMMES

The Japanese side circulated their document giving the broad contours of the cultural exchanges that took place between India and Japan during 1985FY-1987FY. Both sides reviewed with satisfaction activities in cultural and educational exchanges between the two countries.

The Indian side stressed the desirability of making the future programmes as precise and specific as possible as this was necessary to plan the activities as also to make budgetary allocations for the same. The Japanese side, however, stated that their system was very flexible and it was not possible for them to make any definite commitments. They stated that many of the institutions/organisations concerned with implementation of the various exchange programmes are in the private sector and that the Japanese Government could not make any commitment in advance on their behalf. However, they assured that they would make all efforts to facilitate the implementation of the programmes. Thereafter the specific items were taken up for consideration.

II.1 EXCHANGE OF PERSONS

- 1.1 The Japanese side explained the Japan Foundation Programmes of exchange of persons. The Japan Foundation has despatched and invited various persons under these programmes and will continue these programmes.
- 1.2 Recognizing the importance of youth exchanges, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs increased from 1985 the number of invitees under the Southwest Asia Youth Invitation Programme to 15 persons and will continue to invite Indian youth under this Programme.
- 1.3 The Japanese side stated that the Japanese Youth Goodwill Cruise visited India successfully in FY 1986.

II.2 ACADEMIC AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- 2.1 The Commission noted that there had been a number of academic and educational exchanges between the two countries. The Japanese side expressed the hope that the exchanges in these fields would be continued.
- 2.2 The Commission also noted with satisfaction the invitations extended to Indian researchers by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science from 1985FY - 1987FY. Similarly, Exchange of research workers with the Indian National Science Academy was also appreciated.
- 2.3 The Japanese side mentioned that their scholars face difficulties in obtaining visas. The Indian side assured that all possible steps would be taken to expedite visa applications in future. However, it was noted that no case was pending at present.

- 2.4 The Indian side desired to obtain information on the Japanese educational system, text-books, publications and audio-visual material in the field of school education. The Japanese side agreed to facilitate this.
- 2.5 Both sides would encourage collaboration in the field of science museums. Details will be worked out through mutual consultations.
- 2.6 Both sides will encourage each other's participation in the International Book Fair.
- 2.7 Both sides agreed to explore the possibility of intensifying exchange of academics in disciplines to be settled through mutual consultations.
- 2.8 Both sides will encourage exchanges in the field of history such as visit of historians and archaeologists, exchanges of books, abstracts, journals, micro-films, translations of historical works, holding of joint seminars and joint research projects.
- 2.9 Both sides will encourage exchange of experts in statistical quality control and operation research; mathematical statistics; computer science for lectures, seminars and consultancy on the subject.
- 2.10 Japan and India will collaborate in the preparation of (a) a short bilingual Hindi-Japanese and Japanese-Hindi dictionary containing approximately ten thousand words, (b) Hindi-Japanese and Japanese-Hindi Conversational Guide and (c) a short Hindi Grammar in Japanese and Japanese Grammar in Hindi.
- 2.11 The Indian side requested and Japanese side agreed to facilitate collaboration in the field of open university system.

II.3 JAPANESE STUDIES IN INDIA:

- 3.1 The Japanese side noted with great satisfaction that the Japanese studies and Japanese language study had been developing steadily in India. The Japan Foundation has been extending various forms of assistance towards the Japanese studies in India and it would continue its assistance.
- 3.2 Both sides agreed to encourage further expansion of the continuing programmes of India and Japanese studies in both the countries with particular reference to teaching of Japanese and other Indian languages.
- 3.3 The Japanese side informed the Indian side that the Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute would be opened in 1989 in Japan to promote Japanese language studies in foreign countries.

II.4 ART AND CULTURE

- 4.1 Both sides noted with satisfaction that the artistic exchanges had been carried out in an active manner since the last meeting and in this connection they referred to the despatch of performing artistes such as SKD and Noh to India as a part of the Japan Month Programmes and to the Japanese participation in the Indian Triennial in 1986. The Japanese side expressed the intention to continue exchanges in the field of art and culture.
- 4.2 The Japanese side reminded the Indian side that the Japan Foundation would donate to the Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts publications on Japanese art as already expressed in October 1987.
- 4.3 Both sides will facilitate exchange of recorded classical/traditional/folk music and photographs, slides and publications on each other's performing arts.

- 4.4 The Japanese side will facilitate sending an exhibition of masterpieces of Japanese art, especially of bronze, wood sculptures, paintings and woodcuts.
- 4.5 Indian side will facilitate sending to Japan an exhibition of masterpieces from the National Museum's collections.
- 4.6 Both sides will endeavour to exchange art publications and colour reproduction of masterpieces of art.
- 4.7 Both sides will continue to encourage collaboration in the field of conservation of cultural properties. Details will be worked out.
- 4.8 The Japanese side informed the Indian side that the Tokyo National Research Institute of Cultural Properties has had International Workshop on the restoration of cultural properties each year to which an Indian expert might be invited in the coming years.
- 4.9 Indian side requested and Japanese side agreed to consider sending an expert for identification, evaluation and dating of the objects of Japanese origin in the collection of Salarjung Museum, Hyderabad. The details will be worked out later through mutual consultation.
- 4.10 Both sides will facilitate exchanges in the field of maintenance of archival records.
- 4.11 Both sides welcomed the continuance of exchange of materials by National Library, Calcutta and National Library, Tokyo.
- 4.12 Indian side expressed a desire to participate in 3rd Asian Art Show, Fukuoka 1989. The Japanese side welcomed the idea.
- 4.13 Both sides will encourage exchange of scholars of indological studies. Details will be decided by the institutions concerned in the two countries.

- 4.14 Both sides will facilitate exchange of micro-film micro-fischo copies of manuscripts on art, humanities and cultural heritage, reprographic copies of photographs/slides and other primary or secondary material on Indian heritage for the National Information System and Data Bank of the IGNCA.
- 4.15 The Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA) will facilitate sponsoring of specialists /scholars for training in methods and application for automated documentation storage and retrieval of data on arts, humanities and cultural heritage.
- 4.16 IGNCA will facilitate receiving specialists and scholars for consultation and advice in mutually selected areas of cultural heritage for organising the Indira Gandhi Kala Nidhi (national information system and data bank for the humanities and the arts) and taking part in activities of the Indira Gandhi Kala Kosha(Research and studies leading to publication of glossaries/ encyclopaedia of the arts).
- 4.17 India will send 3 exhibitions of paintings to Japan: (i) Paintings of Rabindranath Tagore, Jamini Roy and Amrita Shergil (ii) Paintings of 1900-1947 and (iii) three decades of Indian Art. The Japanese side welcomed the idea.
- 4.18 The Japan Foundation and Sahitya Akademi will collaborate with each other in the translation of Japanese literary works into Indian language.
- 4.19 Both sides will encourage exchange of exhibition of contemporary art/ ceramics.
- 4.20 Both sides will encourage exchanges of performing artistes. Details will be settled through mutual consultations.
- 4.21 Both sides will encourage exchanges of visits of experts in the field of art and culture.

- 4.22 The Indian side will welcome representative of Geino Yamashirogumi coming to India to collect Indian music. The Japanese side appreciated this.

II.5 AUDIO-VISUAL ACTIVITIES:

- 5.1 Both sides noted with satisfaction the progress of exchange of radio and television programmes between the respective organisations of the two countries and agreed to facilitate further exchange of radio and television programmes on various facets of life and culture in two countries. Both sides also agreed to facilitate visits of radio/television teams for production of programmes in mutually agreed fields of production.
- 5.2 Both sides will encourage telecasting each other's feature films, short films and documentary films on the television network through mutual consultations.
- 5.3 The Japanese side noted with pleasure the fact that Indian television had been telecasting Japanese films.
- 5.4 The Japanese side expressed the intention to participate in International Film Festivals in India and requested the Indian side to provide the Japanese side with relevant information. The Indian side welcomed the idea and assured to provide the information.

II.6 SPORTS

- 6.1 The Indian side requested and Japanese side agreed to consider sending a Judo coach to India for a period of three months. The Japanese side would explore the possibility of extending the period.
- 6.2 Japanese side would consider supplying to India sets of Judo mats on the basis of a specific request as a part of the Cultural Grant Aid to India.
- 6.3 Japanese side would examine the possibility of assisting India in the field of winter sports through experts, equipments and literature.