
Kyrgyz National Day Special

Exports, trade opportunities creating buzz

ERKIN ATABEKOV

CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A. I.,
KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



First of all, I would like to express my appreciation to The Japan Times for its continued friendly support and the opportunity to address to its readers along with my compatriots living

in Japan.

On Jan. 26, the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan celebrated the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Japan is one of the priority directions of the foreign policy of the Kyrgyz Republic, providing important economic, social and humanitarian assistance to the people and government of the country.

The Japan International Cooperation

Agency has been implementing projects in areas of the Kyrgyz Republic for many years, aimed at improving infrastructure, social services, the standard of living of the population and other important sectors.

The Kyrgyz Republic and Japan participate in the Central Asia + Japan dialogue, within the framework of which the parties are taking joint steps to build a new format for regional cooperation. On April 15, the eighth meeting of the countries participating in the dialogue was held in Bishkek. The ninth meeting is planned for this November in Tokyo.

As for trade relations, on Aug. 10, a contract was signed in Tokyo for the export of Kyrgyz honey to Japan in the amount of 400 tons. In 2021, 43 tons of honey were exported to Japan.

In 2021, the 76th session of the U.N. General Assembly, under the initiative of the Kyrgyz Republic and with support from Japan, adopted the resolution declaring Making 2022 the International Year of Sus-

tainable Mountain Development, which addresses global issues facing mountains and people living in mountainous areas. The Kyrgyz Republic and Japan have a high level of cooperation in the international arena, including the provision of mutual support during elections to international organizations.

Both countries have large, untapped potential for further development, and the key task is to build up bilateral ties based on trust and available opportunities.

Relations between the two countries can be characterized by the words of the classic Japanese writer Kobayashi Issa, "We are all friends under the *sakura* (cherry blossom) in the garden."

Let me sincerely wish good health and prosperity to the friendly people of Japan.

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