

## republic day of India

## Steady blossoming of relations a cause for celebration

Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa  
AMBASSADOR OF INDIA

On the occasion of the 64th Republic Day of India, I extend my greetings to Their Imperial Majesties Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko, as well as to the government and the friendly people of Japan. I also felicitate my fellow citizens and persons of Indian origin living in Japan.



India-Japan relations have intensified rapidly over the last year as we celebrated 60 years of diplomatic ties and segued into a qualitatively new phase. Growing strategic convergences, economic complementarities and shared democratic values provide a durable basis for these relations, which also enjoy strong public good will and bipartisan political support in both countries. There is a strong commitment from both sides to deepen the existing areas of cooperation and continue to seek new areas of converging interests.

The global and strategic partnership established between our two countries provides the direction and framework for action, which is reinforced by annual summits of our leaders and a supporting structure of multiple, high-level dialogue mechanisms. Several of these bilateral dialogues were held last year, encompassing areas such as foreign affairs, economic relations, defence ties and energy security. This year we look forward to the meeting between Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to impart even greater salience to the relationship.

In this adverse global economic environment which has affected us both, there is self-evident mutual benefit to intensify our economic cooperation. India's dynamic economy, with a continuing, relatively high rate of growth, youthful demographics, ample and skilled labor force and large market, combines well with Japan's technological, manufacturing and financial prowess. These are the complementarities we are trying to leverage through mega-infrastructure projects



President of India Pranab Mukherjee

such as the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor and the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor, which when completed would significantly transform the economic landscape of India. With the two governments working to create an enabling environment for the growth of entrepreneurship and markets, such projects will open unprecedented opportunities for the private sector, in-



Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh

cluding both large corporations and small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs), of both countries to grow bilateral trade and investment.

Japanese companies are beginning to realize that by setting up manufacturing hubs in India they can have access to not only the vast and rapidly growing domestic market, but can also reap benefits from India's geo-

graphical location and its traditional ties with the Middle East and Africa. As Japan's economy bounces back, India can play a vital role with its growing market, lower production costs and an expanding middle class. In return, India looks forward to Japan's technology and investment to help close technological gaps and an infrastructure deficit.

The emerging indicators are positive. There are now almost a 1,000 Japanese companies that have established a presence in India, and there is a healthy monthly accretion to the existing numbers. Bilateral trade has doubled over the past five years. The conclusion of the comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA), which went into effect in August 2011, removing duties on 94 percent of products over the next 10 years, will ensure greater movement of goods, services, capital and people between the two countries. Already, the inaugural year has seen a growth of more than 20 percent in bilateral trade in goods and services. Japan offers India a high-spending, sophisticated market for textiles,

seafood, IT services and pharmaceuticals. Japan, on the other hand, looks to India as an export market for its auto components, high-end technology and capital goods. Corporate Japan, thus, now regards India as an attractive and preferred long-term investment destination. From the Indian side, there is already a strong and growing presence of our IT majors and some pharmaceutical companies in Japan.

As globalization has also resulted in greater strategic interdependence, Japan and India have been working together in regional and global fora to promote common goals and interests. We are thus cooperating in promoting the Group of 20 and East Asia Summit as the primary venues for international economic cooperation and regional multilateralism, respectively. Both countries also share a commitment to the strengthening of the United Nations, which remains the most credible and representative body to discuss and find solutions to the global challenges of our times, ranging from development and poverty eradication to security

challenges such as the scourge of terrorism, and subjects of perennial significance such as peace-building, peacekeeping, human rights and environmental degradation. India and Japan also work together on the important issue of U.N. reform, including the expansion of the Security Council to reflect contemporary realities.

Insofar as India is concerned, remarkable and unprecedented transformations are under way. India's economy has grown at an average rate of 7.3 percent annually over the past decade. With high levels of entrepreneurship and cutting-edge technologies, Indian companies are rapidly increasing their presence in the globalized world economy. India is today infused with the optimism and exuberance of a

youthful population confident of attaining its destiny. As India assumes its rightful place in the international arena, our people can take justifiable pride in their achievements since independence, especially in sustaining their commitment to an inclusive democratic system that has space for each one's aspirations and is striving to provide the opportunities for every citizen to be able to realize their potential.

These are exciting times for India-Japan relations. I am confident that the coming year will see the further enhancement of the bonds of friendship between India and Japan. We believe the future is full of promise and accordingly dedicate this year's Republic Day celebrations to the steady blossoming of our relations.

## Strength lies in India's democracy

The Japan-India Parliamentarians' Friendship League would like to convey our heartfelt congratulations to the people of India on their 64th Republic Day.

India, with its high economic growth, has been drawing attention from the world as a major player in the region as well as in the international arena. India's real strength lies, among others, in its solid democratic institution which has provided a strong basis for its development since independence. We are confident that India will enjoy further prosperity in the future founded on its firm democracy.

Japan and India have long developed friendly relations over the years. In particular, since the establishment of the Japan-India Strategic and Global Partnership in 2006, the bilateral ties have further strengthened. Last year marked the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and a series of cultural events were held in each country throughout the year. It was a good opportunity for us to reaffirm our historical linkage and deep mutual understanding.

There is no limit to the potential of the Japan-India relationship, which is based on universal values such as democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as mutual strategic and economic interests. We look forward to exploring this potential to further expand our relationship.

The Japan-India Parliamentarians' Friendship League, on our part, will continue to make its utmost efforts to enhance our bilateral ties. We send our best wishes to the people of India for their further prosperity and for the continued development of our cordial relationship.

Text by the Japan-India Parliamentarians' Friendship League

## Bilateral cooperation, strenuous efforts help lead to realization of various goals for longtime friends

Yoshiro Mori  
CHAIRMAN, THE JAPAN-INDIA  
ASSOCIATION

On the occasion of the 64th Republic Day of India, I am greatly honored to convey my heartfelt congratulations to the government and the people of India as chairman of the Japan-India Association.



It is a great pleasure for me to mention that last year Japan and India successfully celebrated the important milestone of the 60th Anniversary since the establishment of the diplomatic relations

between Japan and India, with the peace treaty signed in 1952.

Many events and activities were organized in both nations, from photo exhibitions on the century-old history of our bilateral relations between both nations to fireworks at India Gate, to name a few, and they were all well-appreciated by the people of Japan and India.

I am pleased to note that cordial relations between Japan and India have been strengthened and developed year by year thanks to strenuous efforts of successive governments as well as well-intentioned peoples of Japan and India.

The planned visit to Japan by H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh,

prime minister of India, slated for November last year, was postponed; I am very much looking forward to his visit at an early timing of this year.

Among many projects of bilateral cooperation, I am happy to refer to on-going projects between our two countries, namely the constructions of the Delhi-Mumbai Dedicated Freight Corridor and the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor as well as the high-speed railway project between Chennai and Bengaluru.

India continues to be the largest recipient of Japanese ODA (official development assistance) and engages itself, in cooperation with Japan, in infrastructure building such as electricity and

transportation systems, poverty alleviation, development of human resources, environment projects ranging from reforestation to water supply and sewerage. With the very successful Delhi Metro project as a model, similar construction projects of urban metro systems are being implemented in Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata with financing of Japanese ODA.

Japanese direct investment has been on rise in an accelerated way. The number of Japanese companies in India reached 926 as of October 2012 all over India. Some Indian businesses have ventured into the Marunouchi area, the very business center of Tokyo, in addition to other areas

of Tokyo, Osaka-Kobe and Yokohama.

The Japan-India Association welcomes and continues to extend support to the activities of Indian people in Japan as well as those of Japanese people in India.

On the international front, our two countries are jointly contributing to the global community by cooperating in many areas on such global issues as the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the prevention of climate change, the fight against pandemics and the reform of the United Nation Security Council.

I also take this opportunity to mention that this year will be very important year for the Japan-India Association because

the association will celebrate the 110th anniversary since its inauguration in 1903. We are also very proud of the fact that the objectives of our founding fathers to promote the bilateral relation have been greatly realized.

The Japan-India Association is determined to continue to contribute to further strengthen our more important ties between Japan and India.

I would like, on this auspicious occasion, pray from the bottom of my heart that the excellent Japan-India relationship which has been enjoyed by our two peoples will be reinforced in the coming years and that the two great nations will contribute to the peace and prosperity of the international community at large.



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# republic day of India

## Making further progress

Hiromasa Yonekura  
CHAIRMAN, KEIDANREN

On behalf of Keidanren, I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations on India's 64th Republic Day.



India has achieved remarkable economic growth in recent years, attracting the world's attention as one of the most vibrant emerging economies. In the meantime, economic relationships between Japan and India have been consistently expanding. Currently, every year more than 100 Japanese companies set up business in India.

Eager to make greater contributions to promoting the Japan-

India economic ties, we in the Japanese business community are encouraged by significant progress in the governments' initiatives to build stronger bilateral partnerships: The Japan-India Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was brought into effect in August 2011 and the Japan-India Social Security Agreement was signed in November last year.

We consider it is time to step up efforts to implement the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) project, a symbol of Japan-India economic cooperation. This undertaking should lead to a substantial increase in investment by Japanese firms in the development of India's hard and soft infrastructure, particularly in areas where Japan has competitive advantages, such as in thermal, nuclear and renew-

able power generation; railways, ports and roads; and environmental protection technology.

It is our sincere hope that the Japanese and Indian governments will further enhance their strategic global partnership on the economic front and advance their efforts to form a bilateral nuclear agreement and improve the Indian business environment, including taxation and distribution systems.

Japan and India share the values of democracy and the free-market economy. By working closely together, the two countries should be able to achieve stronger, sustainable economic growth and build a bright, prosperous future for their peoples. Keidanren will continue to be firmly committed to the further strengthening of ties between Japan and India.



**Enterprising education: Formerly the Thomason College of Civil Engineering from 1853 to 1948 and the University of Roorkee from 1948 to 2001, the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee is the seventh IIT institution. The university has a strong entrepreneurial culture, with many of its alumni having moved on to found technological and social ventures in India.** EMBASSY OF INDIA

## Further evolution of cooperative relationship to come

Masami Iijima  
CHAIRMAN, JAPAN-INDIA BUSINESS CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE

On behalf of the Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations on the occasion of the 64th Republic Day of India.

Japan and India share the values of Buddhism, which originated in India, as well as political systems based on democracy. Exchanges spanning many years have helped to build an extremely cordial relationship between our two countries. Last year was the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India, and mutual understanding between our countries was further deepened by the more than 130 cultural exchange events that were held in India to commemorate the special year.

On Dec. 7, some 2,200 beautiful and colorful Japanese fireworks lit the sky over India during a fireworks and projection mapping event held as the grand finale of the 60th anniversary celebrations. The fireworks drew loud applause from the many people who gathered in the area around India Gate in New Delhi to watch the event, which was widely reported in both the Indian and Japanese media. The grand finale was sponsored by corporate members of the Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee, together with Indian companies, and we were very pleased that in addition to its significance as an extremely important symbol of friendship between Japan and India, the event was enjoyed by our Indian friends.

In November 2012, Japan and India signed two strategic agreements concerning social security and the joint production of rare earths. These agreements are indicative of recent progress in the political relationship between our two countries, which has advanced from discussion of general principles to the planning and implementation of actual projects. I sense

that 2013 will bring further evolution of the cooperative relationship between Japan and India.

The Japanese and Indian governments have reached agreement on a list of 19 candidate projects, worth a total of ¥1.2 trillion, relating to the development of infrastructure in western India in such areas as electric power, water treatment, transportation, logistics and the environment. Japan's world-class technology is being used in a number of schemes that are being implemented in step with the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project. These cooperative initiatives are widely expected to create new markets and jobs, and to contribute to the increased happiness and improvement in the quality of life for the people of India.

I am confident that the development of new business activities through Japan-India cooperation will not only lead to the revitalization of the Japanese and Indian economies, but will also contribute to the Asian economies and the world economy.

By mid-2013, the number of Japanese companies with business operations in India is expected to exceed 1,000. As of October 2012, there were 1,804 business sites belonging to 926 Japanese companies, indicating that the number of business operations is increasing even more rapidly than the number of Japanese companies expanding into India. I am very encouraged by this trend, which shows that companies that have already established operations in India are successfully developing their activities there.

Since its formation in 1966, the Japan-India Business Co-operation Committee has engaged in activities designed to strengthen the economic relationship between Japan and India. As a private sector organization involved in economic activities, we will continue to work toward increased prosperity for both countries.

I will conclude by once again offering my congratulations on the occasion of the 64th Republic Day of India, and my best wishes for the continuing prosperity of your esteemed country.



**Fast paced: Adding as many mobile phone subscribers every two months as the entire population of Canada, the telecommunications revolution has completely changed the way Indians do business.** INDIA PERSPECTIVES

## Connecting Indians at home, around the world

The telecommunications revolution has brought a new kind of freedom to India. Spearheading this revolution is the ubiquitous mobile phone. Mobile phones connect Indians to each other and to the whole world and are used for more than aimless chatter.

Today, the bulk of the Indian business is being conducted on the mobile phone — from promoting products, to placing orders, to tracking them, to making payments, the minutest of business activities now happen on the phone. People are communicating not only by voice, but through text messages, emails and closed group messenger services. So, whether you are buying vegetables, groceries, a laptop, a car, an air ticket or a house — all you need is a handset. In the cities at least, there isn't a street vendor, domestic help, construction worker or taxi driver who does not use a cellphone.

And it's not expensive. With Code Division Multiple Access

(CDMA) and Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) technologies, one can get a handset with prepaid connectivity and a few hundred free calls for as little as 1,200 rupees (\$25) per annum. Call rates, including long-distance calls, are about Rs1 (2 cents) per minute. And as operators reach the numbers required, the rates are set to go down further.

Says Rajan S. Mathews, director-general of the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI): "India is the fastest growing and second-largest mobile telecommunications market in the world with an exceedingly high wireless tele-density. In fact, the mobile subscriber base is expected to touch 950 million by the end of this year and to cross the 1 billion mark by the end of next year."

With such high numbers, the sector is a strong contributor to India's gross domestic product (GDP). According to the Department of Telecommunications

(DoT), in 2009-10, telecommunications services earned nearly Rs158,000 (\$35.2 billion), registering a modest but creditable increase of about 4 percent over the last fiscal year, despite the unprecedented recession. The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion's fact sheet on foreign direct investment (FDI) states that the sector has received nearly \$10 billion in FDI since 2000. Samresh Parida, director of strategy at Vodafone Essar, says: "The growing demand for broadband and wireless connectivity is a factor that makes India an attractive destination."

In April, the statistics revealed in the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) start-of-the-year Telecommunications Performance Report have reinforced the good news. Between January and February this year, more than 20 million new phone subscribers have joined India's phenomenal growth story, which means that by early 2011

India had more than 826 million phone subscribers. Says N.K. Goyal, president of the Communications and Manufacturing Association of India (CMAI): "We are adding about 18 million mobile connections every month, which is nearly six times higher than China. Our tariff is perhaps the lowest in the world. You can pay Rs5 (about 10 cents) and use the Internet on your mobile for a whole day, which is not possible anywhere else in the world."

Sectors like banking, education, information and business are all jostling to be part of the telecommunication revolution. Bharti Airtel has partnered with the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Co-operative Ltd. (IFFCO) to set up a farm news and update service in Rajasthan. IFFCO provides to farmers subsidized mobile phones, which flash daily updates on agricultural practices and weather forecasts free of charge.

Production of hardware is

also expanding. Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu is reported to be producing more mobile phones than Shenzhen in southern China. Not a small achievement, considering Shenzhen makes one out of eight handsets sold anywhere in the world.

This growth has fueled momentum in other affiliated sectors as well. The drive for broadband rides on high-speed, high-

dependability optical fiber cables — India and China alone account for about one-third of the global demand for the cables. Indian operators collectively account for nearly 1.15 million km of largely optical fiber-based wire line. Broadband's overarching application in education, health care, e-banking, e-commerce, entertainment, utility and e-governance makes it indispensable. Such is the pull of the market that last year's auction of third generation and Broad-

band Wireless Association (BWA) spectrums brought in more than a trillion rupees (about \$22 billion) by way of fees to the government.

The mobile phone — accessible, affordable, effective — is the hub of the telecommunication revolution, empowering millions of people. India is a nation truly connected.

*This text is an edited excerpt from "India Perspectives."*

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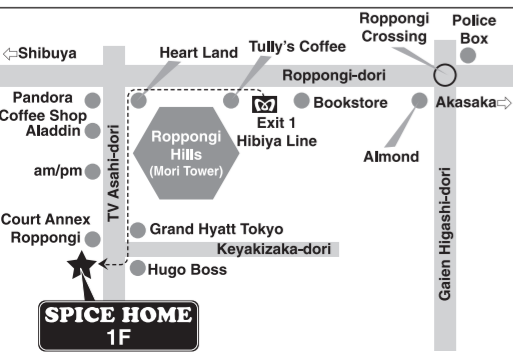
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## republic day of India

## Republic Day, the birth of the Indian Constitution

Ryuko Hira  
PRESIDENT, INDIAN CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY TOKYO

In India, Republic Day honors the date on which the constitution of India was adopted as the governing document of the nation on Jan. 26, 1950. That date was chosen to honor the Declaration of Independence of 1930. India achieved independence from British rule on Aug. 15, 1947, following the Indian Independence movement noted for being largely peaceful, non-violent resistance and civil disobedience, led by the Indian National Congress.



India obtained its independence as a constitutional monarchy with George VI as head of state and Earl Mountbatten as viceroy. The country did not have a permanent constitution. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was appointed chairman of the committee to draft a permanent constitution. After many deliberations and some modifications, the 308 members of the assembly signed two handwritten copies of the document in Hindi and English on Jan. 24, 1950. Two days later, it became effective when India got its independence and became the largest democratic nation in the world. Jan. 26 was decreed a national holiday and H. E. Rajendra Prasad was elected as first president of India.

To mark importance of this

occasion, every year a grand parade is held in the capital. The different regiments of the army, the navy and the air force march past in all their finery and official decorations. The president of India, who is the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, takes the salute. The Republic Day celebrations have rightly become world-famous as one of the greatest shows on Earth, drawing thousands of eager sightseers and tourists from all over India and many parts of the world. No other country can draw on such a wealth of tribal traditions and cultures, so many regional forms of dances and dresses and no other country in the world can parade so many ethnically different people in splendid uniforms as India's Armed Forces.

India's first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, was most compassionate and understanding of Japan's defeat in World War II, so India and Japan decided to resume bilateral relations. On June 9, 1952, the Indo-Japanese Treaty of Perpetual Peace and Amity was signed, which placed trading, maritime, aviation and other commercial bilateral relations on a stable and friendly basis. It was the first bilateral peace treaty that Japan signed with an Asian country in the postwar era. This treaty with India served as a model for similar such treaties with Burma and Indonesia. Another important feature of the Indo-Japanese peace treaty was Article 6, by which India decided to waive all its claims to reparations from

Japan. Japan hailed this as an extraordinary demonstration of India's friendly feeling for the Japanese people. The real worth of India's gesture can be better understood against the background of Japan's numerous difficulties in forging relations with countries of Southeast Asia. These countries were opposed to normalizing relations with Japan without receiving adequate reparations. They stood strictly by the terms of Article 14 of the peace treaty, which recognized their claims to reparations. Thus, at a time when Japan was totally excluded from the rest of Asia, India's gesture came as a great relief. 2012 marked the 60th anniversary of this friendship treaty, which was widely celebrated in both countries, reminding the

present generation of the perpetual and infinite benevolence of India's adherence to the supreme ideals of true friendship.

Republic Day is known as Gana-Tantra Diwas in Hindi. The Indian word for independence is "swa-tantra." The word "tantra" means the "heart." The word "swa" means the "self." The true meaning of independence connotes one's freedom of bondage from the power of senses, which drag leaders and nations into horrors of violence and wars. Yoga means transcending the power of senses for union with one's higher self. The attainment of yoga, involving sense-control, expansion of love, friendship and cooperation among people and nations, is the eternal message from India's Republic Day.

## Beyond bricks and mortar: historic and modern Indian architecture

Just a few film producers have taken up the exploration and interpretation of the vast treasure of traditional, historic and contemporary architectural content in India. Manu Rewal, an accomplished filmmaker, in his two recent films — "Medieval Marvels" and "Modern Spaces Indian Light" — does just this. Manu, who produced, directed and wrote the screenplay for the films, traces the thought process and teamwork that goes into the design and development of a project. Coming from a family that breathes architecture, Manu shows his understanding of the subject and brings it to the viewer in an articulate, comprehensive and meaningful style. The films focus on the role architecture has played in our past and how it is a mirror of a society's aspirations and the present times.

"Medieval Marvels" brings us closer to 15th-17th century India, when Hindu architecture first made a mark and then the Mughals joined to create a secular architecture that modern India has inherited. This was the phase when Hindu architecture with the patronage of the maharajas was witness to the development of iconic temple and palace complexes. The construction during this period was symbolic of the strength and the charisma of the rulers. The film



Continuing tradition: The Fatehpur Sikri complex near Agra (left) and Raj Rewal's Hall of Nations in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. INDIA PERSPECTIVES

focuses on select complexes depicting Hindu and Mughal elements and the secular fabric that emerged, for example, Hoshang Shah's tomb in Mandu. The cinematography and commentary portray the details in plan and on the facades. The landscape is projected holistically as are the palaces and temples in Udaipur. It reflects the design principles addressed then toward the integration of nature and architecture.

The latter half describes Mughal architecture finding its roots in India. Highlighted is the approach of Emperor Akbar in realization of the Fatehpur Sikri complex near Agra. It gives the viewer an insight into the design of the structures here,

which incorporate both Mughal and Hindu architectural components. Throughout the film one is always kept in touch with the glorious art on the facades, be it the paintings or sculpted forms. After watching the film, one is more confident in deciphering the thought and craftsmanship that were behind the creation of these historic monuments.

After independence, Indian

architecture has seen growing trends in explorations of modernity. These interpretations have been given a worthy dimension by architects such as Achyut P. Kanginde, Charles Correa, B.V. Doshi, Joseph Allen Stein and Raj Rewal.

"Modern Spaces Indian Light," the second film, delves into 21st century Indian architecture. The focus is on projects that have

been designed with priority given to the integration of light and landscape to the interior volume of spaces. The film is about five projects with explanations on the design concept being provided by the architects of the complexes. Interwoven is a disciplined commentary with the architect's narration, which provides further insights to the design development process.

Rajesh Ranganathan, Prem Chandavarker, Sanjay Mohe, Bimal Patel and Raj Rewal are the architects whose projects are featured, and the film zeroes down on factors that bring out the rapport of the natural elements to the man-made structures.

This text is an edited excerpt from "India Perspectives."



Flavorful: Indian cuisine reflects a blend of various cultures and eras, and varies from region to region.

Indian cuisine, especially curries, are among the best in the world

Yog Kapoor  
OWNER, INDIAN RESTAURANT CHAIN SAMRAT

I convey to the readers our heartfelt felicitations on the 64th Republic Day of India. The Indian government's economic reform policy has led to the rise of India, lauded worldwide for its economic growth during such a global recession and financial crisis.

Indo-Japanese trade, economic relations and investment have expanded; it is expected that trade figures will increase in the coming years.

In the year 2012 there were many Indian food festivals in Japan and they were successful. Basically, Japanese are very fond of curry, but in their own Japanese style. I think there is no Japanese who does not like curry. But in the cooking style of real Indian curries there is a lot of difference in the taste between Indian curries and Japanese curries.

India, the country of Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru, is the most populated country next to China in the world. India has some of the best doctors, some of the best IT people and very experienced people in different fields of life: They all eat curries almost every day.

Spices play the major part in cooking the curries. India has large varieties of spices. Indian food is food for all seasons. It has become very popular in the world. Tourists and the business community from all over the world are increasing in India day by day. I am sure they all must be enjoying Indian food at some good, authentic restaurants during their stay in India.

This is the first time that I am writing an article about Indian food, although I am in the Indian restaurant business in Japan for the last about 32 years or so. So this article should not be taken as publicity for my personal business, but whatever I have written about Indian curries and spices, it is very true and authentic.



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