Kyrgyz National Day Special

Continued friendship, cooperation in various of fields

MIRLAN ARSTANBAEV AMBASSADOR OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



First of all, I would like to express my appreciation to The Japan Times for this opportunity to address all readers, as well as compatriots living in Japan, on the occasion of the Independence

Day of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Twenty-nine years ago, the Kyrgyz Republic started its path toward building a strong, sovereign and democratic state. Since gaining independence, the Kyrgyz Republic has begun to improve all spheres of society, as well as strengthen its authority in the region and the world. Over the years of independence, the Kyrgyz Republic has established diplomatic relations with 164 countries.

It is gratifying to note that diplomatic relations with Japan were among the first established. Today, Japan is our reliable and long-term partner, and we are ready to continue efforts to deepen political, trade, economic, investment, cultural and humanitarian cooperation with Japan.

Over the years of cooperation between the Kyrgyz Republic and Japan, the Japanese side has had successful projects in the fields of road rehabilitation, support for agriculture and increasing food production, education, human resource development and many others. The people of the Kyrgyz Republic are grateful to the people of Japan for their support.

Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic, which has engulfed the entire world, has come as a major shock to all of us. Trade suffered, the health system strained and consumption and investment plummeted. The coronavirus had a negative impact on achieving results for various plans.

Despite this, a lot of work is being done to deepen our cooperation in the field of medicine and health care — exchanging experience in the fight against the coronavirus and improving knowledge of medical personnel. The Japanese health care system is one of the most advanced in the world

and we need Japan's experience in the fight against the coronavirus.

The Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in Japan plans to continue to work in this direction, as well as promote cooperation between our countries in such areas as energy, transport and logistics, education, environmental protection and biodiversity.

We are open to all interested Japanese companies and ready to make efforts to increase Kyrgyz-Japanese cooperation to higher levels.

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate all my compatriots and Japanese friends on the independence day of the Kyrgyz Republic and wish every home and family happiness, health, well-being, peace and prosperity to our beloved country.

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