



Strategic Dimensions of India-Japan Relations

ICRIER-JIIA-FSI Track-II Dialogue


New Delhi, December 11, 2014


Joint Statement

1. The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA), Tokyo, led by Ambassador Yoshiji Nogami; the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi, led by Dr. Rajat Kathuria; and the Forum for Strategic Initiatives (FSI), New Delhi, led by Ambassador H.K. Singh, held their second Track-II dialogue in New Delhi on December 11, 2014.
2. The agenda for the meeting covered domestic developments and policies in India and Japan; steps to operationalise the India-Japan “Special Strategic and Global Partnership” (SSGP); and regional architecture in the Indo-Pacific.
3. Noting the outcomes of the September 1, 2014 summit meeting between Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Shinzo Abe in Tokyo, participants welcomed the intention of the two leaders to “create a relationship that will shape the course of their countries and the character of this region and the world in this century”.
4. In this context, they attached particular importance to the intensification of bilateral cooperation in the area of maritime security across the expanse of the Indo-Pacific and the early initiation of defence equipment and technology exchanges.
5. Delegations called for greater bilateral cooperation in the high technology and energy sectors and reaffirmed the strategic importance of concluding an Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy based on the joint statement of the September 1, 2014 summit.

6. Participants highlighted the significance of the new “India-Japan Investment Promotion Partnership” to support PM Modi’s vision for accelerating inclusive development in India by deploying massive flows of public and private finance from Japan to transform the infrastructure and manufacturing sectors in India. In this regard, they noted the establishment by the Indian government of a “Core Group” headed by the Indian Cabinet Secretary and a “Japan Plus Team”, which were constituted in October 2014. They called for the acceleration of economic and regulatory reforms to further facilitate Japanese FDI and financial flows, including in the area of banking.
7. Recognising the need to preserve the inviolability of the global commons, ensure unimpeded lawful commerce and observe established norms for the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with international law, they stressed the critical role of the India-Japan SSGP across the interconnected Indo-Pacific region. They welcomed Japan’s policy of “proactive contribution to peace” and India’s desire to play a proactive role in the Indo-Pacific under its “Act East” policy. In this context, they encouraged India and Japan to consider an integrated regional connectivity initiative bridging the Bay of Bengal, as well as to advance shared interests in regional stability, both bilaterally and in conjunction with regional partners like the US and Australia.
8. Welcoming progress made in advancing regional cooperation at bilateral and regional summit meetings held recently, participants observed that deepening economic integration was not on its own sufficient to advance order and stability in the absence of inclusive and balanced security architecture as well as norms rooted in international law. They underscored the importance of closer coordination between India and Japan in regional forums, such as the East Asia Summit process, to build viable security architecture for the Indo-Pacific.
9. The participating institutions welcomed the institutionalization of the ICRIER-JIIA-FSI Track-II Dialogue and its role in imparting sustained momentum to economic, political and security ties between India and Japan. The JIIA delegation thanked ICRIER and FSI for organizing the meeting and looked forward to hosting the third session of this dialogue forum in Tokyo in March, 2015.


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