

YOMIURI

# Indo-Japanese relationship ripe for continued success

**By Ryuko Hira**

Honorary President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry Japan Tokyo (ICCJ) and the Indian Merchants Association of Yokohama (IMAY)

On behalf of all the members of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Japan Tokyo (ICCJ) and the Indian Merchants Association of Yokohama (IMAY), I convey to readers our heartfelt felicitations on the 62nd Republic Day of India.

The Indian government's comprehensive economic reform policy has led to the



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rise of a contemporary India, lauded worldwide for its extraordinary economic growth during the global recession. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's economic growth forecast for 2010 by 60 basis points to 9.4 percent.

Indo-Japanese trade, economic relations and investment have expanded significantly and with the successful completion of the recently held Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) talks, it is expected that trade figures will increase in the coming years. As of September 2010, exports from India to Japan were 2.41 percent (the ninth-highest level) of India's total exports, and imports from Japan were 2.39 percent of total imports, ranking 14th.

We serve as a comprehensive and professional apex chamber of commerce, supplementing the efforts of the Indian Embassy to promote India-Japan economic engagement.

We provide support, guidance and offer consultancy/advisory services to interested parties to enable them exploit fully the potential for business between Japan and India.

ICCJ Tokyo has successfully launched a Road and Highways Infrastructure Investment seminar and is organizing seminars on the travel industry, pharmaceutical industry and "Doing Business in India: Opportunities for Small & Medium Sized Companies."

To bring India's economic agenda to fruition, we will continue to offer our comprehensive services to Japanese manufacturers, general contractors and other investors in cooperation with prefectural chambers of commerce and other institutions.

We will be commemorating the 90th year of our founding in April 2011 and take this opportunity to express our gratitude to the Indian government for providing assistance and care to overseas Indians in Japan.