

**DPG-JIIA**  
**5<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Indo-Pacific Forum**  
**(8<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Track 1.5 Dialogue)**

**“India and Japan: Anchoring Stability, Security and  
Prosperity Amidst Disruptions of Global Order”**

**New Delhi, November 23, 2022**

**Joint Statement**

The Delhi Policy Group (DPG) and The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA) jointly organised the 5<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Indo-Pacific Forum in New Delhi on November 23, 2022. This was the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the India-Japan Track 1.5 Dialogue series, co-anchored by DPG and JIIA. The event was hosted by DPG with the support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The JIIA delegation was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan. The dialogue marked the resumption of in-person meetings of the Indo-Pacific Forum which have been disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic since 2019.

The DPG and JIIA delegations were led respectively by Ambassador Hemant Krishan Singh, Director General of DPG and Ambassador Sasae Kenichiro, President of JIIA.

The overarching theme of this year’s Indo-Pacific Forum was to forge greater understanding on convergent interests and the joint contributions of India and Japan to uphold Indo-Pacific stability, security and prosperity amidst disarray in the rules-based order. Deliberations were organised in three sessions: “Global Developments, Power Alignments and Impact on Indo-Pacific Order” (Session 1); “India-Japan Bilateral Relations: Pathways to Progress” (Session 2); and “Power and Potential of India and Japan in Shaping the Indo-Pacific Order” (Open Session). Sessions 1 and 2 were closed-door and governed by the Chatham House Rule. The Open Session was live-streamed, and included audiences in major academic institutions of India and Japan.

H.E. Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, and H.E. Mr. Hayashi Yoshimasa, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan, delivered virtual keynote addresses at the Open Session, affirming the importance attached by both governments to this premier forum for strategic communication between think tank experts and senior officials from both sides, aimed at harnessing greater policy coordination on the wide-ranging issues facing the Indo-Pacific. Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Foreign Secretary, Government of India, delivered keynote remarks at the opening session of the dialogue.

Participants noted that since the last edition of the Forum held virtually on December 21, 2021, the global environment has significantly deteriorated and there is major distress in world order. In both Asia and Europe, there is resort to unrestrained power for expansionist and coercive pursuits. At this juncture, it is of utmost importance to uphold, without exception, a global order based on the UN Charter, international law and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all states. The peaceful resolution of conflicts and disputes through diplomacy and dialogue is vital for a stable and peaceful world. There must be no resort to threat or use of force, or any attempt to unilaterally change the status quo.

Participants expressed concern that as great power rivalries escalate, divisions are emerging among nations. They were of the view that prospects of a fractured world order must be countered through effective and representative multilateralism that revives the role of reformed global institutions in addressing the challenges of the day, from climate change to disruptions across the global economy and ensuring food and energy security among developing countries. In this context, they welcomed the outcomes of the Bali G20 Summit, and looked forward to India's contributions as the Chair of G20 and Japan's contributions as the Chair of G7 over the coming year.

India and Japan are celebrating the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations at a time when the relevance of the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership has become more pronounced. The legacy of late Prime Minister Abe Shinzo in forging closer India-Japan relations is continuing with the revival of in-person bilateral summits and the 2+2 Foreign and Diplomatic Ministerial meeting. Participants were strongly of the view that it is more necessary than ever for India and Japan to stand together to

realise a Free and Open Indo-Pacific, while also underpinning regional stability and prosperity. They must also further enhance their contributions to the Quad in order to shape the regional security environment.

Participants recognised that the security situation surrounding India and Japan has become more challenging, underscoring the need for both sides to reinforce security and defence cooperation. They urged early consideration by the two governments of updating the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation of 2008 and related Action Plan of 2009, from the perspective of enhancing joint capability to meet non-traditional as well as traditional security challenges. Expert delegates were of the view that the Quad should also pursue a credible security agenda.

Participants called for more accelerated progress on bilateral trade, investment and technology cooperation. They stressed the importance of joint efforts to build economic resilience through trusted, secure and transparent supply chains, as well as cooperation on critical minerals, strategic technologies and infrastructure projects.

Finally, they encouraged greater bilateral diplomatic and security consultation and coordination to advance shared interests and goals in the Indo-Pacific, the Quad, IPEF as well as in relevant multilateral fora.

The Open Session of the Forum disseminated to the wider national and regional audiences the challenges and opportunities of expanding India-Japan partnership across the spectrum of economic, technological, defence and security ties.

Participants once again affirmed their commitment to continually enhance the public policy relevance of this important Forum in the coming years.

Attendees at the Forum included strategic experts from think tanks and academia, representatives of both governments, and diplomatic officials from the Embassy of Japan in New Delhi.

The members of the JIIA Delegation led by Ambassador Sasae Kenichiro expressed their deep gratitude to the Delhi Policy Group



and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, for their excellent arrangements and hospitality in hosting the Forum. JIIA will host the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Japan-India Indo-Pacific Forum/ 9<sup>th</sup> Japan-India Track 1.5 Dialogue in Tokyo in the second half of 2023, suitable dates for which will be decided through mutual consultations.

*H. Singh*

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*Mr. Sasae*

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New Delhi  
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