

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH: (a) to (c) Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Japan from August 30 to September 03, 2014 for the annual summit meeting. Prime Minister visited Kyoto and Tokyo in Japan. In Tokyo, the two PMs had a restricted meeting followed by delegation level talks. PM had an audience with the Emperor. A number of Japanese Ministers and leaders of political parties called on Prime Minister Modi. During the visit 6 agreements were signed, which also included 'Confirmation of the intention regarding the Partner City Affiliation between City of Varanasi (Republic of India) and City of Kyoto (Japan)'. Prime Minister Modi briefed Prime Minister Abe on his initiative for Smart Cities and renewal of heritage cities, including the city of Varanasi. Prime Minister Abe expressed Japan's willingness to support this objective. The two Prime Ministers welcomed the progress in the ongoing flagship projects of India-Japan economic partnership, such as the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) and committed to accelerate their implementation. Prime Minister Modi invited Japanese investments in the development of new smart cities and industrial parks along these corridors.

During the visit, the bilateral relationship was upgraded to Special Strategic and Global Partnership and a new India-Japan Investment Promotion Partnership was launched, under which Japan conveyed its intention to invest 3.5 trillion yen of public-private investment in India over five year period as well as to double the number of Japanese companies operating in India. Defence equipment and technology was identified as a new major area of cooperation. During the visit, the Japanese side also agreed to removal of six Indian entities from the Japanese foreign-end user list. The two sides agreed to strengthen their cooperation and collaboration in several areas including in energy, LNG, railways, infrastructure, smart cities, science and technology and in promoting people to people exchanges.

Organising of Festival of India by ICCR

2073. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is organizing 'Festival of India' in various parts of the world;
- (b) if so, the details of the countries in which 'Festival of India' was organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relation (ICCR); and
- (c) the details of funds spent on this festival during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Details of 'Festival of India' organized by ICCR in last five years are as follows:

Year	Name of Festival	Country	Expenditure (₹ in lakhs)
2009-10	Festival of India	Russia	419
	Festival of India	Argentina	30
2010-11	Festival of India	China	568
	Festival of India- Namaste France	France	121
	Festival of India	Argentina	33
	Mini Festival of India	Spain	29
2011-12	Year of India	USA & Canada	380
	Festival of India	South Korea	150
	Festival of India	Brazil	161
	Festival of India	Iran	19
	Festival of India	Russia	42
	Festival of India	Saudi Arabia	25
2012-13	Year of India	Germany	323
2013-14	Europalia. India 2014	Belgium	1278

Problems in nuclear trade with US over liability

2074. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the United States held discussions recently about the problems in nuclear trade, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether trade had been blocked over US concerns on India's suppliers liability clause; and

(c) whether India has already been able to cross similar hurdles with France and Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH: (a) and (b) Yes. During the recent visit of the Prime Minister to the United States, the two sides agreed to establish a Contact Group