

## **Talk with Mr. Koji Yoshida on ‘Indo-Japanese Diplomatic Relations since India’s Independence- Japanese Society**

*Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*

The Japanese Society of St. Stephen's College, New Delhi organized a webinar with Mr. Koji Yoshida, Director, Japan Information Centre, Embassy of Japan on the topic: Indo-Japanese Diplomatic Relations since India's Independence on 22 January 2022 under the banner of AKAM.

The event was moderated by D. Sahana. Mr. Yoshida spoke about his trip to India in Hindi and then talked about the formal relations that began in 1952. India did not sign the SF peace treaty and went straight for bilateral relations. This is the cornerstone of a longstanding friendship. This relationship is deeply rooted in business, education, and cultural exchange. The Japanese flag was hoisted for the first time in the 1970 Asian games. He said that this partnership promotes peace and stability in the Asian region and globally also. Especially partners as both countries assist each other across various spheres. The Japanese government sees India as a dynamic market with a young and strong labour force and hence has invested in a lot of projects in the country.

A question was asked about the relocation of Japanese manufacturing units from China to India, to which Mr. Yoshida replied that the Chinese have always been a prudent civilisation but the difference in the political systems have proven to be a disruption. India on the other hand, has a similar political system and the young labour force will prove to be beneficial to both parties. A number of interesting questions were asked and the webinar concluded with an invitation by Mr. Yoshida to hold further events in the future. The concluding remarks were given by D. Sahana.

**Reported by Saransh Alexander Kumar (The Media Cell)**