

Japan

Information Bulletin

Embassy of Japan in Pakistan & Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi



H.E. ABE Shinzo, Prime Minister of Japan and H.E. Dr. Arif Alvi,
President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Tokyo, Japan.



During these difficult times, a heartfelt message from the Ambassador for Japan in Pakistan H.E. Mr. Kuninori MATSUDA

Dear readers Asslam-o-Alaikum !

I hope that we stay strong together during these difficult times under the Novel Coronavirus.

This issue includes the update of development on our traditionally amicable relationship since the end of last year. Let me highlight some of the important topics with you.

First of all, as you all may be aware, the new Emperor of Japan, His Majesty Emperor Naruhito was enthroned on 1 May 2019, which began the new era called “Reiwa” in Japan. The Enthronement Ceremony was held in October. President and Mrs. Arif Alvi were among the Heads of states from various countries who were invited to attend the auspicious occasion. During the visit, President Alvi met with Japanese PM Shinzo Abe and representatives of the Japanese companies and members of the Pakistani community in Japan. This visit by President and Mrs. Alvi gave a new impetus to the already existing traditionally friendly bilateral relations between Japan and Pakistan.

After the Enthronement Ceremony, I hosted the first reception to celebrate the 60th birthday of the new Emperor in Islamabad in February this year which was attended by Ministers, Parliamentarians, senior government officials, military officials, members of the diplomatic community and other dignitaries. I would like to convey my gratitude to the Pakistani people for extending their best wishes for the new Emperor of Japan and the people of Japan.

Besides these events, there were various activities involving the Japanese Embassy in Islamabad and Consulate in Karachi. You will enjoy various photos in this bulletin.

Dear readers, as you know that Novel Coronavirus is a big challenge for all of us, the Government of Japan is continuously extending support to the Government of Pakistan to boost its efforts to combat this Novel Coronavirus with various kinds of assistance based on our traditionally amicable relationship.

In February, diagnostic kits for thousand cases were provided to the National Institute of Health in Islamabad to help testing the suspected patients.

As financial support, the Grant of USD 7.41 million has been provided to the Government of Pakistan through the various UN organizations to prevent the spread of this virus besides emergency support delivered by the Japanese non-governmental organizations in the KP province.

Desert Locust attack is another serious issue in Pakistan. The Government of Japan in cooperation with a Japanese NGO and some private organizations has provided insecticide to NDMA to combat the locust’s attack in the agricultural fields in Pakistan.

In this way, we would like to cooperate together to tackle existing challenges in Pakistan.

Taking this opportunity let me share with you another important milestone in our bilateral relations last year when the Government of Japan signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with the Government of Pakistan for skilled Pakistani workers to come to Japan under its Specified Skilled Workers Program. I strongly hope that this new system will be another step to develop our relationship.

Last but not least, I would like to close my message by saying that the year 2022 will mark the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Pakistan. Let’s all come together to celebrate this auspicious occasion to instill a fresh vigor in the already existing friendly relations between us.

Wishing you all a safe, healthy and happy life.

Japan-Pakistan Dosti Zindabad (Long Live Japan-Pakistan Friendship)

President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan attended the Enthronement Ceremony of the New Emperor of Japan His Majesty Emperor Naruhito



On the invitation of the Government of Japan, President Dr. Arif Alvi visited Japan from 20-24 October 2019 to attend the enthronement ceremony of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito. The ceremony was attended by a large number of Heads of State/Government from various countries of the world.

During the visit, the President met with the Japanese political leadership including PM Abe and also interacted with the representatives of important Japanese companies and members of Pakistani community living in Japan.

Reception hosted to celebrate the birthday of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito

To celebrate the 60th birthday of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Ambassador MATSUDA hosted a reception on 20th February which was attended by Ministers, Parliamentarians, senior government officials, members of the diplomatic community and other dignitaries from the public and private sectors. Federal Minister for Energy Omar Ayub Khan was the chief guest on the occasion.



Ambassador MATSUDA Kuninori paid a field visit to Afghan Refugees Village in KPK



Grant Assistance for NTU Faisalabad

The Government of Japan has extended grant assistance of JPY 500 million (approximately PKR 700 million) to the Government of Pakistan to procure equipment and machines from Japan for enhancing the educational functions of the National Textile University (NTU) in Faisalabad. H.E. MATSUDA Kuninori, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan and Dr. Syed Pervaiz Abbas, Secretary of the Economic Affairs Division, signed grant assistance agreement in Islamabad on 19 March.



Installation of Electric Wheelchair Lift and Slope

In the pursuit of a barrier-free Embassy and for better accessibility of physically handicapped persons visiting the Embassy premises, the Embassy of Japan, after installing a slope at the entrance of main building last September, has now installed an electric wheelchair lift for the stairs at the entrance of Embassy.



Calendar Exhibition by Japanese Embassy

Annual Japanese calendars exhibitions 2020 were organized in Rawalpindi, POF Wah Cantt and Lahore which were immensely liked by the visitors.



Emperor's Birthday Reception in Karachi



Consul-General Isomura making remarks.



The guests enjoying sushi.



Mrs. Isomura in *kimono* with the ladies in *Shalwar kameez*.



Japanese *sake* introduced at the reception.



Wagon R and Jinxer displayed by Pak Suzuki Motors Co. Ltd.



House hold and industrial sewing machines displayed by Almurtaza Machinery Co. (Pvt.) Ltd.



Embroidery items made by ARTS Foundation.



Ikebana work displayed at the reception.





GGP Reshaping Life Choices for the Underprivileged

By GGP Coordinator Aki

The Japanese Government offers a non-refundable financial assistance to development projects, known as the "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Projects (GGP)". The sheer purpose of this assistance is to cater to the needs of people in the developing countries. Having first-hand experience in these projects, I would like to introduce you to the construction project we did at the Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi and my experience at the on-site inspection.

In 2017, the Consulate provided two school buildings through GGP scheme to a local NGO known as Participatory Research and Development Organization (PRADO), which operates schools in farming areas of the Matiari District in Sindh. I visited these schools in February to check the status of operation and its performance over the two years.

After receiving a warm welcome on my visit, from both students and teachers, a tour of each classroom was led by the head of PRADO during which I saw most students listening intently to the teachers with both their books and notebooks in front. This came as a surprise since many schools in rural areas of Sindh fall short of providing all essentials to students. In PRADO schools this seemed to be the case as they receive a grant from Sindh Education Foundation (SEF). The school also had a separate setup of artworks by students pinned on the walls along with timetables and visual aids for learning. Observing this, I could see that PRADO schools were committed to giving a comprehensive learning experience; a learning platform to students and quality education.

Along with the on-site visit, the Consulate held a Japanese movie screening and an origami workshop for the students. The activity may have been challenging for the children as it was their very first time making origami, but their fascination with making cups, balloons, and

airplanes out of colorful papers was evident in how they ran to me triumphantly to show the fruitful results of their efforts. The sight of their excited faces was truly unforgettable.

This experience made me go back to what I often think as a coordinator; how do you evaluate the performance of educational projects? Do we evaluate it by how much contribution the students make to the society after they get out of school, or do we evaluate it by the mental growth or changes in their attitude? It is almost impossible to define the performance accurately and quantify it. However, we know that this provision of education definitely broadens their life options but most importantly what helps us evaluate the performance even more clearly is the increase in the enrolment of students. Before the implementation of this project, PRADO schools had only 160 students which increased to more than 470 after the project was implemented in full fervor. The number of students enrolled almost tripled over this time period and we can only imagine the expansion it made in the life choices these 470 students will be able to pursue. The platforms at these schools given by the NGO and the teachers are providing the students not just an education but a number of life choices and a power to choose how they want to live.

Consequently, providing school buildings and equipment is not the only thing that we can do under these projects. We can also promise a brighter future of these children and reshape their life choices for their betterment. In order to do so, we need to share the same vision, ascertain the feasibility, and implement the project under the condition of solid management. It is, of course, not easy to keep the promise and we count heavily on the efforts of the local NGOs to realize a sustainable project. The key takeaway is that Pakistan will only get better by the efforts put in by its own people.



Cultural Events by Japanese Consulate



The Consulate held an orientation for a delegation of JENESYS 2019 Program on 17 January.



JENESYS 2019 participants enjoying udon and tempura at an authentic restaurant in XX during the trip.



The Opening Ceremony of Calendar Exhibition 2020 was held at JICC on 21 January.



An enlightening performance of live truck art by Phool Patti at the Calendar Exhibition.



A one-day conference on "Post-War Economic Development of Japan" was held in collaboration with PJIF at University of Sindh on 23 January.



On 29 January, Japan extended a grant of US\$ 98,969 to Kaus-e-Kazah Welfare Organization (KKO) under GGP scheme.



A visit to PRADO schools in Matiari District in Hyderabad to monitor the performance from 12-13 February.



On 16 February, Deputy Consul-General Ashida showcased his culinary skills at the "Tuna Fillet Making Demonstration" at JICC.



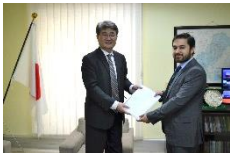
On 23 February, Consul-General Isomura hosted a reception marking the start of Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics 2020.



With Japan Karate Association (JKA), the Consulate hosted a two-day "Karate Workshop 2020" on 23-24 February.



Consul-General ISOMURA Toshikazu hosted Emperor's Research Reception at PC Hotel on February 25, 2020.



On March 20, 2020, Consul-General ISOMURA invited the MEXT Research Scholarship 2020 candidates for a briefing session. Mr. Abbas Will be joining Kyoto University in the field of Robotics.



Olympic designed cake presented by Softball Federation Pakistan to celebrate the occasion.



Mr. SHIINA Katsutoshi, former Karate World Cup Champion got interviewed by local media.



On 26 February, Kake Educational Institution Okayama organized a "Study in Japan" seminar at the Consulate.



On March 20, 2020, Consul-General ISOMURA invited the MEXT Research Scholarship 2020 candidates for a briefing session. Mr. Shaheen Will be joining Kyoto University in the field of Robotics.



Japanese Government Offices in Pakistan

Embassy of Japan in Pakistan

53-70, Ramna 5/4, Diplomatic Enclave 1, Islamabad 44000
(P.O. Box 1110, Islamabad)
Tel: +92(51) 9072500
Fax: +92(51) 9072352
E-mail: ryoji@ib.mofa.go.jp (Consular/Visa)
economic@ib.mofa.go.jp (Economic)
culture@ib.mofa.go.jp (Public Affairs)
Website: <http://www.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/>

Consulate-General of Japan in Karachi

6/2, Civil Lines, Abdullah Haroon Road, Karachi 75530
Tel: +92(21) 35220800
Fax: +92(21) 35220815
E-mail: culture@kr.mofa.go.jp
Website: <http://www.kr.pk.emb-japan.go.jp/>

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Lahore

1 Mcleod Road, Lahore
Tel: +92(42) 37225015-7
Fax: +92(42) 37233518
E-mail: anw@shiraziinvestments.com.pk

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Peshawar

No. 38, St. 3, Sector N-3, Phase 4, Hayatabad, Peshawar
Tel: +92(91) 5828378
Fax: +92(91) 5817569

Office of the Honorary Consul General of Japan in Quetta

53-A, Jinnah Town, Samungh Road, Quetta
Tel: +92(81) 2829478, 2829633
Fax: +92(81) 2829515
E-mail: knadeem@cyber.net.pk

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Pakistan Office

Serena Office Complex, 4th Floor, G-5/1m Khyaban-e-Suhrawardy, Islamabad
Tel: +92(51) 9244500-07
Fax: +92(51) 9244508
Website: <http://www.jica.go.jp/paksitan/English/index/html>

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)

2nd Floor, Block-B, Finance & Trade Centre, Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi
Tel: +92(21) 35630727-32
Fax: +92(21) 35630733-34
E-mail: pak@jetro.go.jp
Website: <http://www.jetro.go.jp/>

For information on Japanese diplomacy, politics, economy and culture, please visit:

<http://www.japanpolicyforum.jp/>

<http://web-japan.org/>