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Chairman Board of Investment visits Japan from 26th February to 27th February 2018

Minister of State and Chairman Board of Investment, Pakistan, Mr. Naeem Y. Zamindar, who visited Japan addressed a special meeting of the Keidanren on emerging business and investment opportunities in Pakistan. Keidanren is the premier institution representing business and industry in Japan. Mr. Kiyoshi Miyake, Chair, Policy Sub-Committee, Committee on South Asia, Keidanren in his welcoming remarks thanked Mr. Zamindar for visiting the Keidanren and giving a special briefing on Pakistan's economy and investment framework.

Speaking to the members of the committee on South Asia, Mr. Zamindar said that Pakistan's location on the cusp of important economic regions, young population and skilled labour force supported by



very rapidly growing technology infrastructure made Pakistan a very attractive destination for investment not only for domestic market but also as a production and export hub for rest of the world. He said that with improved security and a sustained economic turnaround Pakistan is open for business.

Ambassador of Pakistan Asad M. Khan also spoke on the occasion and highlighted the renewed interest in both capitals to further deepen bilateral engagement duly captured by the convening of a number of dialogue processes and the visit of Foreign Minister of Japan Mr. Taro Kono to Islamabad last month. He reiterated Pakistan strong desire to expanding and deepen bilateral trade, investment and development cooperation provides a strong basis for a comprehensive, sustainable and mutually beneficial partnership between Pakistan and Japan.

Mr. Miyake concluded the session with the hope for stronger economic relations between the two countries.

Minister of State and Chairman, Board of Investment (BOI), Mr. Naeem Y. Zamindar, also met Mr. Kazuyuki Yamazaki, Senior Deputy Foreign Minister of Japan. Matters of mutual interest came under



discussion. Chairman BOI informed Mr. Yamazaki that Pakistan is aiming for a 9% economic growth rate by 2020 and there was a general consensus across political spectrum in Pakistan on achieving sustained economic growth. He also echoed Price Waterhouse coopers projection that Pakistan will be joining G-20 by 2030.



Mr. Yamazaki said that Pakistan-Japan relations have a long history. He remarked that given Pakistan's low labour cost and large and young population, it represents an attractive environment for Japanese investors.

Minister of State also met with Mr. Yasushi Akahoshi President of Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO). Mr. Akahoshi apprised him of JETRO's activities in promoting trade and investment cooperation between Japan and Pakistan and presented the results of JETRO survey of Japanese companies in Asia released this month. In the survey, Pakistan was rated at the top in Asia by Japanese companies for expected profits in 2018, plans for expansion of operations and hiring of local labour force. These results indicate high confidence of Japanese companies in future economic prospects of Pakistan and quality of labour force.

In a meeting with the Minister of State, Mr. Teruo Asada, Chairman of Pakistan Japan Business Cooperation Committee and Chairman of Marubeni Corporation stressed the importance of continuing high-level engagement between the governments and businesses of the two countries and discussed the scheduling of the next round of Joint Government Business Dialogue later this year.



Mr. zamindar also met with the representatives of Suzuki Corporation, Sojitz Corporation, Innovation Network Corporation of Japan, Infrastructure and Environment Finance JBIC to discuss further investment plans in Pakistan.

**Ambassador Asad M. Khan called on H.E. Masatsugu Asakawa
Vice Minister for Finance**

Ambassador Asad M. Khan called on H.E. Masatsugu Asakawa, Vice-Minister of Finance for International Affairs at Okurasho. The Ambassador reiterated that due to economic turnaround in Pakistan, the business persons eyed Pakistan as an important destination for investment. Ambassador underscored the importance of bilateral relations between the two countries and discussed ways of enhancing the same to the benefit of both the countries.



**Ambassador Khan welcomed H.E. Dr. Hasan Murat mercan,
the New Turkish Ambassador to Japan**

Ambassador Khan welcomed H.E. Dr. Hasan Murat Mercan, the new Turkish Ambassador to Japan in his office. The Ambassador acknowledged the fact that both Pakistan and Turkey share brotherly relations since long.



Pakistan Embassy hosted a ceremony to honour the contributors of Pakistan-Japan Friendship Festival 2017

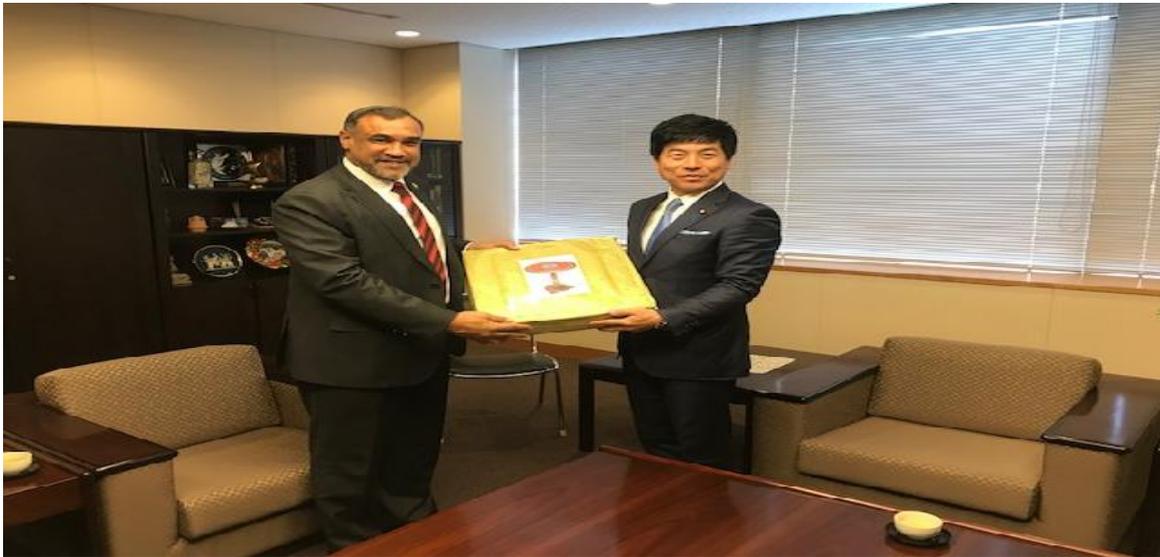


An event was organized in the Embassy to honour those organizers, volunteers and supporters who diligently worked to make the Pakistan-Japan friendship Festival 2017 a big success. In his address Ambassador Khan praised the hard work and motivation of all those who were associated with the festival in one capacity or the other. The Ambassador stated that these sort of festivals is a major mean to introduce the people life, culture traditions and cuisine of Pakistan to the Japanese people. He stated that the participations of huge number of people from all walks of life was clear evidence to the fact that the festival generated immense interest. Ambassador Khan hoped that the festival would become a regular feature in future with added colours.

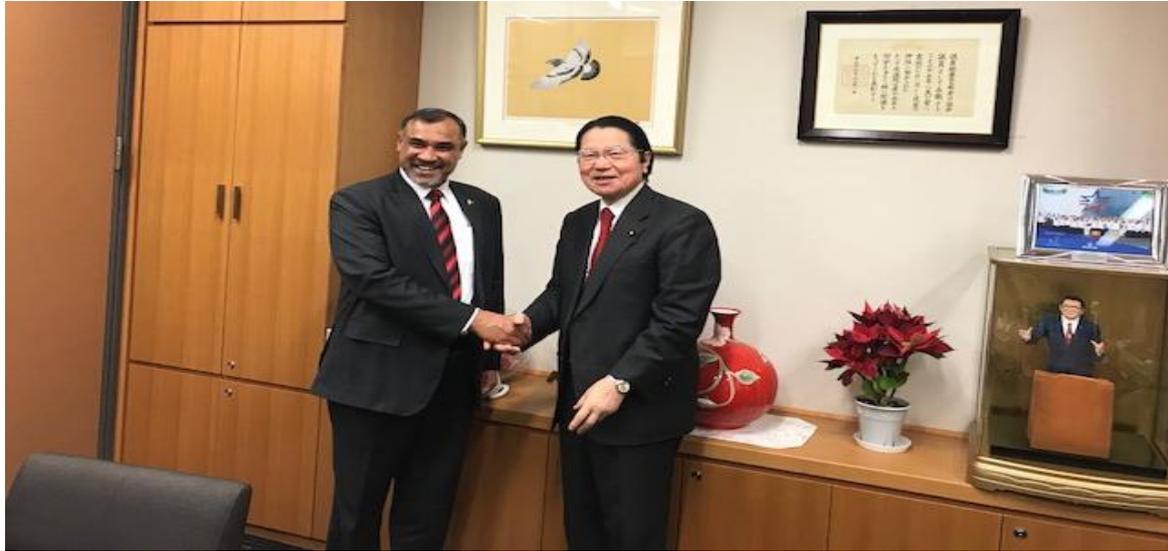
The Ambassador also distributed certificates among the organizers, performers and volunteers who made contributions to the huge success of the Pakistan-Japan Friendship Festival 2017.

Quarter Master General, Pakistan Army, Lt. General Javed Mehmood Bokhari visits Japan from 27th February to 5th March 2018

Lt. General Javed Mahmood Bukhari, Quarter Master General of Pakistan Army visited Japan from 26th February to 05th March 2018 and held meetings with various Government functionaries of Japanese Government. During the meeting matters of mutual interest were discussed besides stressing upon efforts to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in the defence forces between the two countries.



Call on Mr. Kazuyuki NAKANE State Minister for Foreign Affairs



Met with Mr Seishiro Eto Chairman Japan Pakistan Friendship Group

