MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN INDIA BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA) OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MOFA) OF JAPAN

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) of Japan and the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of the Republic of India (hereinafter referred to as "the Participants"),

Welcoming the decision taken by the Government of India (GOI) to put special importance on Japanese Language Education as one of the most efficient ways to strengthen economic ties and people-to-people exchanges between India and Japan;

Also Welcoming the initiative taken by GOI for scaling up the number of resource persons with knowledge of Japanese language to facilitate better understanding in different domains between the two nations and to enable high quality trans-communication for the benefit of Indian as well as Japanese companies/ agencies, for various bilateral economic collaborations in technology, investment in infrastructure development and all other collaborations and cooperation;

Recognising the benefits of further developing the relations in the field of Japanese language education in India, and;

Inspired by the willingness to promote and strengthen existing friendly relations and cooperation in the field of Japanese language education in India;

Have shared the following views:

Item 1: General Objective

This Memorandum of Cooperation will provide the framework within which detailed proposals for programmes of cooperation between the Participants in the field of Japanese language education in India on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit would be worked out.

The Participants will endeavour to encourage and facilitate, as appropriate, the advancement of linkages and cooperation between and through the agencies of the respective Governments, which handle matters regarding Japanese language education in India.

Item 2: Expansion of the Training Opportunities for Japanese Language Teachers

In order to promote the Japanese language education in India, the Japanese side will endeavour to expand the training opportunities for one thousand(1,000) Japanese language teachers as well as to support the Indian side to design an efficient curriculum and materials by dispatching specialists of Japanese-language education in the next five(5) years.

The competent agencies on Indian side will endeavor to provide cooperation such as offering training facilities, recommend and recruit Indian teachers who will collaborate with Japanese specialists, and facilitate proactive consideration for the qualification gained through training courses in recruitment in universities and other institutions and other resources appropriately.

The details of the cooperative activities will be discussed in a Steering Committee co-chaired by MOFA and MEA, with participation of Ministry of Human Resources and Development (MHRD), University Grant Commission India (UGC), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and university/institution representative(s) from Indian side and Embassy of Japan and The Japan Foundation from Japanese side. Other stakeholders may be invited as necessary.

Item 3: Expansion of Japanese Language Courses

The MEA, in cooperation with other Indian Ministries and Organizations including Ministry of Human Resource Development, will endeavour to expand Japanese Language Education in the next five(5) years, such as;

- a. Doubling the number of teachers and expanding the number of students in Japanese language degree courses in universities / institutions.
- b. Encouraging universities/colleges/institutions, especially engineering colleges and management schools to establish Japanese language certificate courses by identifying around one hundred(100) such institutions.
- c. Encouraging introduction of Japanese language education in secondary schools, especially in the cities which have strong relations with Japan such as Delhi and its neighboring area, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Pune.
- d. Providing appropriate working conditions and remuneration in accordance with local rules and regulations.

Item 4: Implementation

The financial sources for all cooperative activities, including the infrastructure and facilities as well as programmes under this Memorandum of Cooperation will be mutually decided by the Participants on a case-by-case basis subject to availability of funds and resources.

The Participants will prepare documents for the implementation and development of specific programmes under this Memorandum of Cooperation through the above mentioned Committee meetings, exchanges of letters or other instruments. Each Participant will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of its side of plans/programmes. Such specific documents will cover the subject of cooperation, procedures, treatment of intellectual property, funding and other appropriate matters.

Item 5: Modifications

This Memorandum of Cooperation can be modified at any time by mutual consent in writing between the Participants.

Item 6: Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute between the Participants arising out of the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum of Cooperation will be settled amicably by mutual consultation and negotiation.

Item 7: Commencement, Continuation and Termination

The cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation will commence on the date of its signature. It will continue for an initial period up to 2022. Before the end of the initial period, the Memorandum of Cooperation may be renewed for successive periods of five (5) years by mutual written consent. The cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation may be terminated by either Participant by giving a six (6) months written notice to the other Participant. After the termination of the cooperation under this Memorandum of Cooperation, any documents made under it will, subject to the mutual determination of both Participants, remain unchanged until any activities under such documents have been carried out to their completion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE UNDERSIGNED BEING DULY AUTHORISED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS HAVE SIGNED THIS MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION.

Signed at Gandhinagar, Gujarat on 14 September 2017, in two originals in English language.

For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

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Dr. S. Jaishankar Foreign Secretary of India, MEA For the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India

H.E. Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to India