

## Japan invites Karnataka to open office in Tokyo

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To promote tourism among young Japanese who like to travel to Karnataka, Consul General of Japan Takayuki Kitagawa today proposed to the Karnataka Government to establish a full-fledged Tourism Information Office in Tokyo.

Delivering the Guest of Honour address at the Invest Japan Seminar on Tourism and Allied Sectors joint organised by Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce and Jetro Mr. Kitagawa said the Japanese Government had already initiated talks with the Karnataka Government to establish a Tourism Info Centre in Tokyo and they are eagerly waiting for the consent after all diplomatic protocols are put in place.

Mr Kitagawa revealed that many young Japanese Women are keen to learn about Ayurveda. He said that if a tourism office could be established in Japan, it will greatly facilitate young Japanese women to come to Bangalore and avail Ayurveda treatment as well as learn the practice.

He proposed that if Jungle Resorts and Lodges are comfortable, a Japanese Tourist Centre can be established in their office which can promote Karnataka tourism among Japanese tourists.

As far setting up of industrial bases in Japan, Mr Kitagawa proposed that companies keen to establish business enterprises in Japan can form a common banner under the Karnataka Business Association so that it will be easier to set up companies in Japan.

"I propose companies interested to set up businesses can approach Japan under a common banner so that it will be easy to get necessary approvals and other concessions to establish a company in Japan".

There were a few diplomatic protocol issues with regard to this issue. These need to be sorted out, he added.

Later Mr Kazuya Nakajo, the Chief Director General of JETRO India, delivered the keynote speech and highlighted the facts that how the Japanese Government is proactively bringing in many policy-based changes to make the business climate congenial for overseas companies.

Mr Thyagu Valliappa, President, BCIC delivering his welcome address said that there are lot of similarities between India and Japan both culturally and business.

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