

29 April 2022  
Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai

***Government of Japan Confers the Order of the Rising Sun,***

***Gold and Silver Star on Mr. Narayanan Kumar***

The Government of Japan announced on 29 April 2022 the conferment of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star on Mr. Narayanan Kumar, Vice Chairman of the Sanmar Group and former President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), in recognition of his contribution to strengthening economic relations between Japan and India.

As President of CII in 1997-98, Mr. N. Kumar led an economic delegation to Japan, where India's prominent business leaders met Prime Minister Hashimoto and other Japanese leaders. He also promoted the ease of doing business in India through efforts to accelerate infrastructure development, modernise corporate governance, and introduce Japanese productivity management. In consequence, Japan's investment in India significantly increased in the following years. He also promoted Japan's kaizen method through annual conferences as Chairman of the CII Institute of Quality from 2011 to 2016.

Since 2015, Mr. N. Kumar has served as President, and subsequently as Chairman, of the Indo-Japan Chamber of Commerce & Industry. In this capacity, he has promoted mutual understanding between the two countries by organising two economic delegations to Japan as well as a number of events on Japanese economy and culture.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai extends its sincere congratulations and hopes that he will continue to play a significant role in strengthening bilateral relations during and beyond this commemorative year marking the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and India.