

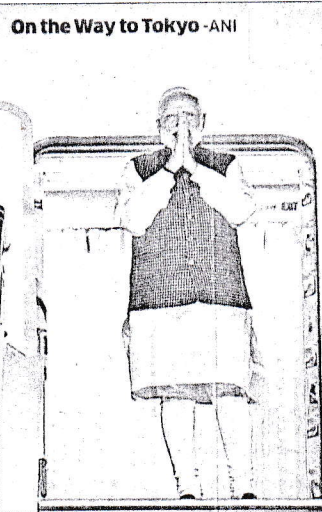
MODI HEADS TO TOKYO ON A SHORT VISIT FOR ABE'S STATE FUNERAL

India, Japan PMs to Discuss Expanding Strategic Partnership Across Sectors

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New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will have an opportunity to engage with his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida on Tuesday on a slew of elements of strategic partnership when he visits Tokyo for the State Funeral of former Prime Minister of Japan Shinzo Abe.

India and Japan are committed to strengthening bilateral partnership on key areas of Trade & Investment, Defence & Security, Climate Change, Health Security, Infrastructure, Digital, Industrial Development, Energy, Critical and Emerging Technologies, and Human Resources, among others, officials said on the eve of the deep.



“There is deep convergence in our visions of the Indo-Pacific region and there is close cooperation between our countries on issues of international importance,” an official pointed out.

This will be the third physical meet between Modi and Kishida this year beginning with Kishida's visit here for the annual summit. In May, Modi visited Tokyo for the second Quad Summit in physical format. These meetings underscored the two leaders' commitment towards deepening India-Japan ties, particularly in the context of shaping a post-pandemic regional and global order.

During the visit, Modi will attend the State Funeral ceremony at Budokan, followed by a greeting occasion at Akasaka Palace.

He will also meet Mrs. Akie Abe.

Representatives from over 100 countries, including more than 20 Heads of State/Heads of Government are expected to participate in the State Funeral. India had announced one-day national mourning on July 9 as a mark of respect for Abe Shinzo.

“The visit will be an opportunity for PM Modi to honor the memory of former PM Abe, who he considered a dear friend and a great champion of India-Japan ties. Modi and PM Abe developed a personal bond through their meetings and interactions spanning over a decade, beginning from PM Modi's visit to Japan in 2007 as Chief Minister of Gujarat. The two leaders elevated India-Japan relations to the status of Special Strategic and Global Partnership in 2014,” an official statement noted ahead of PM's trip.