



Kobe-Ahmedabad Sister Cities

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of sister-city partnership was signed by Japan and India during the Indian Prime Minister's visit for 2019 [G20](#) Osaka summit in Japan.

- It will cultivate, promote and enhance opportunities on the business, academic and cultural front between Kobe in Hyogo, Japan and Ahmedabad in Gujarat, India.
- In November 2016, India and Japan signed a **sister-state relationship MoU** for Gujarat and



Hyogo prefecture. [//](#)

- The MoU sought to promote mutual cooperation between Gujarat and Hyogo in the fields of academics, business, cultural cooperation, disaster management and environmental protection.
- Kobe is the capital city of Hyogo. Indian Prime Minister had visited a bullet train plant in Kobe.
- India is building its first bullet train between Mumbai and Ahmedabad with Japan's help.
- **The UNESCO** has recognized Ahmedabad as the World Heritage City and Kobe as the Creative Design City, and therefore, both are recognized by the world as cities of repute.
- This common thread will help people connect and this is very important for the growth on other fronts.
- Kobe already has a large section of Gujarati community.

Sister City

- The concept of sister cities or twin towns is a legal and social agreement between towns, cities, counties, oblasts, prefectures, provinces, regions, states between two separate countries to promote cultural and commercial ties.
- The plan was conceived after the end of World War II to promote peaceful coexistence and to

encourage trade and tourism.

- In diplomacy, this concept is seen as a way to enhance strategic ties between the two nations, both cultural as well as economic.
- In 2013, India signed the sister city agreements with China -- the pairs were Delhi-Beijing, Bengaluru-Chengdu and Kolkata-Kunming.

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