

The *Award Presentation Ceremony of “The Order of the Rising Sun” to Shri Mukesh M. Patel* organized by the *Indo-Japan Friendship Association, Gujarat. (23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2018)*

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- It is indeed a matter of great pleasure for me to be in midst of you this evening at the Award Presentation Ceremony of *“The Order of the Rising Sun-Gold Rays with Rosette 2017” Spring Imperial Decoration* conferred by *His Majesty, the Emperor of Japan* on Shri Mukesh Patelji, the President of the *Indo Japan Friendship Association, Gujarat*. This is a proud moment for all of us.
- I have known Shri Mukesh Patel since last three years. He has been recognised as an international tax expert across the world. He has also been the founder of *“Japan Information & Study Centre”* at the *Ahmedabad Management Association*. With great passion and enthusiasm and extra ordinary zeal, he has nurtured Gujarat’s affectionate bonding with Japan for nearly five decades. It is indeed a matter of great joy for all of us that Shri Mukesh Patel contribution to promoting friendly relations between Japan and India on academic, business & cultural fronts have been recognised by the *Government of Japan*. I heartily compliment him for this great achievement.
- Shri Mukesh Patel has played a key role as *Standing Counsel* of the *Indo Japanese Economic Cooperation Council*. He has also been instrumental in advising several Japanese companies for setting up a number of joint ventures and collaborations in India. He has also successfully planned six

Japanese Festivals at the *Ahmedabad Management Association* during the last decade in close coordination with the *Consulate General of Japan* in Mumbai.

- Shri Mukesh Patel has been a multi-faceted personality. He has been not only an international tax expert professionally, but has also been a great Columnist, TV Anchor, photographer, orator, centurion blood donor etc etc. He has been a true “Karmayogi” and has always tried to excel in whatever he does. He has also been a visiting faculty in several academic institutions and has been awarded with several honours.
- I am confident that felicitation of Shri Mukesh Patel will further strengthen India’s friendship with Japan in the coming years. In fact, Shri Mukesh Patel has been instrumental in providing various insights into the Japanese art, culture, values and lifestyle to our people. This will certainly open up new vistas for Gujarat and Japan in developing our trade and businesses in future.
- With these few words, I would once again like to congratulate Shri Mukesh Patel. I express my pleasure on being invited on the occasion to felicitate him. I also extend my warm greetings to the *Hon’ble Consul General* in Mumbai *Mr. Ryoji Noda* and other distinguished guests.