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Message from the Director, Todai India Office

Dear Alumnus,

It has been busy but exciting six months for establishing connections with Indian academic institutions and expanding our network with alumni, students, and corporations. We thought that this would be a good time to update you on our office activities.

First of all, I wish to talk about Todai's new undergraduate English program, PEAK- Programs in English at Komaba: Todai's interdisciplinary program in Environmental Sciences and Japanese Studies launched this October. Twenty seven students from 11 countries were admitted as the first batch. We hope to see bright Indian students enrolled next year in 2013. Please encourage your children to consider these courses.

It may be the first time in Todai that we will receive 8 students (Class 9 & 10) and one teacher from India in Todai campus on Nov.2, 2012. They are the delegation from Delhi Public School Bangalore South, who will visit Hakata, Yamaguchi and Tokyo in Japan for ten days from Oct.25 to Nov.3 at their own expenses. Those students have an interest in studying in Japan.

Prof. Yuzo Fujino, (Civil Engineering, Todai) every year organizes a summer school session for Japanese, Chinese, Korean American and Indian students. The 2012 Asia-Pacific Summer School on Smart Structure Technology was hosted by Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore from July 22 to Aug.11, 2012. This year participants included students from Waseda University, Keio University and Todai.

The 3rd Annual Conference on India JSPS Alumni Association was held in conjunction with the Program IJAA-NEERI International Conference on New Age Science and Technology for Sustainable Development under chairmanship of Toyo University and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute at Nagpur in August 6-7, 2012, where I made a speech about our activities under Global 30 Project.

(JSPS – Japan Society for the Promotion of Science)

Upcoming events

- November 1: Application period for PEAK (new undergraduate program at Todai) begins
- November 5: Todai Education Fair at IIT-Madras

Expected events

- March 2013: Indian educators delegation to Japan lead by Mr. Anand Kumar, Founder, Super 30
- 2013: Expected lecture tour in India by Nobel laureate Dr. Ryoji Noyori, President, RIKEN

Japan Education Fairs focusing on the new opportunities available at the 13 universities in Japan under the Global 30 Program were organized in New Delhi on Aug.30, Bangalore on Sep.1 and Hyderabad on Sep.3. We were responsible for the fair in Bangalore, the Ritsumeikan India Office organized the fair in Delhi, while Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organized the fair in IIT-Hyderabad. Responses from Indian students to the introduction to higher education in Japan are increasing.

A workshop was conducted jointly by IIT-Hyderabad and Todai at IIT-H between Sep.12-15, 2012, where Prof. Horii (Civil Engineering, Todai), Executive Director of i.school and his 22 students from Todai and 18 students from IIT-H were joined by representatives of several Japanese companies such as Toyota, Sony and Ajinomoto. The theme of the workshop was products, services, and business models under future lifestyles in India, where they have worked out an idea about a new business model in India.

We are pleased that the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras is interested in starting Japanese language classes at the Department of Social Science for its students as an official subject. This will be facilitated by JICA. IIT-M works closely with Renault-Nissan Automotive India through joint-research collaboration at the IIT-M Tech Park. We hope that this Japanese language school will be set up as a center for India-Japan collaboration in Chennai. As there is already a large interest in Japan at IIT-M, it is a good time to organize a Todai Education Fair in the campus on November 5.

Finally, the Nobel Prize being awarded to Kyoto University's Prof. Shinya Yamanaka is great news. This will certainly help promote Japan as a destination for leading scientific research. Moreover Prof. Yamanaka's connection with the National Centre for Biological Sciences in Bangalore provides an invaluable opportunity to get science students interested in Japan.

Please keep in touch and feel free to drop by our office when you are in Bangalore.
We would really value your inputs and participation at events when possible.

Sincerely,
Hiroshi Yoshino

Message from the President, The University of Tokyo Alumni Association of India, Akamonkai

Dear friend,

I am delighted at the initiative by our University to open an "India Office", and also start the India chapter of Akamon-Kai. This is an indication of the importance that Japan accords to her relations with India.

Japan gave us the invaluable opportunity to become members of the select few who pass through the portals Todai and receive an academic degree. This single opportunity has played a pivotal role in my life

ever since. Hence, it is my debt of honor to be elected as the first President of the India chapter of Akamon-Kai. The first Board of Directors was constituted and Ambassador Saiki was nominated as our Patron and Honorary Chairman. The Executive Committee (office bearers) was elected and the by-laws for the functioning of our Association were adopted.

By March 2013, we propose to provide the Indian alumni with an updated directory of alumni with a web portal link to the University of Tokyo web portal. In this regard, we will be asking for your help in seeking out our colleagues and alumni.

The alumni association in India should also play a role, not only for the alumni in India, but also a larger role, that of promoting the mission of Todai:

- **FOSTER COMMUNICATION**

- Provide alumni with information about the work of the University, its faculty and graduates, so they can remain constructively connected and are effective ambassadors of the University's mission around the world.

- **PROMOTE ENGAGEMENT**

- Provide alumni and students with multiple touch points with the University and each other to reinforce the powerful role the University of Tokyo alumni network plays in supporting career and life objectives of the University's graduates as well as the leadership role it plays in helping the University deliver on its mission.

As India aspires to be among the leading countries in this ever changing world, Indians will need to think globally and also get out there and study globally. Japan affords an excellent opportunity. Presently there are only 29 Indian students at Todai, compared to 1,067 Chinese, 675 Koreans, 38 from Nepal. One of our goals is to help increase the number of Indian students at Todai to 1,000. For this we need to promote the brand "Todai", and encourage students in our network to study at Todai. For people who have not experienced Japan, it is very difficult to visualize the extraordinary exposure that living and studying in Japan affords. Concerns about food, high cost of living etc., while being legitimate can be overcome easily.

Japan is among the few nations capable of manufacturing very high quality products and the Japanese work ethic is legendary. Today what India needs direly is a talented human resource pool – imbued with work ethic. In this context, there cannot be a better study destination than Japan.

As I wrap up this update, here is wishing you all "Seasons Greeting".

Shrikrishna Kulkarni
President (Master of Engineering, 1991)

Japan-India Student Conference

The Japan-India Student Conference (JISC) is an association of university students in Japan and India interested in each other's countries. Every year either the Indian group visits Japan, or the Japanese group visits India. This August, seven Japanese university students spent a month in India visiting Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and New Delhi. It was the first time that Bangalore was on the itinerary, where our office facilitated the visits to Infosys and Sony. This was interesting for the students to compare and understand how an Indian company and a Japanese company in India operate. For most of the students it was their first visit to India, except for two of the students who are learning Hindi at the Tokyo Institute of Foreign Languages.



Mr. Yoshino with JISC students during the visit to Sony India

Japan Education Fair 2012 in Bangalore

The Education fair in Bangalore held on September 1 was a daylong event where representatives from 10 Japanese universities were present.



Prof. VijayRaghavan, the chief guest

Prof. VijayRaghavan, the director of National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) in Bangalore was the chief guest and gave a compelling speech on why Japan is a great place to study and research in the sciences. He also elaborated on the research

collaborations between NCBS and Kyoto University and Riken.



Prof. Jonathan Woodward and Associate Prof. Di Su talking to people at the Todai booth

Prof. Hiroshi Esaki representing Todai delivered the keynote address wherein he highlighted the importance of IT in the relationship between Japan and India.



Panel Discussion

The highlight of the event was the interactive panel discussion moderated by Todai's alumnus and president of the University of Tokyo Alumni Association of India, Shrikrishna Kulkarni. On the panel were 7 Indian students currently studying

in Japanese universities, including a PhD student at Todai. The audience comprising of prospective students asked questions on courses available, the application process, and living in Japan – food was a concern.



Prof. Esaki, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology

This was followed by presentations by each university present on the application process, courses and scholarships offered. In total around 350 students visited the fair – which was a good turnout.

On September 3 and 4 we accompanied Todai's Prof. Jonathan Woodward and Ms. Takako Hayashi around seven schools in Bangalore promoting Todai's new undergraduate program in Environmental Sciences and Japanese Studies.

QS Rankings 2012

The University of Tokyo ranks 30 overall and in the top 20 in various subject fields globally. Here are the QS rankings by subject for Todai.

Todai ranks number 27 overall in the Times Higher Education (THE) world university global ranking for 2012 and number 1 in Asia, while Todai ranks No.8 for reputation world university ranking by THE.

QS World Rankings 2012	
Subject	Rank
Civil Engineering	2
Mechanical Engineering Pharmacy	8
Electrical Engineering, Chemical Engineering	10
Computer Science	11
Physics and Astronomy Chemistry Metallurgy and Materials	14
Mathematics	31
Biological Sciences	17
Medicine	25
Geography	7
Environmental Science	16

Todai's new undergraduate English program:

The International Program on Japan in East Asia and the International Program on Environmental Sciences are undergraduate programmes taught in English at the Komaba campus. They are both liberal arts degrees which require taking multidisciplinary subjects in the first two years to acquire a broad knowledge base. In the final two years, students specialize in their major, honing their skills while becoming multilingual (learning Japanese is mandatory) and multicultural.

Japan in East Asia

Students in the Japan in East Asia program will gain an international and interdisciplinary understanding of East Asia's past, present and future with a particular focus on Japan. Japan as the first Asian country to industrialize and achieve high economic growth, provides an important model for developing Asian countries to follow. China and Korea also constitute the East Asian region. As two major economies, and one on the verge of superpower status, an understanding of the region is critical in today's increasingly multi-polar world.

Environmental Sciences

This course approaches environmental problems which are complex and multifaceted, from a multidisciplinary perspective. Students accepted in this program will study how to address environmental problems from many viewpoints such as, environmental and economic policy, ethics and jurisprudence. They will also learn about the latest environmental technologies from an advanced science and

engineering perspective. The primary aim of this programme is to nurture well rounded environmental specialists who can design and implement integrated approaches towards current and future environmental issues.

For more information on the courses, scholarships and careers after graduating please visit the PEAK website: <http://peak.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index.html>

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