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Message from the Director

We moved into a new office in the first week of December 2013 in the same building as our last office. Please make a note of our new address effective from December 1, 2013.

**New address: 408, 4th Floor,
Prestige Meridian I, 29 M.G. Road,
Bangalore 560001**

Dear Alumnus,

Greetings from The University of Tokyo India Office. As 2013 comes to a close it is time for another report on our activities over the last six months.

As you may know Their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Japan arrived in Delhi on November 30, 2013. I had the opportunity to attend a reception to meet the Emperor on December 1, 2013. It was a very special occasion and one that I will cherish forever. The Emperor and Empress are visiting India at a critical juncture for Japan-India relations. Sixty years have passed since diplomatic relations were established. The bilateral relationship has matured into a strategic partnership characterized by expanding trade and investment, and security ties. PM Abe's visit to India in January will facilitate continued discussions on the nuclear treaty and critical infrastructure projects. During the visit PM Abe will preside over the Republic Day Parade as the chief guest. With these high profile visits reported in the media, we hope that more Indian students become interested in pursuing their education in Japan.

Now backtracking to June, in order to facilitate deeper collaboration in the field of high speed railway technology between UTokyo and Indian academic and government institutions, we invited five professors of railway technology and research from IIT Kharagpur and IIM Ahmedabad to visit our University for a day on June 6, during their weeklong trip to Japan. At the Hongo campus, the professors met their counterparts and discussed possibilities of student and faculty exchanges, and collaboration in research. In late October, Prof. Suda (Institute of Industrial Sciences, UTokyo) was invited to lecture at the international conference on "High Speed Railway Travel; Low Cost Solutions" organized at the Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi by the Institute of Rolling Stock Engineers (IRSE) with support from Ministry of Railway and RITES.

In September, UTokyo undergraduate students took part in the first '*Indo Taiken Katsudo*' program. Two summer internship programs were organized with support from alumni, each for a week in Delhi. We are indebted to our alumni who extended their hospitality and cooperation to the students for the great success of the program. The university would like to offer more summer programs for a longer duration with more students in India next year in order to meet students' interest in India.

Meanwhile at Komaba, the English undergraduate program - PEAK - welcomed its first Indian student in October this year, and also, significantly, the engineer dispatched from Delhi Metro enrolled in the Master's program in Civil and Structural Engineering on a full scholarship from the Asian Development Bank. The Master in Public Policy/International Program also welcomed its first Indian student from Kerala in October.

RIKEN, Japan's premier science research organization signed 3 MoUs with research institutions in Bangalore in September. Nobel laureate Prof. Noyori, President of



RIKEN lectured in Bangalore on this occasion. We were delighted to participate in this lecture along with a student and a chemistry teacher from Bishop Cotton Boys' School. Inspired by Prof Noyori's speech, this student is keen on studying chemistry and physics in Japan

Dr. Noyori, President of RIKEN, with Mr. Yoshino and the student and teacher from Bishop Cotton Boys' School

We were honoured to have Prof. C.N.R. Rao, one of the India's most respected scientists as the chief guest for the Japan Education Fair 2013 in Bangalore on September 7. Prof. Rao is a charismatic speaker and delivered a compelling speech praising Japan's research and academic institutions. It was announced in November of this year that Prof. Rao is being awarded The Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award in India. Please read more about the education fair in the next section.



Japan's leading private television channel, BS-TBS, came to Bangalore to film the Fair. The TV crew also accompanied the undergraduate team from Komaba's PEAK program on school visits in Delhi. The program was aired on October 27 and November 30 in Japan, and featured our office activities, interviews with Vice Presidents of Waseda University and Sophia University and an exclusive interview with Mr. Shimomura, Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

Prof. C.N. R. Rao giving a speech at the Japan Education Fair 2013

Please note that we moved into a new office on the 4th floor #408 in the same building of Prestige Meridian 1 on December 11, 2013.

Season's Greetings and best wishes for a happy 2014.

Best Regards,
Hiroshi Yoshino

Message from Akamonkai India President

Dear UTokyo alumni in India and Akamon-kai India members,

It's again that time of the quarter, when I get to connect with all of you wonderful people via this magazine. The most important learning for me, while I was at UTokyo was the importance that so many Japanese give to "detailed planning and efficient collaboration", between diverse teams and agencies and the timely execution of well planned policies and strategies. This probably is at the heart of the Japanese model for "industrial success". How else can we explain, the continued competitive advantage, Japanese manufacturers enjoy, this, in spite of a very strong currency and high cost of labor. While manufacturing is the backbone of an economy, it is also the muscle behind national security.

In this context, I wrote an article on "Growing India's manufacturing sector" and it got published in the Nikkei Asian Review. Given below is the web address link to the article:

<http://asia.nikkei.com/Viewpoints/Executive-Lounge/Growing-Indias-manufacturing-sector>

All of us have been privileged to have had the benefit of an education at UTokyo. In one way or the other, all our destinies have entwined us with two wonderful countries, India and Japan. Of late, I wonder, and quite frequently so, if there is a role for each of us, beyond what we are already contributing for the betterment of our companies and nations. I see India and Japan as natural allies. Many years ago, India contributed to Japanese society by way of Buddhism. Its probably now the time for India to learn from Japan.

So where should this learning from Japan, for India begin? And who will be her teachers. The graduates of UTokyo in India (more so the Indian alumni, with critical help and encouragement from the Japanese alumni), seem to me the natural choice to show leadership in this path -- a modern nation (Japan) teaches one of the oldest cultures (India) on how to be a strong and prosperous nation once again. Graduates of UTokyo built modern Japan. I wish they would also contribute significantly in the resurgence of an old nation.

As this year comes to an end, it's time to reflect and also celebrate. Celebrate our achievements, reflect on our failures and thank nature for the wonderful bounty she gives us daily.

Here is wishing you all "Seasons Greetings with prayers for your Happiness and Health".

Yours very sincerely,
Shrikrishna Kulkarni

Japan Education Fair 2013

This year's Japan Education Fair took place on September 7 at Bishop Cotton Boys' School, a reputed school in Bangalore. Around 600 students and visitors came to the fair. The chief guest, Prof. C.N.R. Rao gave an inspiring address, where he strongly encouraged students to consider pursuing their education in Japan. Out of the 13 'Global 30' universities, 9 universities participated in the fair. The University of Tokyo's Vice President for International Affairs, Prof. Haneda and Prof. Yamanouchi from the Department of Chemistry delivered speeches during the seminar session. Next was a panel discussion featuring alumni, recent graduates and new students at UTokyo, Kyushu University and Waseda University. We were grateful to Mr. Gorab Majumdar, Fellow, Mitsubishi Electric, Japan, Mr. Sandeep Singh, Vice President Marketing of Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Mansoor Khan, Treasurer, Delhi Public Schools in Bangalore for their value time and participating in the panel discussion. Prof. Vinayachandran, a UTokyo alumni and Professor at the Indian Institute of Science moderated the discussion.

Taiken katsudo Program (Hands-on Activity Program in India for undergraduate students)

The first Hands-on Activity Program (a summer internship program) to be organized in India by our office received an overwhelming response from UTokyo undergraduate students. Around 80 students applied for the 12 spots - making the selection very competitive. The two programs, each for a week in September went smoothly and were enjoyed by the students. We are extremely grateful to the alumni who extended their hospitality and cooperation to make this program a great success.

The first program was a market research internship that was designed by Ms. Naho Shigeta. Students were exposed to doing business in India, conducting research through field work and surveys. In the second program, four UTokyo undergraduate students



Taiken Katsudo participants (first group) with Ms. Naho Shigeta, middle, and Mr. Yoshino (2nd row, left).

visited alumni in their workplace to gain a first-hand insight into working for Japanese Government institution or Japanese company in India. Starting with the Embassy of Japan on day 1, the students visited JICA, the UN/World Health Organization SEARO office in Delhi, and Japanese corporations like Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal, Metal One and InfoBRIDGE. The students met their Indian counterparts at IIT-Delhi, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Delhi University as well. At the end of the busy week, the

students visited the Taj Mahal.

With the overwhelming interest in experiencing India, the Hands-on Activities Support Team at UTokyo has decided to expand the programs next year – both in duration and number of programs offered.

Mr. Sakakida (BTECH, 1981), CMD of Mitsubishi Corporation India Private Ltd. hosted a welcome party for the students who participated in the second program. The party took place on September 27 at the company house in Chanakyapuri. We are extremely grateful to Ambassador Yagi, Mr. Kulkarni and the other alumni who attended the event. This was an invaluable opportunity for the students to meet first hand alumni working in prestigious capacities in India.



Taiken Katsudo participants (second group) with Ambassador Yagi, Mr. Kulkarni and other alumni.