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Japan Education Fairs:

August 2: MIT, Pune (organized by MOSAI)

August 4: New Delhi (The Lalit)

August 6: Hyderabad (IIT Hyderabad)

Message from Akamonkai India President

Dear University of Tokyo Alumni in India and Akamonkai India members,

Since our last communication in December 2013, India successfully conducted the most critical exercise in a democracy – the exercise of the adult franchise. Such a large voting population (800 million) exercised their privilege peacefully and fairly over a period of one month. At the end of this exercise, we gave ourselves a new government and a new Prime Minister. We owe ourselves a round of applause for successfully showcasing this fundamental exercise of democracy.

With your permission dear readers, I would like to build on my last communication, where I felt that India and Japan are natural allies and there is much for India to learn from Japan. There are so many areas in which we could learn from Japan: Science & Technology come immediately to our minds, so do High speed railways and manufacturing excellence. But then I think to myself what is it that India lacks that Japan has? What is that fundamental competency, resource or trait that Japan enjoys that would enhance quality of life for us in India? Reflecting on my 25+ years of relationship with Japan, I feel Japan's core success is that post World War 2, they have built a nation in which, relative to many other developed nations, the economic progress has been "inclusive". This inclusive growth has allowed more than 95% of the Japanese population to fall in the middle-class category. The gap between the annual incomes of the richest and the poorest is not more than a factor of 10. Has this been achieved because, the Japanese society, respects freedom and discipline? And that while it respects individual freedom, it also stresses on the principle of individual responsibility? I believe it is the egalitarian education system of Japan, which is rooted in the awareness that the basis of education is in the "home", which has played the differentiating key role.

Most of us Indian alumni who studied in Japan and many of us who had the privilege to work and live in Japan, imbibed these fabulous qualities such as "social responsibility of each

citizen”, “you first attitude versus me first attitude” etc. We can significantly contribute to the progress of our nation, by continuing to utilize these wonderful qualities in our daily lives in India. If we consider sharing these with as many fellow Indians as we can, we would in a small way begin to repay the debt that we owe our nation.

Yours very sincerely,
Shrikrishna Kulkarni

Strengthening India-Japan research collaboration: Japan Science and Technology Agency’s seminar in New Delhi



Prime Minister Abe addressing the gathering

On the occasion of Prime Minister Abe’s visit to New Delhi between January 25 ~ 27, 2014, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) organized a seminar on scientific and technological collaboration between Japan and India. Officially titled “The Science and Technology Seminar in Business and Academia”, the event was conducted in conjunction with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), The Embassy of Japan in India, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Prime Minister Abe made a special appearance towards the end of the event and gave a short speech in which he stressed the importance of scientific innovation that is beneficial to mankind. Both countries must work together to develop solutions for human problems such as environmental and

From the depths of the space, the potential of collaboration between has no limits, said PM the collaboration DST in setting up the beamline, PM Abe partnerships could



Distinguished scientists with JST President Dr. Michiharu Nakamura (centre)

health problems. oceans to outer scientific Japan and India Abe. Highlighting between KEK and dedicated Indian hoped that such be established in

space research as well. PM Abe concluded his speech by urging Indian students and researchers to look to Japan for higher education and research opportunities.

Distinguished scientists from Japan such as astronaut, Dr. Mamoru Mohri; particle physicist, Prof. Naohito Saito; and mathematician Prof. Kenichi Kawarabayashi presented their research and potential areas of collaboration with scientists in India.

Japanese academia was represented at the seminar by Prof. Hiroyuki Yamato, Executive Vice President, The University of Tokyo; and Prof. Yoshihiko Nakatani, Ritsumeikan University. Both professors highlighted the various



Prof. Yamato, Executive Vice President, The University of Tokyo greeting Prime Minister Singh during a reception in honour of Prime Minister Abe's visit to India.

initiatives undertaken by their universities to increase international students, including students from India. With growing number of degree programs offered in English, short-term internship programs, scholarships and offices in India to promote higher education in Japan, both The University of Tokyo and Ritsumeikan University are committed to expanding academic collaboration with Indian institutions.

Global 30, Wrap-Up Symposium in Fukuoka,

Global 30 member universities held the Wrap-Up Symposium on February 14, 2014 in Fukuoka, Japan. Mr. Hiroshi YOSHINO Director of The University of Tokyo INDIA OFFICE

participated as one of the five panelists in the Session A: Reaching Out to Internationally Mobile Students: Promotional Activities and Overseas Offices, where the panelist presented ideas and strategies for recruiting talented students and making effective use of the offices. The other panelists were from Tsukuba University Tunis Office, Kyushu University and Meiji University and the session was facilitated by



Mr. Yoshino (second from left) on the stage as a panelist.

Osaka University. Discussions were held in parallel with Session B (Managing Degree

Programs in English, Admission, Curriculum and Pedagogy)

with panelists from Nagoya University, Osaka University, Keio University, Sophia University and Ritsumeikan University, Session C (Internationalizing the Campus) which had panelists from Tohoku University, Kyoto University, Waseda University and Doshisha University, and Session D (Internationalization in the Eyes of Students: Voice of Students) with local and international students from G30 universities.

Mr. Yoshino made his presentation about our

office outline, its networks and varieties of activities including the Alumni Association. As of November 2013 there were 50 Indian students enrolled at The University of Tokyo, the highest number since the G30 program was launched five years ago.

The details are reported on the JASSO web magazine dated February 2014 (Japanese language only): <http://www.jasso.go.jp/about/documents/201402yoshinohiroshi.pdf>

A report on the symposium is published on the JSPS website (Japanese only for the most of the part): <http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-kokusaika/follow-up/index.html>



Prof. Haneda, Vice President, The University of Tokyo addressing the audience at the end of the conference.

UTokyo's Graduate School of Engineering visits IITs

Three professors from UTokyo's Graduate School of Engineering spent a week visiting four IITs and the Ministry of Railways from March 23-30, 2014. Led by Prof. Koichi Maekawa (Civil Engineering and Director, International Affairs) the delegation included Prof. Takafumi Koseki (Electrical Engineering), Prof. Kimihiko Nakano (Mechanical Engineering) and Mr. Hiroshi Yoshino (Director, The University of Tokyo India Office).

At the Ministry of Railways and IIT Kanpur, IIT Kharagpur and IIT Hyderabad the professors delivered lectures on their research and met with officials in the international affairs departments to discuss student and faculty exchanges as well as joint research collaborations. Plans to organize specialized workshops on high speed railway technology in the IITs and UTokyo were also discussed. The week ended with lunch and a tour of IIT Delhi. With the cooperation of two UTokyo alumni, Prof. Sudhir Misra (IIT Kanpur) and Prof. Shashank Bishnoi (IIT Delhi) the delegation had a productive visit to the IITs.

The delegation at IIT Hyderabad



The delegation at IIT Kanpur



UTokyo students encouraged to gain international experience through internships or study abroad programs

“Go Global” is an initiative of The University of Tokyo that was launched four years ago to encourage more students to go abroad on a variety of programs such as student exchange programs, internships or short-term study programs. Part of the initiative is an annual study abroad fair that takes place over two days at UTokyo’s Komaba Campus. Every year UTokyo invites alumni who have studied abroad during their education at UTokyo to talk about their experiences. A large number of representatives from foreign universities, embassies, educational councils, NGOs and corporations set up booths at the fair to give students information about study or work opportunities in their respective countries as well as overseas in general.

This year the India Office set up a booth and provided information on internship opportunities at Indian companies, multinational companies in India and Indian NGOs. The India Office was represented by Shivani Gopalkrishna who was in Tokyo for two weeks for training and Bipasha Kaur Chatterjee, an Indian undergraduate student currently studying at UTokyo.



Bipasha (left) and Shivani at the India Office booth