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सहयोग 2017 CONTENTS

Message from Ambassador of Japan	03
Message from Chief Representative, JICA India office	04
3. Message from JAAI President	05
4. Secretary's Report	06
5. JICA's Important Events & Activities	09
6. Sumimasen - Yoke desk for enriching cultur	re 14
7. जापान से जुड़े कुछ रोचक तथ्य	16
8. Hero Worship-An eye opener	17
9. Renewable Energy Training in Japan	18
10. Promotion of Green source of Energy	20
11. Environment & Green House Gases	22
12. Editorial	24

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Message from Ambassador of Japan



It is my great pleasure to extend this message of felicitations to all readers of "Sahyog" magazine, published by the JICA Alumni Association of India (JAAI). My heartfelt appreciation goes to the JAAI, which has supported former Indian participants of various JICA training programs since 1968 to nurture and maintain their close relations with Japan. JAAI has been contributing immensely towards the enhancement of relations between Japan and India.

During Prime Minster Modi's visit to Japan in last November, Japan and India successfully demonstrated the steady deepening of the bilateral relationship. One of the most important outcomes was the agreement on the concrete target schedule of the Mumbai and Ahmedabad High-speed Railway, in which operation will start in 2023. This project to introduce Japanese Shinkansen system to India symbolizes the "new era in Japan-India relations". The project not only constructs

high-speed railway but also leads to transfer of technology and human resource development including through JICA technical cooperation.

Japan launched "Innovative Asia," a human resources development project utilizing Official Development Assistance (ODA). This initiative aims to enhance the exchanges of competent human resources between Japan and Asian countries including India and to promote innovation. Students from 9 Indian distinguished Universities will be accepted at master course of 18 Japanese universities and Research Organizations. This initiative also provides an opportunity of Internship in Japan and job-matching event in near future.

These are prime examples of the invaluable role played by Japan's ODA in broadening, deepening and strengthening bilateral relations through people-to-people exchanges.

Now is the time to tap into the friendly relationship governed through ODA to further enhance people-to-people exchanges and to strengthen cultural relationship. This year is designated as the year of Japan-India Friendly Exchanges. JAAI consists of members who have first-hand experience of Japan and have been contributing to augment the friendship between Japan and India. In this regard, I would like to encourage JAAI members to continue to play an important part in our joint endeavors to boost exchanges between the two countries.

I would like to express my best wishes to all members of JAAI for their promising bright future and hope that JAAI will continue to be an important catalyst in deepening the economic, cultural and people-to-people ties between our two countries.

Kenji Hiramatsu Ambassador of Japan to India

Message from Chief Representative JICA India Office



Dear Readers

I am happy to know that JICAAlumni Association of India (JAAI) is bringing out its 18th Annual Issue of magazine 'SAHYOG'. On this occasion, I extend my heartiest congratulations and good wishes to JAAI members, to all ex-participants of JICA and also to those presently undergoing training in Japan.

It has been almost 2 years since I have assumed my duty as Chief Representative of JICA India Office and I would like to convey my best wishes to the members of JAAI. I am honored to have received their fullest cooperation in various occasions and am looking forward to developing our relationship further.

Japan's ODA program in India expanded since 1958. JICA has been extending both substantial financial assistance and technical cooperation for the development in various sectors in India. Today, JICA has grown up to the world's largest bilateral aid agency. JICA's assistance is mainly provided to Transportation, Water Supply and Sanitation, Environment Conservation, Power, Forestry, Health and Agriculture, Poverty Alleviations etc. The recent topics are the Dedicated Freight Corridor and High Speed Rail Corridors which are in the limelight these days. For all these assistance areas, it can be said that capacity development is the key aspect. To enhance the capacity of related personnel and institutes, JICA provides various training programs mainly in Japan.

I am very much grateful to and proud of JAAI being active since its establishment in 1968. The members of JAAI are expected to be the leaders in economic, social and human development. In addition, it is heartening to note that JAAI organizes a variety of activities for professional development and networking among the members as well as to promote the friendship between the two countries to strengthen the ties between the people of India and Japan.

I believe the role of JAAI will become much more important for Japan year after year as India has become the crucial counterpart for Japan. JAAI is an incomparable valuable asset of JICA in which ex-participants can contribute to the development of India and also to strengthening the connection of India and Japan.

On this occasion, I along with my colleagues once again extend our warmest welcome to the JAAI participants and humbly request to continue to contribute to the task of experiencesharing and friendship - building.

I wish good health and prosperity to all members of JAAI.

场平成年

Takema Sakamoto Chief Representative JICA India Office

Message from President JAAI



Dear Readers.

Greetings from the Executive Committee.

I am delighted to present to you the 18th edition of JICA Alumni Association's annual magazine "Sahyog".

JAAI magazine "Sahyog" continues to act as a medium of interaction and communication among the alumni wherein they share their experiences, scientific articles and interesting anecdotes. We also showcase our activities and events of past one year through this magazine.

JICA Alumni Association of India is to maintain foster and develop friendship and better understanding among its members. All the activities of this association are geared towards better understanding of Japan in general and JICA in particular. We always strive to promote Indo-Japanese technical and cultural co-operation at all levels. As an important academic initiative, we organize a technical seminar every year on any current issue of common interest. This year we chose a very pertinent topic of 'Air Pollution' for our international technical seminar and four eminent speakers from India and Japan addressed the issue from various perspectives. The presentations followed with a very lively interaction between the speakers and participants. On another occasion members enjoyed and participated in the traditional Japanese floral arrangement, Ikebana.

We are grateful to H.E. Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu for his friendly gesture, continued support and encouragement given in promotion and development of activities of JAAI. I beseech you to provide strength to JAAI by your active participation in all spheres of activities and make it instrumental for strengthening India-Japan friendship and collaboration. Our heartfelt thanks are due to the Chief Representative of JICA Mr. Takema Sakamoto for supporting and encouraging JAAI activities all along.

I would like to thank all the members of JICA Alumni Association of India for their continued support to the organization and request you to continue with the same zeal in future as well.

Dr. O. P. Dewal President JICA Alumni Association of India

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

ANNUAL CONVENTION 2016

Annual Convention 2016 of JICA Alumni Association of India (JAAI) was held on 19th March, 2016 at Hotel Metropolitan, New Delhi, HE Mr. Kenii Hiramtsu, Ambassador of Japan to India was the Chief Guest and Mr. C. K. Khaitan, IAS, Joint Secretary and CEO of The National Trust, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt, of India, Mr. TPS Oberoi, Secretary JAAI introduced all the dignitaries of the dais including Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative of JICA India Office, officials from JICA India office and Embassy of Japan, JAAI members and their spouses.

Mr. Anant Kumar, JAAI President delivered the Welcome Address, All JAAI activities organized by JAAI in coordination with JICA India office were enumerated. He thanked all JAAI members and their family members for heartily appreciating and actively participating in all JAAI activities.



Mr. Pradeep Gupta



His Excellency, Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador of Japan to India, gone through the pics of JAAI activities displayed in the Hall and admired the efforts in organizing the cultural exchange programmes by JAAI. In his address, he highlighted the progress on JICA funded projects in India. Cultural and technical cooperation is visible in JAAI activities, he emphasized. Accomplished, on-going and up-

coming industrial and infrastructure projects will change India's position globally, he opined.

JAAI's annual magazine "Sahyog" 17th issue was released by His Excellency, Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu, Ambassador of Japan in India,

Mr. C.K. Khaitan, Guest of Honour at

Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu JAAI Convention, highlighted the achievements with the help of Japan in all the fields. All existing and upcoming projects with Japanese assistance, as he said, have been need-based and are going to contribute significantly to India's development.



JICA Alumni Association of India (JAAI)

Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office, summed up the ongoing JICA-funded projects and appreciated JAAI's role in bringing together cultures of India and Japan by organizing a number of events. Finally, he proposed a 'Toast' a call to gathering of people to raise their glasses and drink together in honour of friendly relationship of Japan and India and success of infrastructural sector projects of Japan in India.

Annual Convention 2016 was followed by dinner and informal interactions between JAAI Members and Japanese Friends.

Ikebana and Indian Folk Dance & Music Program

The first program of JAAI for the year 2016-17 was scheduled on 11th December, 2016. This was an Indo-Japan Culture program where in JAAI members along with their families enjoyed "Ikebana" the art of Japanese flower arrangement and Indian Folk Dance & Music at Garden Restaurant, Buddha Jayanti Park, New Delhi. JAAI members with their spouse and kids felt happy in the pollution free environment of green covered area of Buddha Jayanti Park. Delicious lunch was also served in between two programs.



JAAI TECHNICAL SEMINAR: "Air Pollution: Effects and Challenges"

International Technical Seminar on 'Air Pollution: Effects and Challenges' was organized on 12" Feb, 2017 at Metropolitan Hotel, New Delhi. After registration of participants, JAAI President, Dr. O.P. Dewal, welcomed Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office; Dr. (Prof.) Arvind Kumar, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital; Mr. Akira Nagamori Head of R&D, Daikin Airconditioning India Pvt.Ltd.; Mr. Satoshi Watanabe Deputy Director, Air Environment Division, Environmental Management Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan; and Dr. B.C. Sabat, Sr. Scientific Officer, Deptt. of Environment, GNCT of Delhi.

Dr. (Prof.) Arvind Kumar in his presentation on the topic "Ill effects of pollution on human health" has shown the bitter truth of Air quality where in we are bound to live. In one of his slide, he clearly showed the real pictures of our healthy and polluted lungs.

Mr. Akira Nagamori with his presentation on "What's Air Purifiers" told about the importance and use of Air purifiers to keep people free of air pollution.

Mr. Satoshi Watanabe from Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan has thrown a light on "Tackling Air Pollution in Japan" and displayed the reasonable reduction and control on air pollution during last more than 40 years.

Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office has given an overview of JICA activities in India. In his presentation on "JICA's Experiences towards Better Air" he discussed about various infrastructure projects taken by JICA in India for bettering Air quality in India so that people of India may breathe clear air and live long life.



Dr. B.C. Sabat, Sr. Scientific Officer from GNCT Delhi has talked about the initiatives taken by Delhi Govt for improvement of air quality in Delhi NCR.

JAAI Seminar concluded with healthy interaction among audience and the eminent speakers. All queries raised were satisfactorily responded. Mr. Pradeep Gupta, JAAI Secretary, appreciated the richness in expertise of all the speakers. Mrs. Nita Srivastava, Joint Secretary proposed Vote of thanks and invited all for a sumptuous lunch.

JAAI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

JAAI's Annual General Meeting was held at Metropolitan Hotel, New Delhi, in the afternoon of 12th Feb, 2017 and was attended by JAAI members. Dr. O.P. Dewal, President, JAAI, welcomed all members and JICA Representatives present and highlighted the JAAI activities and thanked JICA India Office for their continued financial support. Mr. Pradeep Gupta, Secretary, JAAI, presented the Secretary's report and shared the memories of various activities organised by JAAI during 2015-16. Accounts for the year 2015-16 circulated among members and presented by Mr. M. A. Khan, JAAI Treasurer and were adopted and approved by members present. A Resolution was passed by JAAI General Body regarding enhancement of Life membership fee of JAAI to Rs. 2500-00 (Registration fee Rs. 500-00 and Life membership fee Rs. 2000-00) w.e.f. 1st April, 2017.

JICA's Important Events and Activities (2016-17)

JICA extends ODA loan of 25,537 million Japanese Yen (approx. INR 1,548 crore) for Urban Healthcare Project in Tamil Nadu:

May 30, 2016- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement with the Government of India to provide 25,537 million Japanese Yen (approx. INR 1,548 crore) Japanese Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan to improve the quality of urban healthcare services in Tamil Nadu. This is the case in India that ODA Loan is provided in the Health sector, and the assistance will strengthen the capacity of key hospitals with up gradation of facilities and equipment, and human resources with the focus on Non Communicable Diseases (NCD), thereby improving the health status in Tamil Nadu.

The project is planned to be implemented in 17 cities in Tamil Nadu with five major components at the core of the venture - Upgrading tertiary hospitals, Strengthening referral hospitals, Strengthening Secondary Care Hospitals, Strengthening Hospital Management and Strengthening Primary Health Care in managing NCD. The components and the cities have been decided based on the population size, needs, and priority for the health facility development.

The 17 cities where the Project will be implemented include Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Trichy, Salem, Tirunelveli, Erode, Vellore, Tiruppur, Thoothukudi, Nagercoil, Thanjavur, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Pudukottai, Krishnagiri and Periyakulam.

Khangchendzonga National Park, a Biodiversity Hotspot in India, Becomes a World Heritage Site, with the support from JICA:

July 18, 2016 - Khangchendzonga National Park in India was designated a new UNESCO World Heritage Site at the 40th session of the World Heritage Committee in July 2016. The honor comes after efforts, supported by JICA, to preserve bio diversity and forest in the park.



(Ariel view Zemu glacier which come under Khangchendzonga National Park)

Khangchendzonga National Park was named a mixed heritage site, a World Heritage Site chosen for both its cultural and natural significance, and it is the first such site in India.

When the park was inscribed to UNESCO's World Heritage List, it had been supported since 2009 by JICA assisted Sikkim Bio diversity Conservation and Forest Management project to preserve bio diversity and manage forests. Work to conserve the bio diversity hotspot of the Eastern Himalayas by promoting and supporting sustainable eco-tourism is one cause of the park being designated a World Heritage Site. A bio diversity hotspot is an area where there are concerns

under about the potential destruction of bio diversity.

JICA Extends Technical Assistance for the Phase II Project for Crop Diversification in Himachal Pradesh:

July 22, 2016 - JICA signed the Record of Discussions (R/D) with the Government of Himachal Pradesh to implement technical cooperation (TC) project titled "Phase II Project for Crop Diversification in Himachal Pradesh". Along with the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Loan Project titled "Himachal Pradesh Crop Diversification Promotion Project", the Phase II TC Project aims to uplift and stabilize farmers' livelihood level through further expansion of crop diversification according to agro-ecological situations in the 5 districts of the state including Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi and Una.

To achieve the above goal, the Phase II TC Project will focus on the enhancement of crop diversification



model which was developed under Phase I TC Project and will ensure to strengthen the organizational capacity of Department of Agriculture (DOA) to promote crop diversification in the 5 districts through training & extension services to the farmers, compiling replicable packages on new techniques, identifying effective marketing activities, and formulation of five-year-action plans. The activities of the Project will be held in over 200 irrigation sub-project sites which have been developed under the on-going JICA supporting ODALoan Project.

:(MoU signed in the presence of (L-R) Ms. Anuradha Thakur, Secretary (Social Justice & Empowerment, Language Art & Culture, Irrigation and Public Health), Mr. Sujan Singh, Agriculture and Power Minister and Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India Office)

JICA Organized a Forestry Project Directors Meeting for the Government Officials of Forestry and Natural Resource Management Projects in India:



September 9, 2016 - In New Delhi, JICA organized the 7th Forestry Project Director's meeting for JICA assisted Forestry and Natural Resource Management Projects. The meeting was aimed at sharing the experiences and cross learning with respect to working on JICA assisted projects in India by the project heads and strengthening the working environment and relationship between the Government of India, JICA and the Forest Department Officials of projects.

Dr. Rekha Pai, Inspector General, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India was the Chief Guest at the event. She appreciated the work and

(L-R: Ms. Sachiko Imoto, Senior Representative, JICA India Office, Mr. Vineet Sarin, Additional Chief Development Specialist, JICA India Office and Dr. Rekha Pai, Inspector General, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Government of India)

achievements of the JICA projects in Forestry and Natural Resource Management sector in India. She congratulated JICA and the rest of the implementation partners for timely implementation of their projects.

Part of Corridor 1 of Chennai Metro, connecting Chennai International Airport, was opened to traffic with JICA's support:

September 21, 2016 - Corridor 1 of Chennai Metro was partially inaugurated by Late Ms. J Jayalalithaa, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. M Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister of Urban Development, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Information & Broadcasting, Mr. Seiji Baba, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai and Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative JICA India Office. The maiden train in the newly opened stretch mentioned below was flagged off successfully.

The newly commissioned stretch covers a distance of 9 kms between Airport Station and Little Mount Station comprising of six important stations; 1) Airport Station, 2) Meenambakkam Metro Station, 3) Nanganallur Road Station, 4) Alandur Station, 5) Guindy Metro Station and 6) Little Mount Station.



The inauguration of this stretch will connect the Chennai International Airport, the fourth busiest airport in India, with the other important transportation hubs, e.g. Chennai Mofussil Bus Terminus (CMBT), the biggest bus terminal in the city, and will mitigate the impacts caused by mounting traffic in Chennai such as increased traffic congestion, air pollution, road accidents and journey time.

When the whole project is completed, travel time will be reduced drastically. For example, between the Chennai airport and Chennai Central station, currently, it takes around 60 min in off-peak hours by using bus and it takes

(Late Ms. Jayalaithaa, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurates the Corridor 1(partially) of Chennai Metro)

much more during peak hours. After the completion of metro the travel time will be reduced to less than 30 minutes.

JICA Announced Scholarships to Study in Japan for IIT Hyderabad Graduates:



October 20, 2016 - JICA announced scholarships for the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IIT-H) students to study in internationally renowned universities of Japan during the 6th Edition of the Academic Fair, organized under the aegis of JICA-FRIENDSHIP project. These Scholarships will be offered to 30 graduating students of IIT-H to pursue masters or PHD and will cover tuition fees and logistics.

JICA-FRIENDSHIP project has been initiated by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), to facilitate development of a research network between institutes of

(Students of IIT-H attending the Academic Fair)

higher education and industrial clusters in Japan with IIT-H that would lead to excellence in education and applied research in science and engineering. In the 6th Academic Fair, the University of Tokyo, the University of Hokkaido, the University of Ritsumeikan participated and shared insights of the various opportunities offered by JICA. H.E. the Ambassador of Japan to India, Mr. Kenji Hiramatsu also attended the event and delivered the speech to encourage IIT-H students to visit Japan and study there.

JICA Assisted Kolkata's Global Award on Solid Waste Management:

December 2, 2016 - Kolkata Solid Waste Management Improvement Project (KSWMIP), which has been assisted by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for ten years, contributed to Kolkata winning the prestigious "Solid Waste Category Award" at Mexico City at C40 Mayors Summit on December 1, 2016. C40 is a network of the world's megacities, such as New York, Tokyo and London, committed to addressing climate change.

Kolkata was nominated and competed with two finalist cities, Auckland and Milan, in the field of solid waste category. Mr. Dilip Yadav, Chairman of Uttarpara-Kotrung municipality of Kolkata and Mr. Onkar Singh Meena, CEO of Kolkata Metropolitan Development Authority (KMDA)attended the ceremony representing the KSWMIP.

Speaking on the occasion Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICA India office said "It is an utmost



honour for JICA to have contributed for this prestigious award with Japanese technology. JICA congratulates the citizens of Kolkata and all the stakeholders who have contributed to make KSWMIP a huge global success. JICA's objective to assist this project was to support and improve the living environment and hygiene conditions of the people in the Kolkata region and help in safeguarding the natural environment. This award will be a testimony of JICA's work and contributions to the people of India. This exceptional opportunity and recognition would act as a good example for future similar category projects not only in India."

(CEO, KMDA and Chairman Uttrapara- Kotrung Municipality (in the last row) with few Mayors of C40 cities at New Mexico City.)

JICA President Holds Talks with Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Other Key Leaders Strengthening the Special, Cooperative Relationship with India:

From December 21 to 23, 2016- JICA President Shinichi Kitaoka visited India (New Delhi and Tamil Nadu) for the first time since taking office in October 2015. He reaffirmed plans to strengthen the special, cooperative relationship with India, which is one of JICA's biggest ODA recipient countries, possessing the world's second-largest population and Asia's third-largest economy.



Mr. Kitaoka had meetings with Prime Minister Narendra Modi; Finance Minister Arun Jaitley; Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu; Urban Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu; Arvind Panagriya, vice chairman of NITI Aayog; Ottakarathevar Panneerselvam, chief minister of Tamil Nadu, and the key ministers of the state government.

In the talks, Mr. Modi expressed his gratitude and expectation for JICA's activities in India. Mr. Modi and Mr. Kitaoka exchanged ideas about Japan's ODA projects, which are based on the Japan-India Special Strategic and Global Partnership Framework.

(JICA President Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka with Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi)

Mr. Kitaoka further stated that he has been associated with the promotion of India-Japan cooperation for a long time and would be happy to be associated with new projects in India as well.

JICA promotes Smooth Implementation of The Mumbai – Ahmedabad High Speed Railway Project - Signing the Memorandum for General Consultancy:

December 21, 2016 - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed the Memorandum with the Ministry of Railways, Government of India / National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRC), which is a new agency in charge of the implementation of the Project, and a joint venture consisting of Japan International Consultants for Transportation Co., Ltd. (JIC), NIPPON KOEI CO., LTD., and Oriental Consultants Global Co., Ltd., to implement "the General Consultancy of the Mumbai – Ahmedabad High Speed Railway Construction Project (GC)." The Memorandum was signed by Toru Arai, Director General of the South Asia Department, JICA, Achal Khare, Adviser Infrastructure, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways, Government of India, and Coordinating Director, NHSRC, and Takashi

Yamazaki, President of JIC, Representative of the JV in the presence of H.E. Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Minister for Railways, Government of India, Mr. Kenko Sone, Minister, Embassy of Japan, and Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka, President of JICA.



The GC is to provide design and bidding assistance for the public works and systems required for the construction of a high-speed railway linking two cities Mumbai and Ahmedabad in India, which was decided to at the Japan-India Summit Meeting held in December 2015.

The signing of this memorandum, which confirms the methodology of the GC work, by the tripartite related parties including Indian side, Ministry of Railway and NHSRC, marks an important step toward actual project implementation and the GC work has been fully mobilized

((L to R) Mr. Kenko Sone, Minister, Embassy of Japan, Mr. Toru Arai, Director General, South Asia Department, JICA, Mr. Achal Khare, Adviser (Infra), Ministry of Railways & Coordinating Director, NHSRC, Mr. Shinichi Kitaoka, President, JICA, Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Mr. Takashi Yamazaki, President, JIC, Mr. Takema Sakamoto, Chief Representative, JICAIndia, Mr. Mukul Saran Mathur, Executive Director (Traffic)/PPP, Ministry of Railways.)

and moving forward following the contract signing between JICA and the Joint Venture on 9th December. The cost of this GC will be borne by JICA and this GC, up to 2020, will contribute to the smooth implementation of the High Speed Railway Project mentioned above.

9th Annual Workshop on Forestry and Natural Resource Management Projects was organized in Kolkata for JICA assisted projects:



January 11, 2017 - The 9th Annual Workshop on Forestry and Natural Resource Management Projects titled 'Sustainable Forest Management with People's Participation and Modernization of Management' was organized by West Bengal Forest Department with support from JICA and inaugurated in Kolkata. The workshop entailed deliberations on issues, challenges and opportunities pertaining to Sustainable Forest Management through People's Participation, Livelihood Development, Institutional Development through Capacity Building and Technology Based Forest Management systems in JICA assisted forestry

(L-R: Mr. Siddhartha Barari, Chief Project Director, Mr. Kyosuke Inada, Director, South Asia Department, Division-1, JICA Head Quarter, Tokyo, Mr. Pradeep Shukla, PCCF, Head of Forest Force, Govt. of West Bengal, Mr. Chandan Sinha, Principal Secretary (Forests), Govt. of West Bengal, Mr. Basudeb Banerjee, Chief Secretary, Govt. of West Bengal, Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consul General of Japan in Kolkata, Ms. Sachiko Imoto, Senior Representative, JICA India office and Mr. Vineet Sarin, Additional Chief Development Specialist, JICA India office)

and natural resource management projects in India. The workshop provided a useful platform for experience sharing and cross learning amongst various state forest departments, who have been involved in implementing JICA assisted forestry and natural resource management projects in their respective states.

Japanese Official Development Assistance to India, since 1958:

- 4,600 billion Japanese Yen till FY 2015-16 (approx. Rs 272,042.00 Crores): ODA loans with very concessional terms extended to India.
- * 6,837: Indian personnel have received training in Japan, facilitated by JICA.
- * 6311: Experts from Japan visited India to share know-how in JICA-supported projects.
- 947,199 Japanese Yen, approx. Rs 56,036 crores: ODA loans extended for development of metro systems in Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi and Ahmedabad.
- 334,267 million Japanese Yen, approx. Rs 19,771 crores: ODA loans extended for development of dedicated freight railway line between Delhi and Mumbai.

Sumimasen -- Yoke desk for enriching culture



On 13.05.2012 late afternoon myself after immigration checking & collection of baggage reached to Narita airport, JICA counter. JICA volunteer after proper details provided me JICA sticker & asked me to put on chest. They further handed over ticket to board on limousine bus along with other participants of different course & country for Yokohama City Air Terminal (YCAT) and told that from YCAT Taxi would take you to Yokohama International Centre (YIC). At the YIC front desk people were prompt to handover the key of my room No. 612 and asked to go for Dinner at 3rd floor roof café. The promptness was to get food because food café closes at 9.00pm in line with last order time of restaurant up to 8.30 pm. only. While waiting for Dinner I

saw a board with notice displaying program of yoke desk for coming days. The yoke desk program was always after working hours or on holidays only.

On following day morning prior to Breakfast again looked at notice board for Yoke desk program & found that participation is based on lottery. Myself thought for applying in the programs in which I can participate on the days where our course provide staying at Yokohama. Participation in Yoke Desk program was optional.

We were informed about Yoke desk program of Sankein Garden land facing Tokyo Bay. On 19.05.2012 which was day off .We enjoy natures beauty & historical architectural properties (Temples & buildings associated with historical figures) gathered from area such as Kyoto & Kamakura . Now a days garden served as a place for visitors to develop modern Japanese culture including art literature. Bototei a room located at the lobby of Sankei Memorial where myself enjoyed genuine tea ceremony while sitting on chairs at a table although it was not sweet.

Another activity of Yoke Desk was playing Badminton on 23.05.2012 at JICA Yokohama Gym at 18.00 hours. In that program I was able to meet people of different countries. In addition of playing activity also contributed to my hobby of coins and currency collection through exchange.

In the series of activity on 25.03.2012 was to learn Japanese Drum playing that created enthusiasm of different nature.

In sequence of Yoke Desk Activity of June 2012, on 1st June 2012, 1st activity by lottery for me to play Table Tennis in which I again recalled my student life of Engineering College at Malviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur which was now renamed as MNIT. Jaipur.

Saturday 2nd June, 2012 was day off and Yoke desk organized fut- Sal at ground in Yokohama on a ground at 15 minutes walk from YIC .Smaller than football ground but well maintained with green grass &more than one team can play at a time. Teams were announced by lottery based on number of participants irrespective of countries and gender. I was allotted player no. 8 where I still remember the interaction with participants.

Important religious festival Ushioda shrine on 3rd June, 2012 was to carry shrine shoulders with special sound in the procession. In the procession one could also enjoy different type of foods drinks of local area during break /exchange of people. It also added to know-how of peoples living and keeping the locality clean.

Not to forget mentioning here about wearing Kimono dress to feel important and royal on 6° june 2012 at vokohama.

Sumimasen, to Yoke desk staff for providing me an excellent platform *I* opportunity for interaction, exchange ,learning and exposure to Japanese culture at large. Yoke desk activity kept me busy in entirely new environment and avoid feeling of isolation and loneliness during my stay from 13th May, 2012 to 30th June 2012 in Yokohama.

Once again Sumimasen to yoke desk.

P. R. Chandak JAAI Member



Participants wearing Kimono dress to feel Important and Royal

जापान से जुड़े, कुछ रोचक तथ्य !!



- 1. जापान में हर साल लगभग 1500 भूकम्प आते हैं, मतलब कि हर दिन चार।
- 2. कुत्ता पालने वाला प्रत्येक जापानी नागरिक उसे घुमाते समय, अपने साथ एक विशेष बैग रखता है, जिसमें वह उसका मल एकत्रित कर लेता है।
- 3. जापान में 10 साल की उम्र होने तक बच्चों को कोई परीक्षा नहीं देनी पड़ती।
- 4. जापान में बच्चे और अध्यापक एक साथ क्लास रूम को साफ करते हैं ।
- 5. जापान के लोगों की औसत आयु दुनिया में सबसे ज्यादा है (82 साल)। जापान में, 100 साल से ज्यादा उम्र के 50,000 लोग हैं।
- 6. जापान के पास प्राकृतिक संसाधनों की कमी नहीं है और वे प्रतिवर्ष सैंकड़ों भूकम्प भी झेलते हैं, किन्तु उसके बाद भी जापान दुनिया की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी आर्थिक शक्ति है।
- 7. "सुमो" जापान का सबसे लोकप्रिय खेल है। इसके अलावा बेसबाल भी काफी लोकप्रिय है।
- 8. जोपान में सबसे ज्यादा लोग पढ़े लिखे हैं। जहां साक्षरता दर शत प्रतिशत है। जहां, अखबारों और न्यूज चैनलों में, दुर्घटना, राजनीति, वाद–विवाद, फिल्मी मसालों, आदि पर, खबरे नहीं छपती। यहां पर, अखबारों में, आधुनिक जानकारी और आवश्यक खबरें ही छपती हैं।
- 9. जापान में जो किताबें प्रकाशित होती हैं, उन में से बीस प्रतिशत कॉमिक बुक होती हैं।
- 10. जापान में, नववर्ष का स्वागत, मंदिर में 108 घंटियाँ बजा कर, किया जाता है।
- 11. जापानी, समय के बहुत पक्के हैं। यहां तो ट्रेनें भी, ज्यादा से ज्यादा 18 सैकेंड लेट होती हैं।
- 12. जापान में लगभग 55 लाख वेंडिंग मशीन हैं।
- 13. जापान में एक ऐसी बिल्डिंग भी है, जिसके बीच से हाइवे, गुजरता है।
- 14. जापान दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा, ऑटोमोबाइल निर्माता है।
- 15. जापान दुनिया का केवल इकलौता देश है, जिस पर "परमाणू बमों" का हमला हुआ है।

नीरज ढींगरा

मान्यता प्राप्त ऊर्जा लेखा परिक्षक

CONGRATULATIONS !!



Dr. Pradeep Gupta, Secretary, JAAI received "Legends in Energy" award at 'World Energy Engineering Congress-2016' held at Washington DC on 20th Sept., 2016.

HERO WORSHIP -AN EYE OPENER



On my first visit to Osaka, Japan, way back in 2002, as a JICA participant, I had the good fortune of interacting closely with Ms. Chika san, who was a coordinator in 'International Network Teaching Programme' at Osaka University.

During my course there, I volunteered to deliver a lecture at Osaka University on the social and cultural aspects of India, which was not a part of my course content, and I agreed on a purely voluntary basis. The audience was a bunch of students studying the social sciences. Chika san accompanied me to the venue on the day of my talk. We had a longish walk from my hostel building to the interiors of the sprawling Suita campus of Osaka University. During this jaunt. Chika san and I conversed on

general topics of interest about each other's country and customs. In course of this interaction, Chika san informed me that Indian movies were hugely popular in Japan. I was pleasantly surprised at this revelation and probed her for some details. I quizzed her on the type of Indian movies, and names of some Indian movie stars, that were a hit with the Japanese. I half expected Chika san to come out with names such as Amitabh Bachchan or Shah Rukh Khan. Her reply took me completely by surprise, and my eyes popped out in disbelief, when she said, "Superstar Rajnikanth and his movies are enjoyed by many Japanese people!" I frantically searched my mind to recall if I had ever seen any of Rajnikanth's movies-I could not remember a single one, being an Indian myself!

That evening, when I got back to my hostel room, I wrote an e mail to my family members in India, highlighting this latest discovery of mine-about Rajnikanth and his Japanese fans! My brother's reply came the very next day, reiterating my statement of the previous day. He revealed to me that he even knew of several fan clubs for Rajnikanth in Japan and Malaysia.

Upon my next meeting with Chika san, I decided to satisfy my curiosity some more. I asked her why and how Rajnikanth enjoyed a superstar status in this faraway land of Japan, when there were parts of his own country where he was practically unknown, and living in oblivion. Chika san then launched into an explanation of how and why Rajnikanth was popular. She said that the Japanese people loved the charisma of this dark hero who had a lot of style and screen presence. His larger-than-life image on the screen appealed to the audiences and his 'ever-the-good-samaritan' image impressed them, not to mention his acting skills. To top it all, his movies always sent out the message of good-wins-over-evil, which radiated positivity. I was impressed with Chika san's descriptions and made a quick mental note to check out some Rajnikanth films sometime.

A few days later, I ambled along to the library at JICA hostel, with the intention of browsing through some books on Japanese culture. I chanced upon the librarian and struck a conversation with her. I purposely steered her to the topic of movies and waited to hear what she knew and heard about Indian movies. You can imagine how my jaw dropped in utter disbelief, when she said she had seen and liked two movies of Rajnikanth-'Muthu', and another she could not recall the name of!

Upon my return to India, I procured and watched some of Rajnikanth's films on DVD, if only to corroboratethe librarian and Chika san's statements. I was amazed by the truth and clarity of Chika san's opinion, which possibly echoed the opinion of half a million Japanese people. Yes, there was something in Rajnikanth and his movies! It is true that he was dark complexioned, not very tall and certainly not

handsome in the conventional sense. But, what a powerful crowd-puller he was! He truly filled the screen when he came on it. I can say now without any shame that I have since become a die-hard fan of Rajnikanth, not so much for the actor, but what he stood for!

In all his movies, Rajnikanth always stood for what was right, and for the rights of the down-trodden. And from what I have read and heard about him, this quality has rubbed off on his real life persona too. He is known to live a simple and austere life. Aren't these the indications of a true hero? To the 'fair-colour-crazed' Indian audiences, the trademark of a hero/heroine is fair skin. While we are all fawning over the typical hero/heroine, here are the Japanese, who are all fair-skinned themselves, rising above the bias of skin colour, and appreciating the acting skills, charisma and what the actor stands for in his films! I will be ever grateful to Chika san for opening my eyes to the truth of what real hero worship is all about!

Dr. Sumathi Muralidhar Professor and Consultant Microbiologist VMMC & Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi

Renewable Energy Training in Japan

We were Thirteen of us from India, to undergo training in the topic 'Knowledge Co-Creation Program for Young Leaders of India on Renewable Energy at Japan' JICA, from 27th November to 14th December 2016 year.

The topic aimed in:

- 1. Developing our specialties, through experiencing & learning, technologies & skills in Japan.
- Increase our willingness to resolve our issues in the relative field of Renewable energy solution & Environmental problem solution.

We were stationed in Southwestern Japan in the city of Kitakyushu, Fukuoka prefecture. The city is also one of the world pioneers in clean-energy policy. The city aims to be a world leader in driving CO² emissions reduction standards through the creation of Kitakyushu Hydrogen Town and the development of a smart community. The city gained global recognition for its efforts when the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) named Kitakyushu city as the first 'Green Growth Model city' in Asia & today the city aims to share its expertise in industrial technologies and environmental preservation technologies with the developing countries, to foster balanced development around the world.

We were exposed with the various technologies and policies adopted by the Japanese on the promotion of renewable energies especially on the Solar, Wind, Small/micro Hydro, Biogas, and Biomass technologies.

It was an eye opening experience for us to see the Japanese trying to extract electrical energy from every possible ways, being it public water purification plant wherein the micro-hydro generators was incorporated in the inflow stream of the plant for micro electricity generation, or being the biomass plant & the biogas plant running from the collection of the city & human wastes etc., they are generating electricity

with their special turbine-generator sets. Solar, wind generation parks & plants was an integral part of the program. Almost all of the private buildings there were generating electricity from sun and selling extra power to the grid, since the feed in tariff (FIT) is so attractive, motivating every household to install rooftop Photo Voltaic panel for the electricity generation and sell, including other benefits involved. All the Wind turbines are installed in the seashore region in large quantities and even installed in the offshore i.e., in the far region in the sea for more effective power generation from the wind. Small wind turbines – solar hybrid systems are also seen in the surrounding of the city for the street lighting purposes etc., everywhere we can find the effective energy management devices for the optimum & effective power usages even at times of natural emergencies.

It was really a lifetime experience to undergo training in Japan against the world's major growing issue regarding the 'Global Warming' and counter acting solutions with the use of the 'Renewable Energies technologies', for which I would like to thank all my family & friends, the Sikkim Government, the Govt. of India, & JICA for all their supports & the opportunity.

Bikash Rai Assistant Engineer Energy & Power Department, Government of Sikkim



Mr. Bikas Rai with other participants at JICA Kyushu

Promotion of Green source of Energy Solar Energy in Agriculture for pumping water for irrigation – A new initiative

India is primarily an agrarian country. Agriculture sector plays a significant role in the overall socioeconomic fabric of the Nation. Among the 29 states, Tamil Nadu is the eighth largest state in India by area and the ninth largest by population.

To get a sustained growth in agriculture, provision of water security and energy security to the agriculture sector is imperative. Water and power are important challenges faced by Tamilnadu agriculture.

Water demand in Agriculture: Tamil Nadu is a water starved state. More than 95 percent of the surface water and 80 percent of the ground water have already been put into use. Agriculture is the largest consumer of water in the State using 75 per cent of the State's water resources (source: Tamil Nadu State Action Plan for Climate Change (TNSAPCC)).

Energy Demand in Agriculture sector :

As far as energy is concerned, due to higher energy demand in the last few years mainly because of rapid growth of industries, special economic zones and urbanization and uncertain wind power generation, the state has been facing power crisis. Availability of power is one of the biggest inputs necessary for the sustained growth of any economy. This becomes even more important for a state like Tamil Nadu, which is one of the most industrialized and urbanized states in India. The demand for power is growing at the rate of 10 percent per annum. Energy consumption in Agriculture sector is about 20%.

Lift irrigation is one of the key sectors which consume a substantial quantity of electrical energy. About 62% of irrigation is done using ground water through wells or tube-wells by using 20.47 lakhs electric pumpsets and about 63,000 diesel engine pump sets in the state. On an average, 40,000 agricultural connections are given every year. There is a long queue of farmers waiting for the power connection for agriculture. About four lakh applications are awaiting sanction. Government is heavily subsidizing electric tariff for agriculture putting additional burden on state exchequer. Also the Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to mitigate the climate change effects by bringing out policies conducive to promote renewable energy generation in the State.

Innovative program to meet the Water and Energy demand for Agriculture:

The main policy of the Government of Tamil Nadu is to usher in the Second Green Revolution and to double the food grain production, increase the income of the farmers by three times and to achieve 4 per cent growth in agricultural and allied sector by bridging the present yield gap. To achieve this goal of second green revolution and to get a sustained growth in agriculture, provision of water security and energy security to the agriculture sector is imperative.

In the above context, the promotion of Solar powered water pumps for irrigation in Agriculture sector is found to be an innovative and viable option. Solar energy is a green source of energy available in abundance in nature. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer state in encouraging use of solar energy and has come out with 'Solar Energy policy 2012'. Tamil Nadu is endowed with abundant sunshine hours. Most parts of Tamil Nadu receive 5.6-KWh/sqm/day and has about 300 clear sunny days in a year. Hence the

possibility of utilizing the solar power for agriculture is very bright.

Solar pumps are highly reliable, low on maintenance and easy to install and operate. They are also eco friendly and reduce the dependence on fossil fuels. Also, farmers who live in remote areas where electricity access is a challenge could benefit from the solar PV pumps. Solar pumps are compatible and can be efficiently linked with Micro irrigation systems for increased water use efficiency. Thus, Solar-powered irrigation pumping offers a technically-proven and cost-effective option for replacing grid-connected and diesel-based pump sets, as well as to expand irrigation. The case for their adoption of solar pumps is strong for both farmers as well as governments.

Hence, the innovative scheme of provision of solar pumps by linking it with Micro irrigation along with front end technologies for Horticulture and Agricultural crops like Sustainable Sugarcane Initiative (SSI), Transplanted Redgram etc., was formulated during 2013-14 and is being successfully

implemented. The solar pumping systems are provided to the farmers at 80% subsidy assistance. There is a huge demand among the farming community for the provision of solar pumping systems and the micro irrigation.

The solar pumps are installed in three categories of irrigation source viz., bore wells, open wells and surface storage tanks. So far, 2293 solar pump sets have been provided to the farmers with 80% subsidy from the year 2013-14 and they are put into effective operation. The solar pumps are being linked with Micro irrigation for efficient and judicious utilization of irrigation water.

Socio-Economic impacts:

The initiative has contributed effectively towards addressing the multiple challenges of the state viz.

Providing energy security to the farmers for irrigating the crops.

Reducing the gap between power demand and supply. The total capacity of solar pumps installed is equivalent to 11 MW power plant. Energy savings per annum is 143.70 lakh units.

A 5 Hp solar pump on an average can irrigate 2.5 ha. Hence enhancement of irrigated area thereby agriculture productivity while reducing grid-connected electricity consumption / requirements is achieved..

* Efficient utilization of water resources by deploying micro-irrigation systems, which has a high

water use efficiency.

Making agriculture a remunerative occupation for farmers by way of replacing the expensive diesel operated pumps with solar pumps with no recurring costs and by growing high value horticultural crops using micro irrigation techniques and improved crop production technologies like Green house, shade net etc.

Environmental benefit: Replacement of One 5Hp Electrical pump by a solar pump can reduce CO₂ emission at 22 Kg per day and about 5.28 tonnes per year with 8 months of operation in a year. By virtue of utilization of solar energy through the 2293 solar pumps installed to the farmers, 12,107 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission is reduced per annum. 3.36 tonnes of CO₂ emission is reduced per year by replacing a 5 Hp diesel pump with a solar pump. By promotion of solar pump for agriculture, the state can reduce CO₂ emission in a massive way.

In the light of visible benefits of solar pumps and considering growing demand from the farmers, in addition to the above, it has been programmed to provide 500 nos. of solar pumps to the farmers at 80% subsidy for the year 2016-17 and the scheme is under implementation. Also, considering that water table has gone down in many parts of the state, solar pumps of capacities 5Hp to 10 Hp has been proposed to be provided to the farmers under the program.

Shanthi Sundar Raman Superintending Engineer, Agricultural Engineering Department, Chennai



ENVIRONMENT & GREEN HOUSE GASSES



The earth is the only planet in our solar system where life exists with environmental conditions i.e. water, oxygen, rich atmosphere & suitable surface temp. The earth's atmosphere is a layer of gasses surrounding it, retained by the earth's gravity. This also helps the earth from becoming too hot or too cold. Generally weather system, develops in lower atmosphere, driven by the heat from sun and rotating earth & general variation in Earth's surface.

The atmosphere contains 77.9% nitrogen, 21.1% oxygen & 1% variable amount of water vapor all of it is needs to survive. This mixture of gasses is commonly known as air. Atmosphere protects life on earth by absorbing ultraviolet solar radiation and reducing temperature between day & night.

The earth has a natural temperature control system but it is found out that the earth is getting warmer and warmer due to green house gasses.

The green house gasses are essential for maintaining the temperature of earth, without them the planet would be so cold as to be un-inhabitable. However, excess of green house gasses reduce the loss of heat into space and therefore it contributes to global temperature though the green house effect.

Greenhouse gasses allow the sun's rays to pass through and warm the earth. Greenhouse gasses comes from a variety of sources, including power generation, transportation, agriculture, manufacturing and from fossil fuels i.e. coal, oil and gas, these all are the causes of release of Greenhouse gasses.

The KYOTO Protocol covers six greenhouse gasses:

* Carbon-dioxide CO₂

* Methane CH₄

* Nitrous oxide N₂O

* Hydrofluorocarbon HFCs

* Perfluorocarbons and PFCs

* Sulphur hexafluoride. SF_a

Out of these six above three are most important and again most important of three the Carbon dioxide CO₂ (total 76%) has significant effect of increasing the green house gasses.

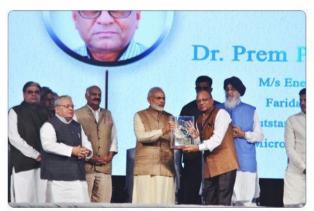
Recently meeting of 195 countries from all over the world attended the conference at Paris to setup legal frame work for reducing the green house gasses, which will have mandatory effect on all the countries. This meeting is in continuous to the conference which was held in Kyoto, Japan, between Dec. 1 to 11, 1997, where delegates from all over the world were present in order to find a universal agreement to reduce green house gasses, but could not establish a sound and firm legal frame work for reduction in the green house gasses.

The Paris agreement, which was drafted from 30-11-2015 to 12-12-2016, and was signed on 22-04-2016 by 194 countries and out of it 131 countries has already rectified it. This agreement came into effective w.e.f. 4-11-2016 and the salient features are:

- Holding the increase in the global average temp. to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and
 to pursue efforts to limit the temp. Increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that
 this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.
- Increase the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development, in a manner that does not threaten food production.
- Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development.

Dr. P. P. Mittal Certified Energy Auditor 423, Sec-2A, Faridabad Mob.: 9811402040

CONGRATULATIONS !!



Dr. P. P. Mittal Received "Best Entrepreneur Award" from Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 18-10-2016 as Dr. Mittal's Company stood First in 'Micro Services Sector'. This Award Consist Cash Prize of Rs. 3.00 Lacs along with Certificate & Trophy

EDITORIAL

As we cruise along into yet another year, it is but natural to look back on the time that has gone by, and dwell on its pluses and minusesan act that will supposedly help us better ourselves by imbibing the good and letting go of the bad. While there have been many positive events and influences to revel in, we cannot remain blind to a shroud of evil that threatens the lives of all of us. Yes, I am referring to the polluted Delhi air!

The alarming extent of air pollution is choking the lungs of not just us, but our precious children, animals, birds, trees, plants and all things that breathe. Have we even stopped, in the mad maze of our crazily busy lives, to think about what is causing this pollution of air, and how we can address this problem? No, we continue to read about it, curse it and wish it will go away somehow. But, how can a problem created by man, go away without the efforts of man himself? The alarm bells have been sounded long ago, but the will and work towards eliminating the problem are yet to begin. If we do not 'clear the air' soon, (in every sense of the word!), we will surely have to pay 'through our nose', (again in every sense of the word!).

In an effort to throw some light on the problem of air pollution and its ill effects, JAAI and JICA adopted this important topic as the subject for discussion and debate at the Annual Technical Seminar this year, in which JAAI members were treated to some informative talks on air pollution - a thoroughly justified and timely effort by JAAI/JICA.

It is fervently hoped that, as responsible citizens, we can all join hands and work out ways and means of addressing air pollution problems, so that future generations can breathe clean and breathe easy!

Come, let us all be part of the solution, and not part of the pollution!!

Dr. Sumathi Muralidhar

PROFORMA FOR JICA PARTICIPANTS TO BECOME JAAI MEMBER:

- 1. Name of Participant:
- 2. Designation:
- 3. Name of Office/ Organization:
- Address of Office/ Organization: Telephone / Fax No. (office):
- Residential /Mailing Address: Telephone No. (Residence):
- 6. Mobile No.:
- 7. E-mail Address:
- JICA Training Course(s)/ Seminar attended (copy of the certificate to be enclosed)
 A. Subject:

B. Period: From								
To								

9. Details of Payment:

io. Cheque/ DD	
No:	Date
11. Bank:	

13. Date:

14. Signature

Note:

Membership Fees:

- (a) Registration fee is Rs. 500/- (to be paid by New Members); plus
- (b) Life Membership fee is Rs. 2,000/- (i.e. a total of Rs 2500/- for life membership).
- (c) Payment should be made by DD/ Local Cheque in favour of JICA Alumni Association of India payable at New Delhi (outstation cheques will not be accepted).
- (d) Please indicate your name and ID no. (Applicable to old members) at the back of DD/Cheque.
- (e) Please attach 02 passport size colored photos
- (e) Please inform change in address and e-mail (if any)

Membership Campaign

JAAI requests all ex-JICA training participants who have not yet joined JAAI, to enrol for membership.