



SAHYOG

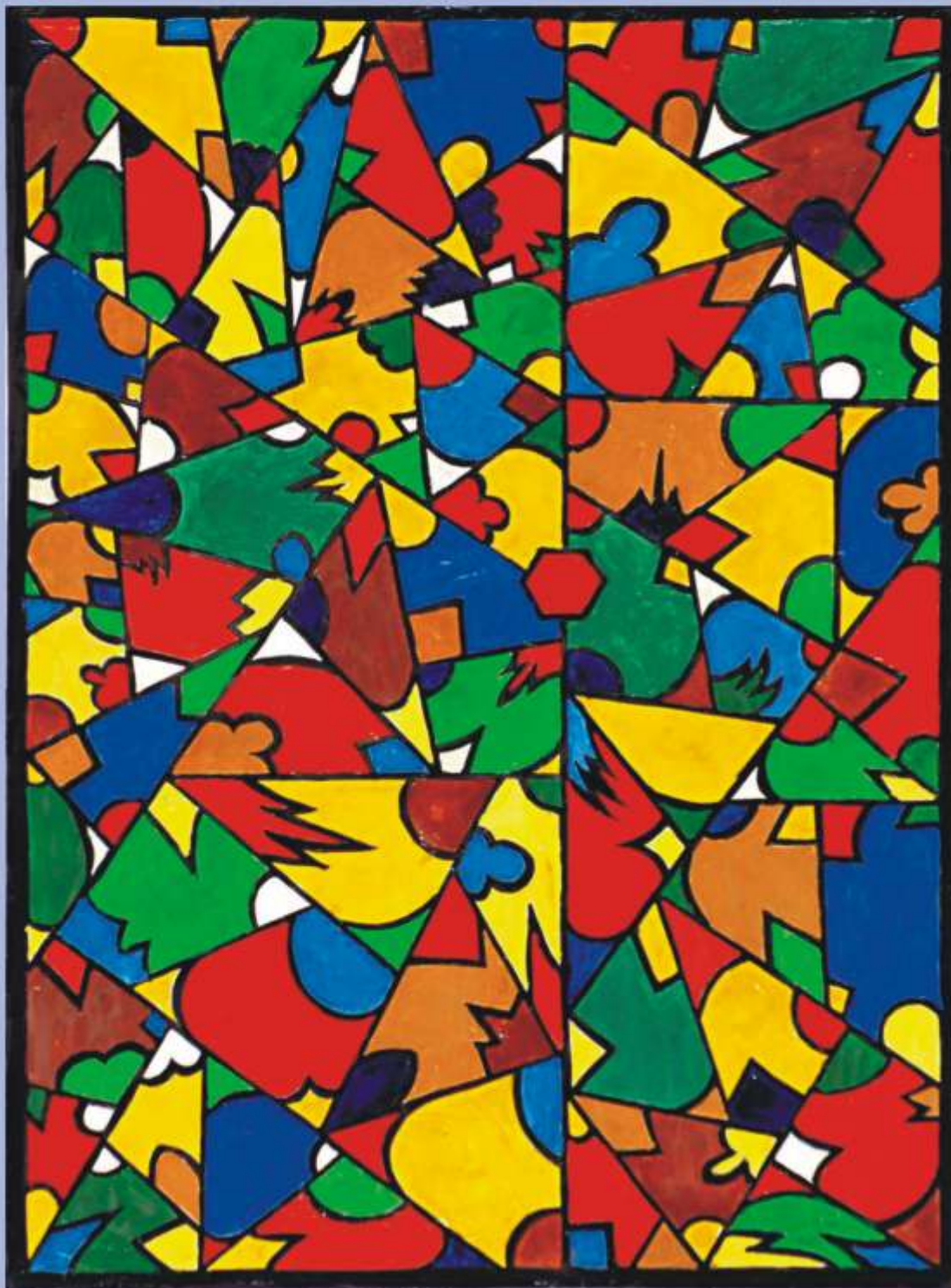


सहयोग
サハヨク



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JICA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Website : www.jicaalumniindia.com



February 2007

**Message from H.E. Mr. Yasukuni Enoki
The Ambassador of Japan
New Delhi**

I would like to convey my heart felt congratulations on the occasion of the annual meeting of JAAI (JICA Alumni Association of India) this year. I am also happy to acknowledge that the JICA India Office celebrates its 40th anniversary since it started operations in 1966. So far JICA has trained about 4,000 Indian officials in Japan. JAAI, as the association of JICA ex-participants, enrolled more than 850 Indian graduates as its members and have acted very positively for almost forty years, as a crucial cultural bridge between the two countries.

With the shared determination to raise Japan-India relations to a higher level, both Japanese Prime Minister and Indian Prime Minister decided to designate the year 2007 as 'Japan India Friendship Year'. It is my firm belief that there must be a quantum increase in cultural, academic and people-to-people exchanges to substantiate Japan-India strategic partnership. As one of the three major alumni organizations in India, I am convinced that JAAI will play a key role, not only to support JICA activities, but also to facilitate cultural exchanges and to build upon the goodwill in the two countries.

JAAI has a broad-range of activities such as organizing Origami Work shops every year and holding Environmental Awareness Programmes for Indian school children. It is noteworthy that the President of JAAI kindly accepted the first batch of JOCVs (Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers) as a process of home-stay-based training.

I once again eagerly welcome JAAI's continuous and strong support to expand closer people-to-people ties and wish all prosperity and good health to all members of JAAI.

With best regards

YASUKUNI ENOKI
Ambassador of Japan to India

**Message by Mr. Tomoyuki Fujii
Resident Representative, JICA India Office**



40 years have passed since Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) India Office, formerly known as Overseas Technical Cooperation Agency (OTCA), was established and initiated its operations in India.

In 1960, India faced serious economic difficulties and suffered from food crisis caused by severe drought. Therefore, the Government of India gave top priority to the crops production and their self sufficiency in the National Development Plan.

In response to the food policy of Indian Government, so called "Green Revolution Strategy", JICA has contributed to the improvement of farmers' livelihood and self-sufficiency of food through breeding of high yielding rice, improvement of cultivation technology and their extension to the farmers from 1966 to 1975. Technology gained from JICA technical experts is inherited in the Indian paddy field now.

Similarly, more than 4,000 Indian people have participated in JICA technical trainings in Japan till now. Needless to say that their purpose of visit to Japan is to gain technology of their own field, however, they made Japanese people to understand Indian culture and also learned Japanese culture to introduce Indian people. As a result of these steady efforts made by 4,000 participants, mutual trust between Indian and Japanese people has been strengthened since 1966.

As the Prime Minister of India H.E. Dr. Manmohan Singh has visited his counterpart, the Prime Minister of Japan H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, in December, 2006 in Japan, the two leaders recognized an importance of the reinforcement of Japan and India friendship as well as economic relations and they confirmed further promotion of "Japan-India Strategic and Global Partnership".

JAAI and JICA are expected to play an important role to support the statement of the two leaders by implementing heartfelt technical cooperation and extending friendship and mutual trust between India and Japan.

Thank you very much.

(Tomoyuki Fujii)



Dear Alumni,
Greetings from the Executive Committee!

From the President's Desk

The JAAI has been advancing in the right direction for the past few years. It has remarkably spread the horizon of its activities with your cooperation and support.

Over the years, JAAI has been organizing Annual Convention of its members. Hon'ble Japanese Ambassador to India normally graces the occasion as the Chief Guest and address the gathering. From this year we have slightly changed the complexion of our annual convention. In addition to what we do we have also initiated a provision to invite a person of eminence as a guest of honour, to deliver the keynote address, on any issue related to India Japan cultural or economic relations.

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 are grateful to H.E. Mr. Yasukuni Enoki and Madam Enoki for their friendly gesture, continued support and encouragement given in promotion and development of all 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.

(Dr. O.P. Dewal)
President, JAAI



SECRETARY'S REPORT



Annual Get-Together 2006



The Annual Get-together function of JICA Alumni Association of India (JAAI) for FY 2005-06 was held on March 12, 2006 at the Hotel Ashok, New Delhi. His Excellency Mr. Yasukuni Enoki, Ambassador of Japan to India, was the Chief Guest of the function. Mrs. Enoki also graced the occasion. Mr. T. Fujii, Resident Representative, JICA India Office and Mr. H. Yanagi, Minister, Embassy of Japan were also present on the occasion. The function began at 7.30 PM with the arrival of the Chief Guest His Excellency Mr. Yasukuni Enoki. Dr. M. M. Singh, President, JAAI delivered the welcome address. In his speech, Dr. Singh enumerated various activities of JAAI. He further elaborated that JAAI had undertaken initiatives in the recent years to add many new activities. For instance cultural programme in collaboration with Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust last year, Environment Awareness Programme for school children and Technical Seminars. He thanked the Embassy of Japan and JICA for their moral and financial support to JAAI.



Time for the Big Event! Dignitaries on the Dias.



Kampail! A Toast to celebrate the co-operative efforts.



A Colourful Account of Co-operation!
Release of 'SAHYOG' by H.E. Mr. Enoki

His Excellency Mr. Enoki addressed the gathering. He opined that Indo-Japan cooperation is gaining momentum with the visit of many high profile Japanese Ministers and Leaders, the culmination of which was visit of Japanese Prime Minister Honourable Mr. Junichiro Koizumi to India in April 2005. He stated that the visit of the Prime Minister of Japan to India has induced additional vigour in Indo-Japan cooperation in various fields. He also recalled the ties between the cultures of the two nations since ancient times. The Chief Guest emphasized upon the important role played by JICA Alumni Association in promoting technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

'Sahyog 2005' the Annual Magazine of JICA Alumni Association of India was released by His Excellency Mr. Yasukuni Enoki. 'Sahyog' contains not only many interesting articles but also a brief description of the year's activities. Mr. T. Fujii, Resident Representative, JICA India Office, briefly described various projects being undertaken by JICA in India. Finally, he proposed a 'Toast' for the progress of Indo-Japan friendship and cooperation.



Annual Get-Together of JAAI family



The Ambassador and his wife relishing dinner with JAAI members.

The programme was followed by the dinner, which acted as a platform for the JAAI members to share their experiences of the JICA training. About 250 JICA ex-participants, their spouses and many Japanese guests attended the function. During the dinner time, His Excellency Mr. Enoki interacted with the JAAI members and listened to their experiences during their stay in Japan. JAAI members, their spouses and members of Japanese community enjoyed the interaction with each other.



Excursion trip to Surjivan Farm, Haryana



JAAI organised a one-day excursion trip to Surjivan Farm, Haryana on 21st January 2007. Surjivan Farm is located opposite Classic Golf Resort on New Delhi – Jaipur Highway and is about 60 km from Delhi. The Farm is based on the theme 'Back to the Nature'. One can closely experience the activities and lifestyle of an Indian village with ethnic touch. Interesting experiences were made from the beginning of the journey itself when the bus took off from the highway onto the village *kucha* road, nestled between hills and valleys on both sides.

Set in a picturesque farm, Surjivan had everything that brings one closer to nature. Splayed with earthy browns, divine blues and lush greens, and spread over 50 acres, in the truest sense, it was the perfect retreat, a getaway for holiday makers, for peace seekers, for tired nerves for their relaxation and rejuvenation.



Participants relishing Lunch.



Little ones in JAAI family



Musical Chair

Food took a whole new flavour at Surjivan. It was organically grown grains, pulses, oils and vegetables cooked slowly in earthen vessels on *mitti ka chulha*. The spices used to cook, the *chutney* served were all painstakingly ground on *sil-batta* (the mortar and the pestle). The outcome was a taste that people would never forget, not to speak of its nutrition value.

Through out the day, the JAAI participants were involved with various activities such as croquet, *gilli-danda*, *kanche*, *pitthu*, *teerandazi*. They also went for a village safari on a tractor. Everyone would remember for a long time the bumpy ride through the interior of the village. Young and adults, irrespective of their gender, went crazy and enjoyed the camel ride.

The JAAI members also went for a herbal tour during which they were familiarized with numerous species of Ayurvedic plants (medicinal as well as cosmetic) that were being grown at the farm.



Activities at the farm : Camel Ride, Matka Phor, Village Safari

Entertainment activities like musical chairs were organised for the group (children, men and women) and prizes were given away for each category. Members also actively participated in *tambola*, which was organized twice on popular demand. Some were busy playing other games like football, volleyball, badminton etc. Not to miss out some important ones and of course, wiser of the lot who took this opportunity to lie down and just relax in the lush green lawn and enjoy the pollution free environment of a typical Indian village. There was no end to what one could do to make the most of one's time at the Surjivan farm. But then one might choose to do nothing at all. Either way it was an experience to remember - **An Incredible India**.

Variety Show



JAAI organised a cultural evening in the form of a "Variety Show" on Saturday, 10th February 2007 at the auditorium of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. Mr. T. Fujii, Resident Representative, JICA India Office along with his family graced the occasion.

Dr. O P Dewal, President JAAI welcomed the JAAI members, their families and the Japanese guests. He also gave a brief introduction about the states the dances were from and about the performing artists to the audience. The programme content was selected keeping in mind the interest of adults as well as kids. The event was marked with a bunch of colourful performance of folk dances by folk artists of Munge Lal Jiti and Party. They presented important and popular folk dance forms (such as Cheri, Ghoomer, Dandiya, Bhawai, Fire Dance, Haryanavi and Children Dance) and folk songs from various states of India namely Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana.



Variety of Activities at the show - Fire Dance and Folk Dances

In between the folk dance items, which left the audience spell-bound, was some magical performance to relax their minds. This was by none other than the famous Magician, Shri Jamil, who took the challenge on the stage. He has been regularly performing for the last many years and has thousands of shows to his credit both nationally and internationally. The Magic Show kept everyone's eyes glued to the stage throughout the session. Some of his performances were stunning and elicited cries of disbelief from the audience.



Mr. Fujii and family shaking legs with Indian Folk dancers

More than 175 persons including JAAI members along with their families and Japanese guests attended the programme. Children as well as adults enjoyed the show equally. The programme was followed by a tasteful dinner. The event marked yet another well-appreciated effort by JAAI.



Magical Trick

Message from JOCV Volunteers

It has been 9 months since I came to India. However, it was the first time for me to interact with a lot of Indian families during the JAAI excursion trip, which was really enjoyable. Events like village safari, bingo musical chair etc were enjoyed by both adults and children alike. I am really thankful for being invited to such a lively atmosphere and this event is an unforgettable event of my life. **-Ms. K. Hirose**

It has been two weeks since I came to India. As this is my first visit to India, there were a lot of things which I needed to get used to. However, after interacting with a lot of Indians during the JAAI excursion trip, I felt as though I am very close to the Indian people. In future I would like to have a chance of close interaction with Indian people. Thank you very much. **-Ms. Matsumoto**

Environment Awareness Programme for School Children

Environment Awareness Programme for School Children, 'Nurture Nature' was organized on 31st January 2007, at Ahlcon Public School, Mayur Vihar, Phase I, New Delhi, in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and JICA Alumni Association of India (JAAI). The aim of the programme was to increase students' awareness about the environment through fun-filled competitive activities. The programme started with the planting of sapling by the Chief Guest, Mr. Tomoyuki Fujii, Resident Representative, JICA India Office. This was followed by the traditional ceremony of lighting the lamp, which signifies an auspicious beginning to an event. Before the beginning of the actual competition, the Principal oriented the audience about the importance of nature.

The programme was spread over three different events, each with their own respective venues. These included – Intra-School On-the-Spot Painting Competition for students of classes I-V, Inter School Ad-Zap and Best out of Waste competitions for students of classes VI-IX.

Perhaps the most notable of the three was the Ad-Zap Competition, where the teams from different schools were given interesting environment related topics such as *Promotion of Paper Bags, Save Our Environment, Keeping Our Rivers Clean, Green Clean India and Nurture Nature*. Ahlcon Public School bagged the 1st prize during this event, with Ahlcon International School and Amity International School, Noida sharing the trophy for the 2nd prize.

The Best out of Waste was also an interesting activity, where students were encouraged to use only waste



Dignitaries and students disseminating environment awareness.



Plantation of sapling by the chief guest, Mr. T. Fujii.



Eco Events - Creating Best out of waste, Ad-Zap and colourful paintings by school children.

materials to build working and static models of various useful objects. The host team created a hydroelectric dam using waste sheets of thermocol and discarded electronic items. Ahlcon International School was awarded the 1st prize for this event, with Bhatnagar International School taking the position of 1st runner up and Vishva Bharti Public School, Noida as the 2nd runner up.

Before the close of the event, Mr. T. Fujii addressed the gathering. He spoke eloquently and at length about the irrelevance of national boundaries in the cause of advancement of mankind; and about the need for protecting our environment as our inheritance to future generations. The students were moved by his speech. Mrs. Shraddha Pandey, the teacher co-ordinator, thanked JICA and JAAI, particularly its President, Dr. O.P. Dewal and Secretary, Mr. R.K. Jaiswal for facilitating the conduct of the programme at Ahlcon Public School for such a noble cause.



Mr. T. Fujii, RR, JICA India Office giving away trophy to winners.

In conclusion, we can say that the programme was a huge success. It successfully highlighted the fact that our environment needed our immediate attention if there were to be any hopes of our survival.

Origami Workshop

AAI in association with JICA India Office organised a one day Origami Workshop on 4th February, 2007 at WWF-India, Lodi Estate, New Delhi. Origami, a traditional Japanese art of Paper-folding, is an important aspect of Japanese ancient cultural heritage. This programme was organized as a symbol of cultural cooperation and to promote better understanding of the Indian and Japanese cultures.



Close encounters - Teacher and the taught



Practicing the art of Origami at the workshop.

The workshop was conducted by Mrs. Hitomi Ashta, a qualified Origami teacher and also a Member of Japanese Origami Association. Along with her husband, she also runs an Organisation Business-India/Japan, which is engaged in promoting cultural and business relations between the two countries. She started the workshop with a brief introduction on the advantages of doing origami. The programme was divided into two sessions with tea-break in-between. The first session was a warm-up exercise of making simpler objects like house, piano, purse, rabbit, and balloon. The extended application of balloon to make other objects was also demonstrated. The second session started with making crane (a Japanese symbol of peace and good wishes). It then switched over to slightly tougher exercise of doing Modular Origami in which three-dimensional objects like cuboid, star etc. were made. In this session the basic unit explained was *sonobe* unit (named after its creator, Mr. Mitsunobu Sonobe.). The models were made using six, twelve and 30 units. Participants showed active interest to make the next model comprising of ninety units which was subsequently taken up too. JAAL origami experts Dr. S.S. Gupta and Mr. M.Z. Khan also helped the members in paper folding. Participants were also given an Origami book authored by the Instructor, Ms. Hitomi Ashta to facilitate conducting of the workshop as well as doing origami at home.



Mrs. Ashta demonstrating the correct way of paper-folding.



Learning the intricacies of Origami.

The programme was open for active JAAL members and their families. About 120 persons including children participated in the programme. The response of the participants was very enthusiastic. Children as well as adults took active part in making various objects. Origami workshop turned out to be not only fun but also a valuable method for developing vital skills. The art of paper-folding helps people to increase their power of systematic thought process. People appreciated the creativity and imagination involved in it. Participants interacted freely with the Instructor to clear their doubts and learn the intricacies involved in this art.

The programme was followed by High-Tea. The feedback from the members was encouraging as the event was meticulously organized and gave the participants ample time and opportunity to interact with the Instructor and learn the art of Origami.

BUDDHISM IN JAPAN: Cultural and Historical Bond linking Japan & India

-Prof. Dr. M.M. Singh, Former President & Distinguished Member, JAAI

Japan, the land of rising sun is a country having one of the oldest civilizations in the east. There are three main religions prevalent in Japan viz. Buddhism, Shinto and Christianity.

Shinto is Japan's original religion. Shinto's origin comes from worshipping nature such as trees. Shinto values festivals and divine services, rather than sacred books or scriptures. Shinto is, so to say, beliefs rather than a religion. God is the founder of Shinto, nature is the sacred book, and believers perceive and educate themselves. Shinto is a polytheism. In ancient times, people believed that God lived in big trees, mountains, or other forms of nature. Therefore, most shrines are built in forests, near lakes, rivers etc. Besides the shrines, God is worshipped at the household's Shinto altars, or at small shrines on the roadsides or yards.

Buddhism was founded by Sakyamuni, born about 2500 years ago in the Shaka tribe's royal family in the Himalayas. At the age of 29, he became a bonze, leaving his father, wife, and children. At 35, he was spiritually awakened and Buddhism began.

The history of Buddhism in Japan can be roughly divided into three periods, namely the Nara period (up to 784), the Heian period (794–1185) and the post-Kamakura period (1185 onwards).

The introduction of Buddhism to Japan is securely dated to 552 in Nihon Shoki, when Seong of Baekje sent monks from the Korean peninsula to Nara to introduce the eight doctrinal schools. It was Prince Shotoku who changed Buddhism into a form to fit the Japanese spiritual climate. He wrote various explanations for the Buddhist sutra. "It is important to get along well with others." These words are on the constitution he made, and is the Japanese way of explaining Buddhism. Initial uptake of the new faith was slow, and Buddhism only started to spread some years later when Empress Suiko openly encouraged the acceptance of Buddhism among all Japanese people. In 607, in order to obtain copies of Sutras, an imperial envoy was dispatched to Sui dynasty China. As time progressed and the number of Buddhist clergy increased, the offices of Sojo (archbishop) and Sozu (bishop) were created. By 627 there were 46 Buddhist temples, 816 Buddhist priests, and 569 Buddhist nuns in Japan.

In the Heian era, Buddhism became much more popular, and started to influence the Japanese manners, customs, culture, and so on. Saicho, the founder of Tendai-shu sect, and Kukai, the founder of the Shingon-shu sect are the representative Buddhists of this era.

In the Kamakura era, the Japanese way of interpreting and developing Buddhism came to its peak. Many sects formed, by developing each field of the Buddhist sutra. The founder of Jyodo-shu sect, Honen, and the founder of the Jyodo-shin-shu sect, Shinran taught, "If you pray the words, 'Namuamidabutsu', you can go to paradise." in an easy way so that even the populace could understand. Also, Dogen, the founder of the Soto-shu sect taught people to Zazen, without having any emotional thoughts. Eisai, the founder of the Rinzai-shu sect, are of the same Zen genealogy. Many Japanese people were attracted to their teachings, and many became believers of these two sects. Nichiren, the founder of the Nichiren-shu sect, taught that the "Hokekyo" in the sutra are the real words of Sakyamuni, and you will feel peace if you pray the words "Namu-myo-ho-ren-ge-kyo". He also participated in the social activities, for he thought that true peace comes from peace in the country and society. On the basis of the sects written above, many other sects formed, which made the Buddhism in Japan.

In modern times, there are three main paths of Buddhism, to which all schools of Japanese Buddhism belong: the Amidist (Pure Land) schools, Nichiren Buddhism, and Zen Buddhism.

Japan and the development of Zen Buddhism went hand in hand towards the beginning of the sixth century. Buddhism was in full bloom in India and the Chinese were adapting it to their lifestyle when several Japanese clans began picking it up. Zen Buddhism is a combination of Indian and Chinese thought process revolving around the world as it is and the discipline of finding enlightenment.

The year 2007 is important because it happens to be Japan-India friendship year. His Excellency Mr. Yasukuni Enoki, the Ambassador of Japan in India, has traced a strong cultural and historical bond linking Japan and India. Mr. Enoki hails from a suburban district of Tokyo named Kichijo-ji town. Earlier he had a vague knowledge that Kichijo or Kisho, was Buddhist Bodhisattva. On arrival in India, he learnt that Kichijo's origin was the Goddess Lakshmi.

India maintained its supremacy in maritime transport in the Bay of Bengal and South East Asian sea between BC 3rd century to AD 7th century, by transforming this part of the sea as the "Lake of Buddhism". Thus, a large number of Indians migrated to South East Asia and established their community therein. It is believed that some of the Indians may have moved to Japan through the maritime route, in ancient times. The legendary Indian Buddhist saint "Hohdoh" may be one example. He established GION monastery in Banshu (Hyogo Prefecture).

Historically speaking, the first Indian person who reached Japan should be Bodhisena, the "Brahman Buddhist" high priest who assumed the role of 'master of ceremony' for the consecrating ceremony of the great Buddha at the Todaiji temple in Nara in 752. According to available records, he was born in 704 in South India and was invited by Emperor Shomu to visit Japan. He was along with his disciples "Buttetsu" were engaged in propagating Buddhism as well as Indian culture, such as Sanskrit music and dance, etc. Appreciated for his achievements in Japan, he was honoured as one of the four saints of the Todaiji temple along with Emperor Shomu. High Priests Gyoki and Roben. A completed Statue of BODHISENA was consecrated in 2002 on the occasion of 1250 year anniversary of the Great Buddha Consecration. The first Indian Buddhist Monk had reached Japan after a long and arduous journey crossing Himalayas, Deserts and rough South China Sea.

Japanese people have never forgotten the immense contribution made by Indian monk and even after 12 centuries after his death, a ceremony to consecrate the newly sculptured statue is fresh in their minds. The Sanskrit language was introduced into Japan in the form of Sanskrit studies as well as by means of constituting a basis for creation of the Japanese alphabet (Kana). The Japanese Monks had to study Sanskrit out of the necessity to master Buddhism from the Indian original Sutras and Textbooks. Tenjiku, the Japanese ancient name for India, has always been a place evoking admiration in the Japanese people's minds. The Asia of the 21st Century is now about to face a new "Three Countries" Epoch with the upsurge of China and India, besides Japan. We can safely state that the stability and prosperity of Asia depends, to a great extent, upon the cooperative relations of these three major powers of the region.

(Note : This article is based on the lecture delivered by His Excellency Mr. Yasukuni Enoki, Ambassador of Japan to India)



The Buddha in Kamakura (1252 AD)

Welcome!! JOCVs

In 2006, Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCVs) programme was re-started in India as one of the important schemes of technical cooperation provided by JICA India Office. In this JOCV programme, young professional Japanese in various technical fields come to India to work as volunteers for socio-economic development of India.

The JOCV programme has a long history of more than 40 years and nearly 28,000 JOCVs have been dispatched to more than 80 countries all over the world. It may not be well known that India had also received more than 130 JOCVs during the time from 1966 to 1978. Therefore, it means that this JOCV programme was resumed after 28 years.

For the JOCVs, understanding of Indian culture and learning Indian local languages are very important because their activities are conducted at a grass-root level. The assistance at the local level deepens mutual understanding and helps in building genuine friendships between volunteers and hosts. This promotion of mutual understanding is also essential part of the JOCV programme. Therefore, JOCVs assigned to India take training in Delhi during the first one and a half month to learn the culture and local languages before they are formally posted to their assigned organizations.

JAAI, as an association which has close relation with JICA, started to support this JOCV training programme by being a host-family for the home stay programme, which is one of the important contents of the training. Home stay is one of the most effective measures to familiarize JOCVs to Indian culture and customs, and moreover, building friendship between Japan and India.

So far, two JOCVs have experienced the homestay programme at the home of JAAI president (Dr.O.P.Dewal). The JOCVs were really satisfied with the hospitality of the host family and their friendship has continued even after they are posted to their assigned places.



JOCV with the Host Family



JOCV's letter to JAAI President

Dear Om ji,

I'm thankful for your unconditional support. At first, I was worried about my stay in your house because this is my first visit to India and I don't know about the culture also. However, because of your care I not only had a homely feeling and fun but also learnt a lot about Indian culture. During the home stay I had to go to language school to learn Hindi, but in that case also you really helped me out. All those experiences have given me strength and a lot of confidence. Therefore, I don't have any problem staying in Hyderabad. Now, I'm teaching Japanese in Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL). It's a wonderful campus, my classes are going well, my students are very earnest and other faculties are cooperative. I'm really happy to come here and I want to do my best.

Before I go back to Japan, definitely I want to meet you again. Please convey my regards to your family.

- Koko

Story of Momotaro

- Ashima Kapur
Executive Member, JAAI



The story of Momotaro is based on a Japanese folk tale. Long, long ago, there lived an old man and his wife in a village. The old man

went to the mountain to gather wood. The lady went to the river to wash clothes, when a big peach came floating down the river. The lady brought home this peach. On cutting she was happily surprised to see a baby come out of it. Since the baby was born from the peach, the couple named him Momotaro or 'Peach Boy'. Momotaro grew quickly to be a strong and kind-hearted boy.

One day he said to his parents that he would like to meet the ogres at the Ogres island and defeat them. These ogres used to come to their village and do many evil things. Momotaro asked his mother, to make some millet dumplings for him which he carried in a bag around his waist and left his house for the Ogre Island.

Momotaro defeated the ogre with the help of a dog, monkey and a pheasant. The evil ogre gave all his treasures gold, silver, textile and so on to Momotaro and everyone lived happily thereafter. So that's the story of Momotaro.



Responsibilities And Mankind

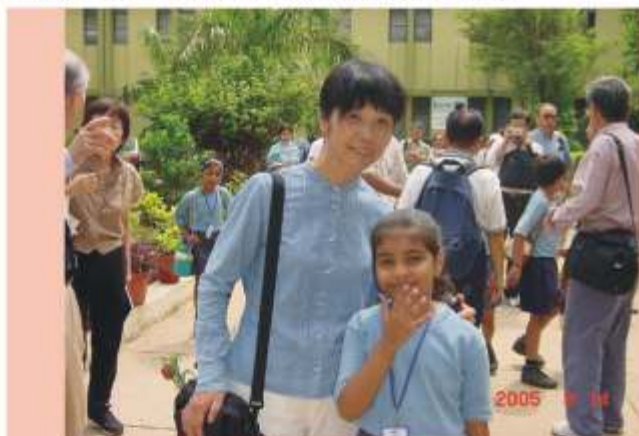
Every human comes on this earth to discharge certain responsibilities. A child grows and gradually gets the responsibilities to fulfill. I still remember my childhood when I enjoyed the nature fully. Touch of my mother and father are quite fresh in my memories. I grew in a traditional Japanese family. I was always taught the lessons of human values by my parents, which I practiced in later part of my life. After completing my student life, I entered into the professional life. I always respected my job, my assignments and my duties. Whatever was possible for me, I did. I might have committed some mistakes unknowingly. Then I got married. I became father. I always tried to fulfill the requirements of my wife and children. I always enjoyed doing that. I always tried to fulfill the social responsibilities also. Whatever little I could do I have done that. I always consider that human values are the most precious things in our lives. Now I am retired from my profession. Still I try to get some responsibility, in which I can contribute a little. Occasionally I realize the responsibilities exist in one's life till the last day. We should learn how to share our responsibilities to become a man of value rather than a man of success. To me every human being on this earth is very precious and important. It should also be learnt how to love them and how we should develop friendly relationship with them. I remembered these options of life and used them from the day one I entered in the castle of responsibilities.

- Kenji Kurokawa
Japan

Wonderland India

I live in Higashihiroshima-city located 35 km east of Hiroshima-city with my husband and his mother. We all work five days a week and during weekend grow rice and vegetables. HIP(Hiroshima International Plaza)is 6km up north from our house. It has been a JICA home for trainees from many countries.

First trainee came over nine years ago in the public health center, which is my office, and stayed with us. This gives an opportunity to receive homestay and homevisit of JICA trainees. So far, 89 persons from 38 countries have stayed in our home, which include 44 from Asian countries.



Mrs. and Mr. Shigetake during their visit to India

One day I came across an article at Hiroshima International Center that "Hiroshima Asian Supplementary school" is recruiting talented persons for promoting interchange / cooperation with Asia. I took up the challenge and after finishing my work at half past 6 in the evening, I attended the school. I took a lecture once a week for first half an year and conducted a seminar in the latter half. During September 2005, I got a chance to visit India as a part of activity of this private supplementary school. The overseas training really took a turn and I became involved in the history / cultural aspects, and inspect the spots of international collaboration and education.

In India, I visited Delhi, Banares, Agra, Aurangabad. I had acquired the learning beforehand about India, yet after reaching the airport, every thing was so different that I got confused. I found a world that is totally different from the organized country of Japan and it was lacking cleanliness. A cow and the sheep strode along a street of a big city. Yet, I was amazed to see everything in complete harmony with itself. Impressed by the deep and philosopher look of people around, I felt closer to Indian people. I traveled through the beautiful cities and visited archeological sites. I was wonder struck to see Tajmahal in Agra. I fully enjoyed every destination and was fascinated very much to see the scale of Ajanta and Ellora cave temples. It was a great sense of achievement. I saw a mysterious world where population blended with holy spirit. I also felt a deeper understanding of an earlier JICA participant who had visited my home earlier. It was an unforgettable visit and a wonderful experience.

- Kunie Shigetake
Japan

Fond Memories of Training in Japan

"Arigato Gozaimasu" (Japanese words meaning thank you) these two words still ring a bell in my ears even though it has been almost five long years since I went for a training in Japan in 2002. From the airport to the training centre to the local transportation these words were used the most. I was deeply touched by the caring attitude of the Japanese people right from JICA officials to the family whom I stayed with for one day as part of the home stay programme. The smiles on their faces and extreme politeness and the meticulous way of doing things, keeping a close watch on the time and planning for each and every minute of the trainees stay in Japan were some of the things which I admired the most about the Japanese society.



Host family with JICA trainees during the home-stay programme



Mika and Yui, the two girls from the Host Family

I was a little apprehensive about the language since Japanese was a new language to me. But the training cassette and material provided by JICA India office and the basic course at the Higashi-hiroshima training centre dispelled my anxiety. It was great fun to learn those basic words and my favourite ones were "chotto matte kudasai", meaning just a moment please and "sumimasen" meaning excuse me or sometimes to apologize.

Home-stay was the best part of the training programme, which facilitated learning about the Japanese culture by experiencing it. The place where my host family was putting up was in "Tamano city," in Okayama. The family consisted of a couple with two daughters (about 6 and 9 years old). The little girls named Mika and Yui were really excited to have me in their house. I was delighted to see that the family had a separate room for the tea, which was spread with a mat called "Tatami." The younger girl took me around the house and showed me all her toys and other things. She was fond of dancing so she showed her dance to me as well.

Then we went around to the local market from where I bought a Japanese doll dressed in a red kimono. The younger daughter showed me a little stick with a child's miniature form. Upon asking she told me it was called as Momotaro (meaning a Peach Boy based on a Japanese folk tale), which I bought from there and it is still with me. The family also arranged for a picnic to a nearby beach. It was a fun-filled day.

At dinner the family served me with a dish called Okanamiyaki (a Japanese food item made out of egg and similar to a pancake). It was great feeling to receive such a warm welcome. It appeared as if I was meeting some of my own family members. I am still in touch with the family through e-mail and I keep getting more invitations from them to come to Japan and stay with them and I do the vice versa. One thing is certain that sometimes in lifetime associations are formed in even a single day. I feel privileged to have participated in this training programme which not only upgraded my professional skills but enhanced my knowledge about Japan because of a closer view of its traditions, culture, food habits and most important its people. The training also acted as a platform to form associations with the professionals in various other countries. I hope that I would someday meet my host family again.

- Ashima Kapur
Executive Member, JAAI

What's in a name? ... Plenty !

- Dr. Sumathi Muralidhar, Microbiologist, Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi.

For most parents across the globe, choosing a name for their newborn is a big decision. They even begin to think about possible names long before the baby is born. A name is very important because it serves as the child's identity mark for a lifetime.

Among the Hindus in India, the naming of a child is one of the most fundamental Hindu "samskars" or scripture based rites. The name is selected (through a naming ceremony called 'Namakarana') such that its meaning can inspire the child to follow the path of righteousness.

Many parents give a lot of weightage to the meaning of the name. That is why names like Vivek (wisdom) or Prashanth (serenity) or Tejas (brilliance) enjoy a lot of popularity. Sometimes parents name a child based on his/her appearance. For example- Sunaina (beautiful eyes), Dimple (having a dimpled cheek). Other features one considers include- the uniqueness of a name, its popularity, its acceptance by relatives and whether it sounds right. Another common practice among the Hindus is to name their children after the names of Gods (Ganesh, Shiv) and Goddesses (Lakshmi, Saraswati, Parvati), sages, saints, holy persons or the incarnations of Gods (Krishna, Ram). Here, it is believed that by repeatedly calling such names one is reminded of the Lord. There are some parents who give the names of their ancestors to their children. Some others think up creative names for their children by combining their own names. A fine example of this is a father whose name is 'Srnivasan' and his wife's name being 'Kanthi', have named their son as 'Srikanth'.

Just like the Hindus in India, the naming of a child in Japan is also performed with great care. In Japan, like in China and Korea, the first name follows the family name. A person with the first name "Ichiro" and the family name "Suzuki", is therefore called "Suzuki Ichiro" rather than "Ichiro Suzuki". This current structure (family name + first name) did not materialize until the 1870s when the government made the new family registration system. Middle names are not recognised in Japan the way they are accepted in the Western world. Most Japanese family names consist of two Kanji (Chinese characters). The meanings of many of the kanji used in family names are related to nature, geographical features or locations. For example, mountain (yama), tree (ki), rice field (ta), island (shima), village (mura), bridge (hashi), between (naka), below (shita) etc. Some of the most common Japanese family names are Sato, Suzuki, Takahashi, Tanaka and Watanabe.

Like family names the Japanese first names also consist of two kanji. The meanings of these kanji are often positive characteristics such as intelligence, beauty, love, light, names of flowers, seasons and other natural phenomenon or the order of birth (first son, second son etc). Often the gender of a person can be guessed by the ending of his/her first name. First names ending with 'ro', 'shi', 'ya', or 'o' are typically male first names, while names ending in 'ko', 'mi', 'e' and 'yo' are typical female first names.

Seimei handan or name diagnosis is a type of fortune telling concerning names, practised by some Japanese persons while selecting their child's name. Its theory centres around the number of strokes that are required to write the characters of a name. (Note that there is a defined number of strokes for every Japanese character).

A Japanese first name written in kanji may have more than one common pronunciation, only one of which is correct for a given individual. Conversely, any one name may have several possible written forms, and again, only one will be correct for a given individual. Such diverse names are more common among Japanese male first names than in female first names or family names. This may cause a problem at times. Hence, Japanese business cards often include the pronunciation of the name as 'furigana' and forms and documents always have spaces to write the reading of the name in katakana. Some common Japanese names can be summarized by the phrase "tanakamura" ("the village in the midst of the rice fields"): the three kanjis-"ta"(rice field), "naka" (middle) and "mura" (village), together in any pair, form a simple, reasonably common surname. Eg. Tanaka, Nakamura, Murata, Nakata, Muranaka, Tamura.

Kanji names in Japan are governed by the Government's rules on their use. Only the kanji, which appear on the official list, may be used as the first names. This is to ensure that names can be written and read by those literate in Japanese. Rules also govern names considered to be inappropriate; for example, in 1993 two parents who tried to name their child "Akuma" (devil) were prohibited from doing so. Japanese citizenship also requires adopting a Japanese name.

To bring out the similarities in the thinking of parents, in choosing a name for their children, here is a list of some Japanese and Indian names with similar meanings.

Meaning of Name	Indian Names	Japanese Names
Precious/ Treasure	Amulya (F)	Takara (F), Takahiro (M)
Wisdom	Vivek (M)	Chika (F), Akira (F), Tomoko (F)
Victory	Vijay (M), Jeet (M), Vijeyta (F)	Katsuo (M), Masaru (M)
Purity	Nirmal (M), Nirmala (F)	Kiyoshi (M)
Sky	Akash (M)	Sora (F)
Brilliance/Radiance	Tejas (M)	Taiki (M)
Joy /Bliss	Anand (M)	Sachiko (F)
Immortal /Forever	Amar (M),	Sumiko (F), Kumiko (F)
Brave /Fearless	Abhay (M)	Yuudai (M), Isamu (M)
Light /Shining	Prakash (M), Roshni (F)	Hikari (F)
Glory	Yash (M), Shourya (M), Yashasvi (F)	Daisuke (M)
Beauty /Grace	Sundari (F), Soundarya (F)	Masami (M/F), Kumiko (F), Michiko (F)
Moon	Chandra (M/F)	Tsukiko (F), Mizuki (F)
Flower	Pushpa (F), Suman (F), Kamal (M), Saroj (F), Rajeev (M), Neeraj (M), Neerja (F)	Sakura (F), Hanako (F), Kiku (F), Riko (F), Misaki (F)

Our Duties Our Thoughts

Ten years have passed. Sometimes it appears that years were too long and at times I feel they were too short. History remains. Memories do not fade. Other than training many things were taught by the experts during our stay in Japan. Application of those practical approaches fetched great results. During the last decade my memories of Japan always helped me to improve my approaches towards professional problems. In many instances I found that I am winner. Many powerful skills are developed meticulously within the participants during the training in Japan. The trainers taught different aspects of practicality. At the end of every passing year one feels that certain part of the training has been used in their professional as well as day-to-day life. JAAI is another link, which keeps all its members together and exchange their views. Directly we may not receive anything but indirectly we develop many skills in the association of JAAI. Then one realizes that colors of maple leaves of MIYAZIMA or KOBE have not faded away. Rather they are inscribed in our characters and we are pulling on comfortably with ourselves. JICA's first lesson was achievers are those who always put efforts. This most of us still carry strongly with ourselves. Years have gone by, people have changed but message still holds true.

One very senior professional in Japan told me that "develop a habit to listen properly rather than expressing in haste. Try to know your weakness instead of drumming your qualities. If you want to be a successful professional you should know how to cross the busy crowded lane without rubbing your shoulder with others." On my return to India I tried to practice this. I found that it is too difficult to leave this practice. After ten years now I realize that yes I have learnt and adopted it properly. I have developed a habit to respect the views of others. I give patient hearing to a person less conversant with the subject and then answer. We were told that all the technical queries are not meaningful. But absurd queries sometime pay better solution to a problem. Many people try to justify wrong arguments at one or the other stage they fail. We should not try to occupy the position which we do not deserve. But do we follow this? Not at least in profession! The endless charter of demands of professionals takes them to the hell of darkness. And when they want to come back, they find it not only difficult but impossible. Should we not fix such goals in our lives?

The whole world is trying to justify their acts in various fields. Most of them are correct but at the same time many of them are hazardous. In this context it always reminds me that the inventors of atom bomb never realized that their work would be experimented on school going children or rather its impact on the infants totally on mother feed. Are we really progressing! One wrong experiment of today will surface out as devastation tomorrow. We do this just to gain a little. I hope and pray for the day when the most intelligent creatures of the world sacrifice their I and do things for WE.

- Dr. V. P. Chatterjee
Group Manager, NCCBM
Ballabgarh, Haryana

World Peace

I want "WORLD PEACE",
Why you people can't live here with ease,
Don't spread hatred in the name of God please,
God is Almighty and above all,
then how can you consider yourself as a father of all,
Don't think that you are very tall,
One day you will have a great fall.

- Nidhi Agrawal

Be Thankful

Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire.
If you did, what would there be to look forward to?
Be thankful when you don't know something,
for it gives you the opportunity to learn.
Be thankful for the difficult times.
During those times you grow.
Be thankful for your limitations,
Because they give you opportunities for improvement.
Be thankful for each new challenge,
Because it will build your strength and character.
Be thankful for your mistakes.
They will teach you valuable lessons.
Be thankful when you're tired and weary,
because it means you've made a difference.
It's easy to be thankful for the good things.
A life of rich fulfillment comes to those
who are also thankful for the setbacks.
Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.
Find a way to be thankful for your troubles,
and they can become your blessings.

- P. K. Subnani



Technical Cooperation With Japan High-Tech Dedicated East-West Rail Corridor

- Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel*, Executive Member, JAAI

Transportation is an important requisite for societies. India has a long history of mechanized transportation, which includes various modes such as cars, two and three wheelers, buses, trucks, railways, ships and airplanes etc. Railways marked the beginning of machine transport in the country, way back in 1853. First train on Indian soil was operated between Mumbai (then Bombay) and Thane. The Rail transport remained the principal means of transport in the country upto 1950s. Steam locomotive dominated the Railway transport. Diesel and electric trains were introduced later. Their efficiency is comparatively high and they attain greater speed. The Railways is the most energy efficient and economic mode of transport, but has not matched with convenience and time savings possible with road and air transport.

Increasing mobility between major urban areas is the vital need today. But, as such travel demands grow, highways and airport facilities on critical inter-city corridors are suffering from more and more congestion. According to a study conducted by late Shri J. N. Maggo in the Planning Commission during 1990s the share of road transport in total passenger movements was projected to become 89% in 2009 with the share of railways as 7.8% and air travel will contribute to remaining 3.2% in domestic travel. In the freight traffic the corresponding model shares were suggested to be 51.7% for roadways, 48.2% for railways and 0.1% for waterways. The main aim of the study was to determine the fuel demand in the coming years. One of the important conclusions of the study was that the improvement in efficiency of existing passenger and goods carrying vehicles, could reduce the fuel consumption and energy requirement by as much as 10% in all modes.

Technical Cooperation with Japan

A new milestone in technical cooperation with Japan under STEP is the high-tech freight rail Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) to run along East to West. It is planned to develop multi-modal, high-axle load freight trains, with a fully-computerized traffic control system. The project aims to facilitate faster and cheaper movement of goods from one end to another, better traffic control management with reduced load on road and air transportation systems. The project will have Eastern and Western Corridors.

a) In the first phase in the Eastern corridor, a separate freight corridor is planned from Ludhiana to Sonnagar via Ambala, Saharanpur, Khurja and Allahabad. The primary feeder routes from Sonnagar to Durgapur via Gomoh, Sonnagar to Tatanagar via Garhwa Road and Barkakana to Bokaro via Chandrapura will be upgraded in order to carry heavier trains of coal and steel traffic extending up to ports in West Bengal as per traffic needs. The primary feeder routes will be converted to dedicated freight corridor at the appropriate time.

b) The second phase in the Western Corridor will start from Jawaharlal Nehru Port in the West and will be routed via Vadodara, Ahmedabad, Palanpur, Jaipur and Rewari to Tuglakabad and Dadri. Both the corridors will be joined by a link between Dadri and Khurja. The feeder routes of the Western Corridor connecting ports of Gujarat will be upgraded. The project feasibility report is under preparation.

Main Components of a Super Fast Rail Transport

Multi-modal Transport System- Different mechanized modes of transport are having different characteristics in speed, performance, convenience, cost and traffic controls. Increasing load on road transport, traffic congestions, air pollution and diminishing services require building of a multi-modal transport system, which is a combination of different modes of transport operating in harmony with each other. To increase effectiveness of such systems logistic and design controls are needed for achieving optimization of cost and resources.

Computerized Traffic Management is becoming a key technology for efficient management of the ever increasing ground traffic. The implementation of computerized system requires basic static and dynamic data on the road and rail networks. The data are transmitted to on-site or remote traffic controllers, where they are processed in computers. The information about traffic volumes, vehicular speed, type of vehicles is analyzed so that synchronization is achieved in lifting of goods and optimum solutions are developed for all participating in the transport networks including goods,

Challenges Before Us

India is a developing economy aiming to sustain 9-10% growth in GDP. The energy needs are increasing rapidly. Bold initiatives are needed to enhance trade and mobility in and around the country through energy efficient means. High-speed rail transportation systems have been built in advanced countries of the world, but implementation in many others has been prevented by their high costs and infrastructure support required.

The DFC from Kolkata to Mumbai would help efficient transport of goods within the country and also with export of items to other countries through gainful utilization of port facilities at both the two ends. Case studies are required to be made in actual areas and along railway tracks to resolve the future problems of transportation of goods and railway networking. In the emerging scenario of increasing concern for global warming, freight rail corridor will offer reduction in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in comparison to road traffic. Evaluation of impact on environment for building a multi-modal transport system of this nature should also be carried out.

* affiliation- Adviser and Scientist 'G', Ministry of Science & Technology, New Delhi

Sumo Wrestling – Japanese National Sport

Sumo is a Japanese style of wrestling and Japanese National Sport. It is one of the oldest martial arts of Japan.

Sumo has its roots in the Shinto religion. The matches were dedicated to the gods in prayers for a good harvest. The oldest written records date back to the 8th century. But it is probably more than 1500 years old. Sumo prints from the 18th and 19th century prove the popularity of the sport in the past. During the last two decades the art of sumo wrestling could establish itself even outside of Japan. Akebono, an American born in Hawaii, became the first American champion to reach the highest rank. A sumo wrestling match is accompanied by a lot of traditional ceremony. The marching-in of the wrestlers is a sequence of formal rituals. The wrestlers are accompanied by two assistants – one walking in front and one behind him – the one behind is usually hard to sport. The referee is clad in a luxurious kimono and wears a strange hat. After performing a series of opening rituals, the contest begins.

The wrestling match is all about pushing or throwing the opponent out of the doyo – the ring – or – to bring the other guy down on the floor. Sumo

does not know any weight categories. There are a few basic techniques – from pulling the opponents legs to grabbing his belt and trying to throw or carry the opponent out of the ring. The fight usually lasts only a few seconds and in rare cases up to one minute or longer.

Six tournaments are held every year, each one lasting 15 days. Three of the tournaments are held in Tokyo (January, May, September), and one each in Osaka (March), Nagoya (July) and Fukuoka (November).

At the top of the sumo wrestlers' hierarchy (banzuke) stands the yokozuna (grand champion). At the moment, there is only one yokozuna, Asashoryu from Mongolia. Once a wrestler reaches the rank of Yokozuna, he cannot lose it anymore. However, he is expected to retire as soon as his results are starting to worsen.

Most elite wrestlers are highly trained athletes and between 20 to 25 years old. Besides working out, the wrestlers eat large amounts of food and go to bed right after eating in order to gain mass. The wrestlers live in special sumo stables where the rules are very strict, especially for lower ranked wrestlers.

Zakaria Khan Yusufzai
Vice-President, JAAI

Japanese Peace Pagoda, Darjeeling

That was the best period of my life. When I boarded the plane of Japan Airlines, it was a flight of fancy.

I was in Japan during August – October 1978. There were forty one participants from twenty countries to attend the international training seminar on taxation, organized by the Japan International Cooperation Agency. There were fruitful discussions and interesting interaction. We visited Tokyo, Kobe, Osaka and a number of other places. A number of cultural functions were organized by our hosts. All of us thoroughly enjoyed our stay.

I have lost contact with my fellow participants. I do not know where they are. I however, very much remember them and cherish their memory.

On my own, I roamed around at different places and came in contact with the common people. Their love for India, helpful nature, simplicity and sincerity left a mark on me. Some of the faces even now flash in my memory.

On return I wrote an article "My image about Japan of Today." It was published in KENSHU IN periodical for JICA ex-participants issue No.45 of 1980. MY article "Flowers from Japan" was published by the Customs and Central Excise, North U.P. Collectorate Meerut in its Souvenir of 1st June, 1981.

Very often my thoughts go to the people of Japan who have done so much to enrich the cultural fabric of India. While it is impossible to deal with this subject in any article, by way of illustration I refer to the Japanese Peace Pagoda at Darjeeling.

I along with my son Tarun visited Darjeeling. We were attracted by a beautiful and well laid out Pagoda on the outskirts of this lovely hill station. This Pagoda has been built by the people of Japan and is known as Japanese Peace Pagoda. We were told that even the day-to-day expenses are met by the people of Japan.

It is so marvelously built that on mere look, a sense of serenity and holiness fills the onlooker. Once inside, you are wonder struck by the spiritual ambiance. You feel like just sitting and praying. It is not possible to describe the feelings in words. One has to go there and take a spiritual bath in the serenity of this marvelous piece of art.

It was drizzling when we came out. The whole setting looked like a dream.

Lajja Ram
Advocate
Former Member (Technical)
Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal
Email: lajjaram_del@rediffmail.com

Editors' Column

It is celebration time all around as we prepare for the release of ninth issue of SAHYOG. India, the country as a whole, is celebrating sixty years of its independence and JICA India Office its fortieth anniversary. The change of guard at JICA India Office has added a new dimension to the JAAI Annual Convention by incorporating a lecture by an eminent personality in the field of international cooperation, culture or economic development.

With the remarkable post-war recovery, Japan emerged as the Nation of Twentieth Century. There are many lessons to be learnt from their success story. In recent years, Indian economy too has been making great strides and with its present growth rate, India has set the stage to emerge as the next superpower. The Twenty-first Century belongs to India. To turn this dream into reality the India-Japan cooperation must scale new heights.

India and Japan share rich cultural heritage. Buddhism, born in India, traversed all the way to Japan and has become one of its main religions. The Indo-Japan cooperation has gained momentum with the visits of the two Prime Ministers to their counterpart countries. The two leaders recognized the importance of the reinforcement of India and Japan friendship as well as economic relations and they confirmed further promotion of "India-Japan Strategic and Global Partnership". The two great Asian democracies are celebrating the year 2007 as India-Japan Friendship Year. Economic development and preservation of environment must go hand-in-hand. An Environment Awareness Programme titled "Nurture Nature" was organized by JAAI in collaboration with JICA and Ahlcon Public School, Mayur Vihar, New Delhi to disseminate and reinforce this message. The year 2007 has been declared "EARTH YEAR" of the millennium. Hence, the subject for the cover page is dedicated to Earth. This year's cover page painting by Dr. V.P.Chatterjee is titled "UNIVERSE". Primitive art methods

adopted in pre-historic times are depicted in the painting including the bright Red, Blue and Green and related secondary colors. Various geometric shapes drawn on the ancient cave paintings have been selected, which are still used in modern day technology. The shapes also depict the modern day thinking of human brains. In this abstract work the colours symbolize different features of the earth. Orange represents Sun, dark yellow is for fire, dark green signifies forest, light green depicts crops, dark blue denotes ocean, light blue gives a feeling of sky, red is for inner core of the earth, light yellow is for sun rays, brown and ochre represent rocks and soil, white indicates peace and harmony and black denotes human limitations and boundaries.

Resumption of the Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) programme has given a new thrust to the cooperation between India and Japan. JAAI President accepted the first batch of JOCVs (Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteers) as a process of home-stay-based training. There can be no better way of understanding the culture of each other than mingling at grassroot level. Sahyog, the JAAI ambassador, has been playing a catalytic role in disseminating the message of cooperation among its members and the network of JICA Associations abroad. With the umbrella of its network ever growing and spreading wider, Sahyog shall endeavour to strengthen the spirit of cooperation at all levels.

Sahyog acknowledges the contribution from the members for its publication and requests for suggestions for improvement in the coming issues. Thanks are due to Dr. S. S. Gupta and Mr. Zakaria Khan for their assistance in publication of Sahyog.

Editorial Board : R. K. Jaiswal, S. K. Jain
Ashima Kapur, Dr. (Mrs.) Malti Goel

Proforma for JICA Participants

(Please read the footnote before filling the proforma)

1. Name of Participant (Surname first):
2. Designation:
3. Name of Office/Organization:
4. Address of Office/Organization:
5. Telephone No.:
6. Fax No.:
7. Residential/Mailing Address:
8. Telephone No.:
9. E-mail Address:
10. Name & year of the Training (Copy of Certificate to be enclosed):
11. Details of Payment :
Cheque/DD No.: Date: Amount:
Payment should be made by DD/Local Cheque (Outstation Cheques will not be accepted) in favour of JICA Alumni Association of India, payable at New Delhi)
12. Other Information (if any):
Date: Signature
Note:
1. Registration fee is Rs 100/-; Life membership fee is Rs 500/-; Annual subscription is Rs 50/-.
2. Active members need not to fill the proforma. Please indicate your name and ID No at the back of DD/Delhi local cheque and also inform your e-mail address and change in address (if any).

Gandhiji's Talisman

Whenever you are in doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test:

Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him.

Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions?

Then you will find your doubts and your self melting away.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

JAAI requests all those ex-JICA training participants, who are presently not active members of JAAI, to enrol for membership. Membership form is also available at our website.

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