

IIT Hyderabad-Japan Collaboration

The IIT Hyderabad-Japan collaboration traces its roots to 2007 when Prime Ministers of India and Japan agreed for broader Indo-Japan engagement. In 2009, to take forward the collaboration, IIT Hyderabad held discussions with the Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In 2010 a Salient Project Proposal was submitted to MHRD and JICA, which followed series of visits of the Japanese Teams from Tokyo and JICA, New Delhi, to IIT Hyderabad including one led by the Chairman, Japan-IITH Collaboration Consortium, expressing keenness to go ahead for further processes of the collaboration. The main objectives of the collaboration were the long-term promotion of exchange of students and faculty with reputed Universities of Japan and Infrastructure support for the development of IIT Hyderabad.

In 2012, a formal structure for the IIT Hyderabad-Japan collaboration was developed as a Project for an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan by the Govt. of India from JICA for campus development of IIT Hyderabad. The objectives of the project were to strengthen the human resource development along with the creation of certain infrastructures with Japanese design as a mark of the friendship of the two nations. Collaborative interactions with the academics and industry of Japan, exchange of students and faculty, were also essential components of the project. The total cost of the project including the development of infrastructure, and research capabilities was Rs. 1775 cr.

For the first time in India, an international collaboration of a premier Institute of the magnitude as is envisaged under the Project is taking place at this Institute. The project envisages the creation of fifteen quality

Infrastructure facilities for the students and faculty of IIT Hyderabad, to benefit their academic pursuits as well as physical and cultural development. Specifically, the collaborations entailed the construction of six buildings with Japanese design as a mark of the friendship of the two Nations involving JICA to provide Schematic Design (SD) and Design Development (DD) for construction. In 2011, JICA assigned the Design Development Responsibility to the University of Tokyo, which is internationally well-known for its expertise.

The design of six buildings identified as International Guest House, Sports and Cultural Center for Students, Incubation and Research Park, Convention Center Complex, Knowledge Center (Library), and Research Center Complex was undertaken by University of Tokyo. The buildings were designed by the University of Tokyo on behalf of JICA as a good gesture, free of charge. These will be signature buildings and will stand as symbols of the friendship of the two nations. All the buildings under the project are currently under construction and are expected to be completed in 2022-23 timeframe.

Research support for enhancing the research infrastructure is provided in the project for high-end equipment and facilities. In addition, the exchange of human resources is an important object of the friendship between the two countries. Through a number of projects of JICA, there has been regular exchange of academics of IITH and Japanese universities as also of Japanese industry to exchange ideas and information leading to a good understanding and promoting the bond of friendship between the two countries.

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Photographs of the early visits by JICA representatives and Professors from University of Tokyo.



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