

## Technologies for Rural and Women Empowerment

Collaborative research project proposal under progress in subject area of disaster management.

**Indian PI:** Dr. Shiva Ji, Dept. of Design & Dept. of Climate Change, IIT Hyderabad, India

**Japanese PI:** Prof. Hirohide Kobayashi, Kyoto University, Japan

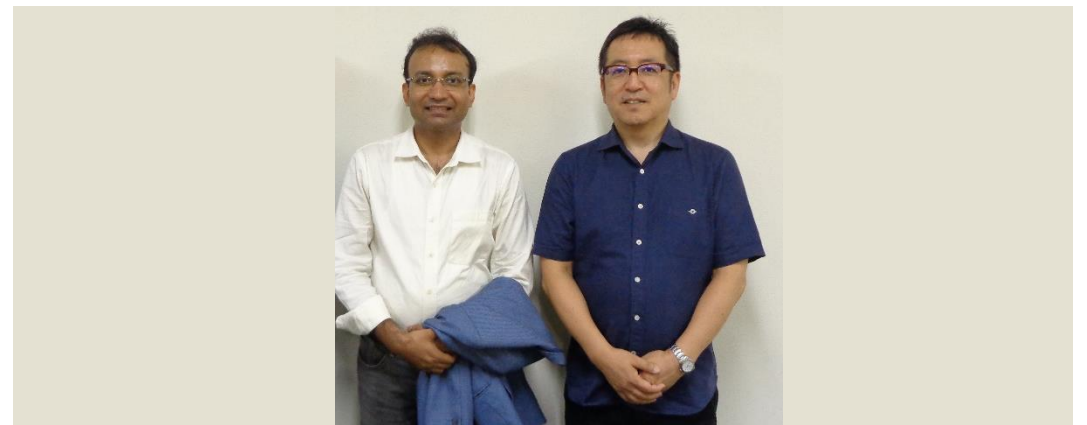
**Title of Project:** “Reconstruction and Restructuring of Vernacular Design Techniques in Light of Disaster-Prone Vulnerabilities in Context of North-East and West India”

**Thrust Area:** Action Oriented Research

**Sub-domain:** Technologies for Rural and Women Empowerment

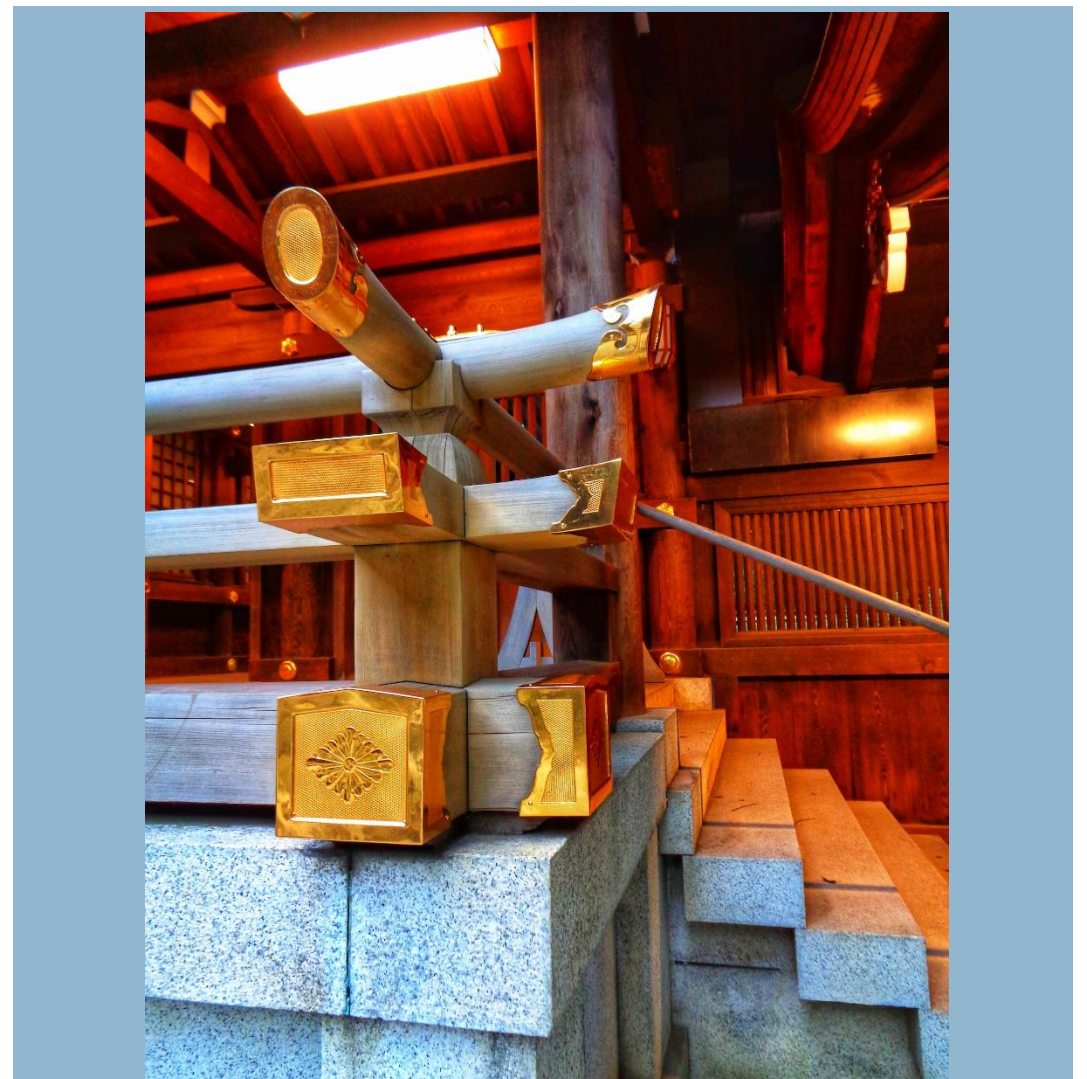
### Abstract:

Climate Change and disasters are increasing in frequency and severity threatening the life and livelihoods of many in future. It is well established that the vernacular architecture typologies have developed as factors of tradition, climate and functionality. But with the exacerbated climate change it is possible that the efficiency of the vernacular architecture to tackle disasters is at stake. This points out the need of realigning the traditional knowledge of built form and conserving the vernacular architecture. In India the North Eastern States of Assam, Sikkim and Meghalaya are hotspots of climate change and disasters. These states have developed vernacular architecture over generations to mitigate the disaster risk. The proposed engagement tries to explore and document how the vernacular architecture performs in the contemporary scenario and what needs to be changed to realign their functionality by involving the women for conservation.



*Dr. Shiva Ji (L) & Prof. Hirohide Kobayashi (R)*

As a part of my visit to Japan, I could capture many memories in my camera. One of them has been recently won the 3<sup>rd</sup> prize at Click! Japan Photo Contest Online Exhibition 2020 by the Embassy of Japan in India which also could get the place as back cover for this Japan Special Issue of KirIITH. The other few are:



Title	Reflections of a perfectionist society
<b>Description</b>	I was amazed by the attention to details and perfection in execution of wooden railings at this shrine. It's not just a picture, but it displays the artistic approach in joinery techniques, the message of strength through sword-like curvature and metal capping to bring a proper ending. Truly Japanese heritage!
<b>Place where photo was taken</b>	Meiji Jingu Shrine, Yoyogikamizonocho, Shibuya City, Tokyo, Japan

*Continued...*



*Dr. Shiva Ji*  
*Assistant Professor,*  
*Department of Design,*  
*IIT Hyderabad*

<b>Title</b>	Slender mystic bamboos indicate the way to heavens
<b>Description</b>	I was amazed by the mystic shades, serene texture, and rustling sounds of this unique bamboo forest. The light from top appears as if descending from heavens to humanity at the ground, so indeed! Still, there is something inexpressible to the whole experience, can only be felt by being there.
<b>Place where photo was taken</b>	Arashiyama Bamboo Forest, Kyoto, Japan