

## **The Second Edition of Japan Month is concluded: Strengthening Educational Ties and Collaborative Opportunities between IIT Hyderabad and Japan**

### **Highlights:**

- *Dr. Kazuhito Hashimoto, President of JST, was the Chief Guest for the event.*
- *A total of 72 participants from 15 universities and 6 organizations from Japan attended, to discuss ways to strengthen student/faculty exchange, research opportunities, technology development and startup ecosystem.*

**Hyderabad: 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024:** The IIT Hyderabad (IITH)-Japan Month concluded with the Japan Academic Day, held on October 21-22, 2024. Dr. Kazuhito Hashimoto, President of Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), is the Chief Guest, and Mr. Ariyoshi Takashi, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of Japan and representative of the Embassy of Japan in India, served as the Guest of Honor along with JICA Chief representative Mr Takeuchi Takuro for the inaugural program on October 21, 2024.

IITH has hosted the Japan Academic Day for the second time as a part of IITH Japan Month 2024, spanning from August 27 to October 22, 2024. This event aims to highlight our shared commitment to enhancing collaboration and strengthening ties between IITH and Japan through education and research.

A total of 72 participants from 15 universities and 6 organizations from Japan, including JST, NIMS, JSPS, JASSO, Tech Japan, and JICA, are participating. Twenty booths have been set up for students to learn more about the universities, higher education, research opportunities, and scholarship information in Japan. Students, faculty members, and others can engage in discussions with Japanese professors and universities about opportunities such as joint supervision, internships, industrial collaboration, and joint proposal writing.

***Dr Kazuhito HASHIMOTO, President, JST congratulated on completion of Phase II project at IITH with JICA support and said “JST has the long history with India. Since 2014 with Sukura Science exchange program JST has inspired many young Indians to visit, out of this 5% have come from IITH, highest number from any institution in India. JST is introducing the new initiative, soon regarding academic exchange programs.***

***He mentioned: India is a young nation, and in contrast Japan is an ageing nation but has strong industrial base particularly in manufacturing sector. I understand that India is eager to enhance the manufacturing capabilities under the Make in India initiative. I am confident that Japan and India entirely complimentary and can build a much stronger partnership. These new initiatives lay foundation for strengthening the tie between our two nations particularly through faculty and student exchange programs, alongside the ongoing efforts of the Japan-India University Forum. I kindly request your continuous support”***

***Mr. Sibi George, Ambassador of India in Japan said “IITH is a shining example in a vibrant link in India-Japan Science and Technology partnership and education partnership. India-Japan has a friendship relationship, built brick by brick. It is a special partnership between two countries regarding political, business and academic relationships. We need to have more exchanges for Science and Technology, and we are going in the right direction. Next year we are celebrating 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of signing first MoU in the field of Science and Technology collaboration, and happy that we are celebrating that India-Japan year of Science and Technology and Innovation. IITH is the***

*main player for our engagement, request each one of you to maintain that relationship in the field of science and technology.”*

**Mr. Ariyoshi Takashi, Chargé d’Affaires ad interim of Japan, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to hold Japan Academic Day at IITH and said** *“This wonderful event will be the start of a new joint research between IITH and Japan, as well as an opportunity for IITH students to studying in Japan. I recognize that one of the barriers to study in Japan is learning Japanese, but there are an increasing number of universities in Japan where you can obtain a degree in English only. In addition, Japanese research institutions have unique and world-leading technology, and there is a great potential for collaboration with IITH”.*

*Highlighting the critical need for international cooperation in addressing global challenges like climate change and infectious diseases, Mr. Ariyoshi noted recent scientific achievements, such as India’s Chandrayaan-3 lunar mission and Japan’s SLIM mission. He underscored the significance of human resource exchange to enhance India-Japan collaboration in science and technology.*

*On this occasion, Mr. Ariyoshi introduced two people-to-people exchange initiatives being undertaken by the Embassy of Japan. First, there is the scholarship for government-sponsored students called “MEXT Scholarship.” The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) provides Scholarships for students who wish to pursue a Masters or Doctoral Degree at a Japanese university.*

*Secondly, the Embassy is currently accepting applications for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program. It invites young people from overseas to contribute to foreign language education and international exchange work at Japanese local governments and educational institutions.*

**Prof BS Murty, Director of IITH presented the research updates at IITH and said** *“IITH has a strong bilateral relationship with Japan since 2008. I am a strong believer that collaborations bring synergy for the mutual growth. Together, we can create wonders. I thank the Japan Embassy and Japanese Universities and organizations for coming forward to enhance collaboration and strengthen ties between IITH and Japan through education and research”.*

Prof. Tarun K. Panda, Dean of International Relations, delivered the welcome address. Dr Chandra Sekhar Murapaka, Faculty in charge of IITH-Japan Cooperation Cell delivered vote of thanks. IITH faculty, students, and staff participated in the program.

**Other guests: Presented the scope of collaborations.**

Special Guest - JICA	Mr. TAKEUCHI Takuro, Chief Representative of JICA India Office
JSPS Guest	Dr. OTANI Yoshio, Director of JSPS Bangkok Office
JASSO Guest	Mr. OTA Takafumi, Deputy Executive Director, Student Exchange Department, Japan Student Services Organization

**List of Universities participating:**

1. Gifu University
2. Hiroshima University
3. Hokkaido University
4. Kanazawa University
5. Kumamoto University
6. Kyoto University
7. Nagoya University
8. Nara Women’s University

9. National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS)
10. Ochanomizu University
11. Shibaura Institute of Technology
12. The University of Tokyo
13. Tokyo City University
14. University of Tsukuba
15. Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) HQ
16. Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) India Liaison Office
17. Japan Society for the promotion of Science (JSPS)
18. Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO)
19. Embassy of Japan in India
20. JICA HQ and JICA India office
21. Mobility and Behaviour Innovation Forum
22. Tech Japan

***The details of events during Japan Month:***

1. 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> August: Japan Career Day
2. 27<sup>th</sup> August: Workshop on 3D Point Cloud and SLAM, organized in collaboration with Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (MELCO)
3. 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024: workshop on Minimal Fab (New Generation of Semiconductor Manufacturing) by Yokogawa
4. 21<sup>st</sup> September: Japan Cultural Day
5. 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024: Renesas Altium PCB design online workshop
6. 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024: Workshop on JEOL Transmission Electron Microscope
7. 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> October: Japan Academic Day

***About Japan Day/Week/Month Background:***

IITH has been conducting “Japan Day” (A Japan Career Event) every year since 2018. In 2023 to enhance the strong bond between Japan and IITH, Japan Day was expanded to Japan Week, where academic and cultural aspects were also introduced.

The 1<sup>st</sup> edition of Japan Week 2023 concluded at IITH with the support of the JICA. Mr. Yasuyuki Nakayama, the first secretary of the embassy of Japan was present to grace the event along with several high-profile representatives from JICA, NEDO, and JST, Japan Foundation, and JETRO. 7 Japanese universities (Hokkaido University, The University of Tokyo, Kyoto University, Gifu University, the International University of Japan, and Ritsumeikan University) and 3 Japanese government organizations (NEDO, JST & JNTO & Japan Foundation) participated in the Academic Day held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Three technical workshops (NIKON, Shimadzu & JEOL), Culture and Tourism Day were organized. Japan Day- Career Fair was conducted where 20 Japanese companies participated. Also, we recently concluded Japan Career Fair Day 2024, on 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> August where 18 companies participated in recruitment. This has been converted into Japan month from this year.

***About Japan Desk and FRIENDSHIP program:***

Japan Desk to become a sustainable platform for academic and industry-university collaboration between India and Japan by providing a one-stop service in academic and industry-university collaboration at IITH.

FRIENDSHIP 2.0 was launched in December 2021 as the second phase of the “Project for Future Researchers at IITH to Enhance Network Development with Scholarship of Japan in the Republic of India (FRIENDSHIP) Project”, which was implemented by the JICA since 2012 to

promote industry-university collaboration between Japan and India. FRIENDSHIP 2.0 aims to build a sustainable platform for academic and industrial collaboration between Japan and India at IITH, and to ensure that the human resources produced from this platform will continuously contribute to the academic and industrial development of both countries. We will also promote Japan-India collaboration from the perspective of Make in India and SDGs (Sustainable Development Goods). As part of this effort, we have established the Japan Desk within IITH as a one-stop contact point for all information related to Japan-India collaboration, including study in Japan and joint research.

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**About IIT Hyderabad:**

IITH, established in 2008, as one of the second Generation IITs, has reached a respectable position in both academics, research, technology development and startups in the short span of 15 years. In the recent Indian National Ranking (NIRF-2024), IITH is placed at 3rd in Innovation and 8th among Engineering institutes in India.

It has 320+ full-time faculty, 5,300+ students (PG + PhD students accounting for about 60%). The institute has a strong research focus with Rs. 1270+ Cr of R&D funding, 11,400+ publications, 310+ Patents, and about 260+ startups (that have generated 1100+ jobs and a revenue of Rs. 1500+ Cr). Follow us on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Koo](#), and [YouTube](#) for the latest updates.

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