Japan - East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths

Second Batch of Students from India

Implementation Reports
(12th May, 2009 – 21st May, 2009)

June, 2009

Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)
Outline of the Second Batch of Students from India

1. Duration of visit in Japan
   From 12th May to 21st May 2009

2. Total number of Indian delegation membership: 80
   Students: 72 (32 Males, 40 Females)
   Supervisors: 8 (8 Teachers)

3. States and union territories the students come from
   21 states, National Capital Territory of Delhi and 2 union territories

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>States/Union territory</th>
<th>No. of students</th>
<th>States/Union territory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assam</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Arunachal Pradesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andhra Pradesh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Uttar Pradesh</td>
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<td>Orissa</td>
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<td>Karnataka</td>
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<td>Gujarat</td>
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<td>Kerala</td>
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<td>Jharkhand</td>
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<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
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<td>Chhattisgarh</td>
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<td>Tripura</td>
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<td>West Bengal</td>
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<td>Haryana</td>
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<td>Punjab</td>
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<td>Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<td>Manipur</td>
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<td>Meghalaya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rajasthan</td>
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<td>Capital Territory of Delhi</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pondicherry</td>
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5. Programme schedule in Japan
   See the next page

6. Visited prefectures in Japan
   Tokyo, Kanagawa, Hokkaido, Iwate, Gifu and Tottori

7. Total number of households participated in the home stay programme
   40 Households
   Hokkaido: 15
   Gifu: 14
   Tottori: 11

8. Total number of schools participated in the exchange programmes
   6 Schools
   Hokkaido: Ritsumeikan Keisho Junior & Senior High School
             Rakuno Gakuen University
   Iwate: Morioka Chuo High School
   Gifu: Ohgaki Higashi High School
   Tottori: Yonago National College of Technology
            Yonago High School
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group Name</th>
<th>HOKKAIDO Group</th>
<th>IWIATE Group</th>
<th>GIFU Group</th>
<th>TOTTORI Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Group Color</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Light Green</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 May, 12 Tue AM</td>
<td>Arrival at Narita Airport</td>
<td>Move to Yokohama</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shin Yokohama Prince Hotel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Program Orientation</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2 May, 13 Wed PM</td>
<td>Tokyo Edo Museum [History] Senso-ji Temple (Asakusa) [Japanese Culture] Diner (Tempura) [Japanese Food]</td>
<td>Lecture: About Japan (by Mr. Sozo Yokoyama, Representative of Hidden Values of Japan)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3 May, 14 Thu AM</td>
<td>Move to Hokkaido by air</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Historical Museum of Hokkaido [History] Courtesy Call on Prefectural Government</td>
<td>Morioka Handy-Works Square “Chapu-Chapu Umako” [Traditional Craftwork]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 May, 15 Fri AM</td>
<td>Lecture: Urban Development featuring brick buildings [Culture]</td>
<td>Sheraton Sapporo Hotel</td>
<td>Morioka Chuo High School [School Visit/Exchange]</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Shinetsu City Ceramic Art Center [Culture] Meet with Host Families</td>
<td>Sheraton Sapporo Hotel</td>
<td>Hotel Higashihirono Moroka</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5 May, 16 Sat AM</td>
<td>Meet with Host Families</td>
<td>Homestay</td>
<td>Hotel Higashihirono Moroka</td>
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<td>PM</td>
<td>Homestay</td>
<td>Homestay</td>
<td>Homestay</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6 May, 17 Sun AM</td>
<td>Homestay</td>
<td>Sheraton Sapporo Hotel</td>
<td>Morioka Chuo Fire Station/Morioka Nishi Fire Station [Social Infrastructure]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Farewell Party</td>
<td>Sheraton Sapporo Hotel</td>
<td>AION Morioka-Mirai Shopping Center [Universal Design/Environment]</td>
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<td>7 May, 18 Mon AM</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Rakuno Gakuin University [Environment]</td>
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<td>PM</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
<td>Sheraton Sapporo Hotel</td>
<td>Hachiman Ta Summit</td>
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<td>Workshop</td>
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<td>Hachiman Ta Visitor Center</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8 May, 19 Tue AM</td>
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<td>TEPIA-The Machine Industry Memorial Foundation [Leading-Edge Technology]</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PM</td>
<td>Workshop Presentation at Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>Yokohama World Porters (Shopping Mall)</td>
<td>TEPIA-The Machine Industry Memorial Foundation [Leading-Edge Technology]</td>
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<td>9 May, 20 Wed AM</td>
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<td>PM</td>
<td>Workshop</td>
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As of May 21, 2009 Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)
Workshop

The outcome of the programme is examined and confirmed by two different means; namely 2 questionnaires (Pre–Programme Questionnaire and Post–Programme Questionnaire) and a workshop.

Workshop

A workshop is conducted at the end of Group Programme in each prefecture. All the students are advised to write down daily findings, and consider what are behind those findings. Reflecting on their experiences, they review their daily findings for the workshop. The workshop starts with a subgroup session, in which the group is divided into 3 subgroups in order to share and discuss their findings with each other. After the subgroup session, the whole group discusses the major points of their findings further, and summarizes them in a workshop report.

There are 3 objectives of the workshop;

1) To encourage the students to recognize the importance of their findings by putting them into words and sharing them with other students of the group;
2) To deepen their understandings by examining the backgrounds, and making comparisons between the two countries;
3) To summarize the results of the discussion in a workshop report.

The summaries of subgroup discussion and the workshop reports are included on the following pages.
Workshop Report

Hokkaido Group

On behalf of all the students participating in the Hokkaido Group of JENESYS Program I would like to extend my heartiest gratitude to Japanese government and JICE for giving us this opportunity to deepen our understanding of Japanese culture, customs and lifestyle.

When we first landed in Tokyo the first thing that struck our mind and left us spellbound was undoubtedly, Japan’s beautiful, serene and lush greenery. No words can describe the natural beauty which Japan harbours. It can only be seen and felt. A major credit for this is the eco-friendly and nature loving attitude of people. We believe this attitude motivates them to inculcate eco-friendly steps like waste categorisation, usage of cycles, electric and Hybrid cars and regular vehicle check every 2 years to check pollution levels and keep environment clean.

A country is said to be made by its people and what we found in Japan was a pool of hardworking, ambitious, futuristic, modern yet traditional citizens. An important thing which we learnt in Japan was that ‘Time is money’ – their punctuality and value for time is something we feel we must inculcate within ourselves for progress of India and the world. We will be ever grateful to our host families and our coordinators for their hospitality and care.

Education—is said to be the light which dispels away the darkness of ignorance and opens the door for progress and development. We found the Japanese government’s compulsory education policy an encouraging step towards ensuring 100% literacy among citizens. The fact that equal importance is given to academics, sports and cultural activities also impressed us a lot.

We believe that international exchange programs like JENESYS conducted by the Japanese government are an excellent platform for exchange of culture and ideas. We were happy to learn similarities between Japanese and Indian academic curriculum and similar level of career consciousness among students of India and Japan.

Japan for long has been known for its cutting edge technological development and we experienced it first hand when we visited TEPIA. An impressive thing was that the technological development and is limited not only to research, governmental and industrial institutions but is also within the reach of common people. High speed Shinkansen, subway system, earthquake resistant building, robotics and technological innovation in agriculture and dairy farming impressed us a lot.
India is at a stage where it is undergoing rapid development and we believe and hope that collaboration between Indian and Japanese government for exchange of technology and ideas will surely help us move towards sustainable growth. In the end I would again like to thank Japanese government for making this program possible and our experience memorable.
Summaries of Subgroup Discussion

Hokkaido Group

Subgroup A
Findings
1) Environment
   People understand the importance of tree plantation and pollution-free environment. This includes some noticeable arrangements like use of gasoline as a fuel and reasonable area of land under plantation. Separation of garbage includes combustible, non combustible and recyclable.
2) Education
   The policy of compulsory education in Japan has contributed to its economic development. Physical education is given equal priority. Special arrangements are done to ensure the equitable usage of resources such as computers, laboratories, etc among students.
3) Technology
   Technology has definitely marked its presence in every field in Japan. Shinkansen, efficient use of electricity, earthquake resistant buildings, robots, high use of machines, and reclamation of land are the examples which reflect the modern form of technology used in Japan.
4) Customs and family life
   The Japanese people are disciplined, formal, punctual, shy, hardworking and hospitable. They like to spend more and more time with their family.

Summary of the Discussion
   We see greenery all around us in Japan. Care is taken to recycle waste products from plastics, metals etc.
   Once a week, physical education classes including soccer, baseball, tennis, etc are commenced. Well-equipped computer labs, science labs, library are made accessible to the students.
   Efficient use of technology can be seen such as escalators, navigators, Shinkansen, robots, etc.
   Though the Japanese people are modernizing, still they retain their culture and traditions. They say *itadakimasu, gochiso-sama, tadaima* to express their feelings.

Conclusion
   Upon arriving in Japan, the first thing that mesmerized us was its peaceful and scintillating environment. The education system of Japan promotes the all round development of students including both studies and extra curricular activities. Japan has made a remarkable progress in technology. The Japanese people are very formal, shy, and introvert but they are excellent at discipline, punctuality, hard work.
**Subgroup B**

**Findings**

1) Environment

2) People and Culture

3) Education system
   Academics+Sports+ECA; High literacy rate; Club activities; Emphasis on all-round development; International study tours for global exposure; More importance for higher education

4) Economy and Technology
   1. Economy: Mixed economy; Service sector dominant; High labour cost 2. Technology: Highly advanced; Use of tech. in education; Automated restrooms; Robotics sector very advanced

**Conclusion**

Japanese people are hardworking, punctual and very intelligent. Flexibility in religion as Japanese are free to follow different aspects from different religions. Equal emphasis is given for simultaneous urbanization and protection and promotion of wildlife.

In short Japan is a beautiful country with extremely good-natured people having a rich culture and an example for every other country.

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**Subgroup C**

**Findings**

1) Japanese People

2) Technology and Environment
   1. Collaboration between Industry and Environment 2. Earthquake resistant buildings 3. Automatic multi floor parking system 4. Accurate weather forecasting 5. 65% forestry compared to Rajasthan (prefecture in India)→13%

3) Economy
   1. 2nd world’s best economy 2. High HDI (Human Dev. Index) 3. High GDP 4. High employment Rate 5. Structural and Regulatory Reforms

4) Educational Environment
Workshop Report

Iwate Group

A) TECHNOLOGY

(I) Maximum Land Utilization
   1) Multi-storied skyscrapers → To accommodate many people in very less available area.

(II) Transportation System
   1) Less crossroads & more flyover → To allow more vehicles to travel with less traffic congestion.
   2) Less Blow of Horn → Very effective traffic control system. Moreover people abide by the rules very much.

(III) Agricultural Advancement
   1) Agricultural activities are machine-oriented → To reduce the dependency on manual labor as well as it is more efficient & fatigue-proof way.
   2) Small greenhouses → As temperature is very less, to attain the adequate or sufficient temperature for crop growth.

(IV) Automated System
   1) Automatic vending machines for telephone calls, in highway checkpoint, in petrol pumps, in parking lots, for beverage cans etc → To reduce the requirement of manpower & to reduce the error percentage & thus it increases efficiency.

B) PEOPLE

(I) Characteristics & Traits
   1) Very kind, polite, helpful, patient → After WW II, they could rebuild themselves on the foundation of human resources. That’s why their eternal soul invoked them to promote peace & security. Many countries had supported them so to pay tribute to them.
   2) Mostly in formal outfits → Most of them are involved in office work as their economy mostly depend on the tertiary sector.

(II) Retention of Their Tradition & Culture
   1) Sports → Even after the influence of western sports like baseball, they still provide utmost attention to their traditional sports like Judo & Kendo → As they have retained their tradition & culture, they have sustained their moral values & virtues.
C) EDUCATION SYSTEM
( I ) System is embedded with the idea of overall development of students
  1) Club activities including sports & cultural activities during the school time → They focus on all-round development of students.

D) HEALTH & HYGIENE
( I ) Clean Environment & Surroundings
  1) Plantation of artificial non-virgin plants on the side of the roads → They concentrate more on cleanliness of surroundings & the climatic conditions also suit the same purpose. These roadside plants hold the loose soil & thus prevent the spread of dust.
( II ) Maintenance of Personal Hygiene
  1) People exchange slippers for different indoor purposes, use of alcohol to wash hands, special smoking zones in public places, wearing of masks → They believe in the fact that maintenance of self hygiene is the major contributor to healthy community.

[CORUCLUSION]
Japan is technologically very advanced yet they have retained their moral values, tradition & culture, thereby heading to become the leader of the world. They give respect to everyone they interact with. That is why they receive the same or even more respect from others. Due to these qualities, Japan is so much progressive.
Summaries of Subgroup Discussion

Iwate Group

Subgroup A
Findings
1) Respect towards own culture & language.
2) Punctuality.
3) Welcome banners in school were written in Hindi.
4) Students actively participate in club activities.
5) Integrated courses in schools.

Summary of the Discussion
1) To sustain them in the society and uplift their society as well as nation.
2) They know and respect the importance of time.
3) Respect towards other language.
4) Students are very much energetic, active and are appreciated by all.
5) To promote independence and all around development of students.

Subgroup B
Findings
1) Traditions & behavior of people.
2) Infrastructure.
3) Health and Hygiene.
4) Education system.

Summary of the Discussion
Though there is western culture in Japan, they are still following their age-old customs & traditions. The people in Japan are very kind, patient and they had faith among themselves. Due to the small area & high population, there are tall buildings. There is well-developed road system due to their technology. Due to their much care in health, the average life span of Japanese people is very high. Japanese children are getting many chances to go abroad & these chances are provided by the school. So they have well-developed education system.

Subgroup C
Findings
1) Environment & Technology.
Summary of the Discussion


2) Culture & Lifestyle & Behavior: 1. Promotion of national language; 2. Well-mannered greeting attitude; 3. High punctuality, polite & helpful nature

Gifu Group

Findings
(Ⅰ)Custom: 1) Edo-Tokyo Museum
2) Asakusa Temple
3) Ikebana
4) Shodo
5) Sado
(Ⅱ)Social: 1) Time Management
2) Work Culture
3) Environmental Concern
(Ⅲ)Technology: 1) Advanced Transportation System
2) Solar Energy Usage
3) Waste Management
4) Automation and Sustainable Development

Summary of the Discussion
(Ⅰ)Custom:
1) Edo-Tokyo Museum: It is an epitome/symbol of Japanese history and culture. We observed about the lifestyle of the people in Edo period.
2) Asakusa is Tokyo’s gastronomic, artistic and sensual playground. We observed the preservation of ancient tradition and architecture.
3) Ikebana is the disciplined art of flower arrangement. It was an opportunity to bring nature and humanity together.
4) Shodo is the Japanese artistic writing. It is done with brush and ink.
5) Sado is the tea ceremony
(Ⅱ)Social:
1) Very punctual in all respects
2) Work is worship for Japanese
3) Great concern for the nature
(Ⅲ)Technology:
1) The advanced transportation system like Shinkansen, eco-friendly buses, etc. contribute to the development of Japan.
2) The use of non-renewable energy is minimized by using solar energy by efficient ways.
3) The Gojogawa incineration plant is a milestone in the field of environment protection.
4) JIT and SPS gave us a new light for sustainable development.
Summaries of Subgroup Discussion

Gifu Group

Subgroup A
Findings
1) Cleanliness
2) Eco-friendly systems
3) Social structure
4) Transportation System
5) Punctuality and politeness of people
6) Preservation and transmission of culture through club activities

Summary of the Discussion
Perfect cleanliness is maintained everywhere through waste management and proper sanitation. People are very conscious about environment protection. Non renewable energy sources are conserved by using solar energy. Vehicles with silencers help prevent noise and air pollution. Plantation over vast area shows the concern of people for environment. Social hierarchy and strong family bond are the two main aspect of healthy Japanese society. Well-connected and advanced transportation system like Shinkansen, high speed, eco-friendly buses and other vehicles and smooth traffic system help us a glance at the advanced technology. Punctuality, hard-work, honesty and politeness are the most important aspects of Japanese people. Japanese schools provide ample scope to each and every individual for their all-round development and preserve culture and tradition through club activities.

Subgroup B
Findings
1) Moral Qualities: The people are very systematic, punctual, hard-working, educated, active and very curious to know new things. All these qualities make them very future rejoicing.
2) Home-stay experience: Japanese people are very helpful, cooperative and friendly with all and it makes them very affectionate. They have religious values and they are superstitious.
3) Science & Technology: Japan is very developed that is having advanced technology yet environment friendly. Japanese believe in sustainable development. Japan is concerned for not only its people but also world development.
Summary of the Discussion
In ten days visit in Japan we find that Japanese have very high time values that they do not waste their single second. They are very systematic that can be seen in their houses as well as schools. For example have different slippers for going everywhere. Also one thing that makes Japan different from other countries is that people are very polite and friendly with even those people who meet them first time. Also people respect their history very much which we come to know when youngsters says that Samurai were cool. Also we think that Japan is going to have a sun-shining future because its incineration plant, automobile industry etc. proves that it believes in sustainable development and its universal truth that sustainable development is future development.

Subgroup C
Findings
2) Social: Time management
3) Technology: Public utilities

Summary of the Discussion
During our stay in Japan we have found that Japanese people have preserved their old customs like tea ceremony, chopsticks, taking off slippers and they are very conservative in their Japanese language. Japanese people follow a same religion i.e. religion of time, they are very concerned about time and they are always punctual. The public utilities are very good. People (citizens) also take care of these utilities and that it is their own and Shinkansen is awesome.
A very good afternoon to all the dignitaries, teachers and students: 

On behalf of JENESYS group (Tottori), I would like to present the views of the students on Japan as discussed during the two workshops.

On visiting Japan for the very first time, we discovered an island nation, geographically small but culturally vast. It is one of the most developed countries of the world and its wide-ranging influence in the world community is commendable.

The foundation of its success lies in its people. The atrocities of war and devastation that had ebbed away an entire human race during 1945, has today risen from its ashes into a highly developed society. The world today is at the verge of another cold war, the race for accumulation of arms and ammunition by countries have gripped the masses with fear and the shadow of a third world war looms large over our head. Humanity has lost its path, but countries such as Japan and India continues to regard peace as the path to development and are working towards expanding solidarity among amidst countries through exchange programmes such as this.

Buddhism has strongly found the people of Japan in peace and harmony. The hard working, hospitable, punctual Japanese have touched our hearts a million times over and we have tried to incorporate such qualities in our behaviour. I believe India’s vast diversity could use the bond of unity exhibited in this land.

Based on respect, gratitude and merry making, the colourful Japanese culture is unique in all respects. ‘Sado’ the Japanese tea ceremony exhibits people’s respect for their guest. The aura of green tea along with sweets heartily welcomes guest from all lands. Judo, Karate, Sumo are integral base of Japanese physical and mental well being. English holds its peace of importance in the international arena, but Japanese people hold their language dear to their heart.

Japan is a believer of sustainable development. It believes that it is the responsibility of its people to preserve its resources for the future generation.
Today the world is at the verge of its doom, until and unless we conserve the limited resources available to us, our future generation will have less and less opportunity to develop. Efficient waste disposal methods, use of renewable sources of energy such as wind, water, reduction, reusing, recycling, etc needs to be prioritized at this hour of concern, the ‘Kyoto Protocol’ and initiative of the Japanese government to reduce CO2 emissions by the next decade has been supported and appreciated by countries such as India and China.

Advanced technology and infrastructure has enabled Japan to secure a high platform in the international arena. Efficient transportation and communication facilities support island nation and is prone to storms, earthquakes and tsunamis, disasters management steps have been given vital importance to save the lives of one and all. Potable Japanese water, services rendered to the old and disabled are gripping realities unlike in our country.

We are taking back with ourselves the aspiration of peace and unity, organization and discipline and the warmth of the people. As our father of the nation has said and I quote, “I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the cultures of all the lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any. I refuse to live in other people’s houses as an interloper, a beggar or a slave”.

Summaries of Subgroup Discussion

Tottori Group

Subgroup A
Findings
1) People: behaviour, punctuality, traffic rules, all round development, technology and industry, expensive man power, hard working.
2) Culture: Culture maintenance, food (Itadakimasu), Sumo, Karate, Judo, expressions of good feelings.
3) Environment: Pollution control (Yonago city clean center), maintenance of cleanliness, sustainable development, water conservation

Summary of the Discussion
People: People are very hard-working and committed towards their works. They behave politely with everyone make punctuality in real life as well. They make their students come to the tracks of all round development. Good in field of technology and industry.
Culture: They are having a rich and traditional culture, luckily. We got to experience the one of the traditional dances, named Zenidaiko wearing kimonos and having foods like sushi joining judo, karate, etc also reflect the richness of their culture. They believe alcohol purifies their soul that proves they have good sense of findings.
Environment: They use eco-friendly fuels that don’t cause pollution/ they refine the waste and get raw material from them. They use natural resources properly, keeping, the future generation in head. They follow the way of sustainable development, they don’t waste water and they do the need falls in the building infrastructure so that they don’t fall easily even if the earthquake occurs.

Subgroup B
Findings
1) Student life: 1.Interaction; 2. Co-curricular activities; 3. Diverse subjects; 4. School infrastructure
3) Sustainable Development

Summary of the Discussion
Student life: Schools in Japan offer integrated studies, a wide range of subjects is available to the student to choose from. The main focus of the school is on learning through personal interest and co-curricular activities. Its infrastructure enables them to acquire knowledge in wide range of subjects.
People: Japan and its people are the epitome of tenderness and hospitality. One feels as home on being invited to the host families. Love and respect tells the aura of the beautiful wooden houses. They believe in the spirits who look down upon them and unify them in a single bond.

Sustainable development: Japan believes in sustainable development. It is the priority of its people to preserve resources available today for the future generation. Recycling of used materials, alternate use of goods, and afforestation of efficient–waste disposable system carried out by institutions such as Yonago clean centre has reduced the risk of diseases and pollution. Cheap raw materials derived from recycling have been used in industries. An initiative of Japan named as Kyoto Protocol has been introduced to reduce rate of CO2 which is also supported in India.

Subgroup C

Findings

1) People are very diligent, eco–friendly, committed, creative, inquisitive, disciplined, punctual, and broad–minded. (Reason: It is in their nature to be polite and soft spoken, god–fearing people)

2) Japanese culture is very rich and varied. Its history is very vast. Its culture; like Sado, Kado, dance like “Kasaodori” and “Zeni daiko” is enjoyed by all. Food is also very tasty.

3) Japan’s infrastructure is well developed and ahead. It has GPS in almost all vehicles, ETC is developed. Advanced waste treatment and recycling. Separate smoking area for smokers. (Reason: Japanese work 24×7, are very punctual and committed)

4) Japan’s beauty is a treat to the eyes. Its natural beauty is well appreciated by all. At the same time, Japan is technologically ahead & developed. (Reason: People of Japan are its most important natural resource).

Summary of the Discussion

Japan is also known as the “Land of the Rising Sun”. Just like the rising sun, the people of this beautiful place too have risen to great heights of success. In spite of being one of the places which is not abundant in natural resources, Japan’s greatest asset is its people who are very diligent and committed. That is why Japan’s infrastructure is well developed and Japan is technologically ahead of all other countries. Japan has a beautiful contrast. Along with natural scenic beauty it also has tall, high–rise buildings. Three cheers to the hardworking Japanese who have inspired us to achieve the impossible!
Firstly I want to thank Japanese government & JICE to start JENESYS programme. I was amazed to know that Japanese government will invite 30,000 students from EAS countries only to build a solid foundation between countries for betterment of people. When I first knew the purpose of this programme, I cannot understand how it will help to build a solid foundation between countries. But after experiencing Japanese culture, lifestyle, tradition, technology, conduct, we realized the real Japan & convictions of Japanese people. It will surely help to create a great understanding between the two mighty countries.
The thing which impressed me very much was the warmhearted welcome of Japanese families. Before experiencing the tour I don’t want to experience a home stay. But now I want that the time of home stay should be increased.
Secondly we visited TEPIA where the advanced technology amazed us. But the time was too short, so we cannot see all the gadgets.
Thirdly the behavior & nature of our coordinators & JICE staff were very helpful. They solve all our grievances & problems. That really makes a good impression in my mind about Japan & Japanese people.
Overall it was a wonderful experience which will surely help to strengthen the relationship of both countries. I am looking forward that Japanese government will introduce some more programmes like JENESYS in future and we can experience Japan & Japanese people by participating them.

JENESYS program is a stupendous programme.
It has given people like me from middle-class background to travel in a luxurious way that we only dreamt of. Every stage of it was conducted so smoothly that we didn’t have to take any pain.
On reaching the picturesque landscape, we realized how hospitable Japanese are. Our coordinators cared for us in such a busy schedule as if they are our parents in an alien land.
Home stay itself was a great experience. It is an irreplaceable part of the program.
which is the best way for cultural exchange.
At last we all are impressed with the advancing technology but still caring for the nature, the high intellect of people having a humble heart.
In short, Japan is a second home for me.

This JENESYS programme was a very excellent experience. Our supervisors were very nice. Coordinators were very helpful and always ready to explain anything we questioned. There was no problem at all. Learning about Tokyo history was very helpful in shaping our view. Through the school visit, we could know how Japanese students of our generation think and act.
Home stay was the most wonderful part of our tour. Earlier we thought of Japanese as mechanical and unfriendly. But now we know they are very polite, gentle, friendly, generous, kind, and are ready to help. It was a very nice experience. I hope this programme will act as a building block of people between the two countries, Japan and India.

I learnt many things during this programme. I liked the cleanliness, sincerity, hospitality and honesty of the people. These qualities have made this country great.
A nation which can stand on its own means, a nation which is against nuclear weapons, a nation which loves Mahatoma Buddha who had preached the principles of Ahinsa is bound to prosper. I have fallen in love with this nation though I love my own country the most.
Finally, I hope this JENESYS programme will certainly enrich Indo–Japanese relations in future. I expect the best for this nation and for my nation. Thanking to our loving coordinators.

JENESYS programme is a wonderful programme which brings the cordial relationship between India and Japan. We can exchange the feelings, cultures, traditions, advanced technologies between two countries. I think it is more fruitful in future. I like Japan, a beautiful country and the Japanese very much because they are polite, punctual, hardworking, sincere and understanding the time sense. I express my sincere gratitude to the government of Japan for conducting such type of programmes. I hope the other countries will also follow the same as Japan. This programme brings lawrence to the country, which makes to stand No.1 country in the world. I pray the government of Japan, if there is any chance, please give me so that I will spend my whole like in Japan only. At last I thank the JICE people, coordinators who are working hard, taking
pain in making us a good stay in Japan. If you are kind enough, we will meet you once again in Japan... Hoping...
Arigato Gozaimasu... Arigato Gozaimasu...

~Iwate Group~

It is a great experience for me. The technology used here totally impressed me. The polite nature, patience, health care, kindness and whatnot, everything impressed me a lot.
The people here are following the path of non-violence & peace. Their hospitality towards us has melted our hearts. They provided us facilities with no discomforts. The greenery in the cities & tall buildings & wonderful sceneries totally got printed in my heart.
At last but not least, these 10 days are golden days in my life.

Japan is a tremendously beautiful, pollution-free and technologically developed country. My experience in Japan was undoubtedly glorious and I won’t forget my first foreign visit to a country like Japan. I would like to convey my gratitude to JICE for undertaking programmes like JENESYS and allowing all of us to not only officially but also emotionally attaching us to Japan, its rich culture and its people.
It feels crying and heart-breaking during school farewell party. In fact I am still crying and I’m in a dilemma whether I would be able to meet my friends and teachers in Japan again. I convey my gratitude and best wishes to JICE again...

I will never be able to forget Japanese people due to their kind, polite, helpful and cheerful nature. I had thought that I will feel highly catastrophic in Japan when I came to know that Japanese are not well accustomed with English. But after coming here, I realized that where there is an intimacy of hearts, language barrier is no hindrance. I was startled to see the natural beauty of Koiwai farm, Mt. Hachimantai, Mt. Iwate. The technology at TEPIA amused me. Architecture and transportation system of Japan is highly planned with maximum land utilization. I would like to specify some people whom I’ll never forget after meeting them in the tour. My coordinators were just like my own elder sisters and were so caring. I lost my passport which was recovered by them and our driver. I am so very grateful to them.
Next and lastly I would like to specify my very dearest Japanese friend. She was so caring and friendly that I didn’t miss any of my friends in India. At last I’d say that Japan, its people, culture and traditions are just awesome—hats off to them.

The JENESYS Programme has been very helpful for me in understanding about Japanese people’s life style and their culture. I impressed very much after knowing about Japanese robotic technology and some extra new technological items in TEPIA. I impressed very much by them and also I am trying to create such after going to my country. I felt very good due to here’s people’s helpful nature and kind hearted. After going to my country I will try to know more about engineering technical items. I want to give an opinion to Japanese people and to their institutes and educational centres/school that they have to know more English language and teach more English because it is international language. I felt some difficult to know about Japanese people due to less understanding of English.
But after all I enjoyed too much this tour and this is my first tour for foreign and it is a life lasting experience for me.
I want to say a lot of thanks to JICE to give me opportunity to come here and make me able to improve my wide view and experience as well as knowledge.

JENESYS Programme has been very helpful for me in understanding the Japanese people and their life as a whole. It has created my thinking about Japan. I would really miss the people with whom I interacted, be it the officials or the general people. Only because of this programme I could experience the cleanliness, punctuality and honesty of the Japanese and I hope others will also get a chance to Japan at least once.
Finally I would like to thank those people who selected me for this wonderful programme.
I would like to express my good wishes for Japan and Japanese people.

~Gifu Group~

This programme helps me to widen my knowledge and outlook and this will help me in future.
The programme was so nice and gave us opportunity to understand the Japanese lifestyle.

Only through this programme, we came to know how develop is Japan i.e. where our imagination can not reach, Japanese are already there.
From home stay, we came to know how cheerful, kind, polite, lovingly, and hospitable the Japanese people are!

I have very good experience in this youth exchange programme. I have learned so many things about Japan as Japanese lifestyle and Japanese culture and history. My knowledge now became very rich about Japan and their technology.
So, I am very thankful to JICE for arranging this JENESYS youth exchange programme and enabling us to see all these new things selected to Japan. Because of this programme, we are able to get so much experience about Japanese people and their culture. Also we are able to make relationship with Japanese family.
I request JICE to arrange this programme for the 3rd batch, too. And at last I want to say this programme was marvelous.

I thanked to Japan Government to operate such a nice programme for youths and students. Youths and students are future of any country. By this exchange programme, we were able to know what to do for betterment of our country as well as for the world. I think this programme will give a very sweet fruit for whole world in the future and would play an important role in making world free of different problems and advance and good. This programme widens knowledge and experience of students exchanged which spread this knowledge and experience by their report, making all people aware to do better for betterment of the world. A lot of thanks to Japanese Government and JICE staff.

The programme of JENESYS went very smoothly. Through this programme, we learned many new things. The visit to Edo–Tokyo museum was great. We also come to know the cutting–edge technology of Japan. The experience of school visit was indeed wonderful. But there were some problems on language communication. The art of calligraphy we learned at school visit was very nice. The experience at home stay has no words to explain. The host family treated us as their family members. They were eager to know the culture and tradition of India. They took a great care in terms of eating meal, going to shop and sleeping. More precisely, the coordinators of JICE staff help us a lot in our stay. They always lend a hand in our
problems. I wish I could stay in Japan for more days.

This programme was a great opportunity to explore the advancement and rich culture of Japan. Through this programme, I learned a great deal of information about Japan and its people. I also interacted with the Japanese students at the school. Though language was a bit problem, but later it became much easier. The home stay was also quite interesting. The residents seemed to be my own family. I was also surprised by the honesty, loyalty, politeness, kindness, gentleness, and hard-work spirit of the Japanese. The traffic here is very smooth. I have not heard a horn! The countryside area is also very beautiful. I think that my visit will help me a lot in my contribution to my country. Simply I enjoyed my tour.

~Tottori Group~

Visiting the “Land of the Rising Sun”—Japan has been a truly memorable experience for us and there are many qualities we’d love to take back to India. J→Joyful, A→Amazing, P→Positive, A→Adorable, and N→Nostalgic that makes Japan. Just like the rising sun, Japan too has risen to great heights of success and glory. The reason, yes, indeed, is its diligent people. As they say “A nation is made of its people”. Japan is like a honeycomb made of “sweet”. Japanese people, who just like the honeybees, work day and night for the progress of the nation. So, we did learn that “hard work” is the key to the golden gate of success. The father of our nation, Gandhiji correctly quoted, “Ahimsa (non-violence) leads to success”. The peace loving, gentle & polite attitude of Japanese people is commendable. As the world today is on the verge of a third world war, peace & non-violence play a key role. The future generation should adopt these two principles so as to ensure peace and harmony on Earth. Pollution is like a dark demon lurking on Earth ready to attack with its three arrows of air, water & land. We appreciate the eco-friendly attitude of people and initiatives taken by them to kill this demon. “Change” is one of the ingredients of development. Japanese are broad-minded and contemporary in thought. But still maintain their culture and past. Like the renowned historian Petriach once said, “Walk ahead in the pure radiance of the past, we too should learn to respect our culture as well as that of any other country”.
Japan is a beautiful country. Its people are so warm-hearted that even we Indians feel at home here in Japan. Its technologies are years ahead & their culture is unique. I have enjoyed my stay in Japan to the fullest & I wish to come back to Japan for sight-seeing. But most importantly, I will come back to Japan for opening business, as Japanese people have good business sense, are smart & they are hard-working. But I will definitely come back to this beautiful country. Back in India, I can proudly say that I’ve made international friends!!

I didn’t find common animals like goat, cow, elephant⋅⋅⋅etc, couldn’t find any birds. I found dogs as only pets.

I belong to the north-eastern state of Assam, surrounded by international boundaries and numerous indigenous tribes, the vast diversity has often brought unrest to this area, through my experience in Japan I have learned that if people learn to respect each other’s society, then humanity will survive in peace.

I would tell my experiences/knowledge to my family, friends, teachers & general people & I am gonna follow the experience of as we know that “one drop of water makes the mighty ocean”.

Comments from Japanese Students

(The following is the extract of comments from Japanese students.)

“Calligraphy with Indian Students”
I enjoyed the class of Calligraphy with Indian high school students very much! Although I was nervous for fear that I cannot communicate well in English, I found it is easier to communicate than expected because Indian girl had a seat next to me and talked to me very friendly. I was glad when she wrote my name in the Hindi. Letters in the Hindi are connected with a line on the top and have mysterious shape. However, interestingly, the other way around, Kanji should seems quite mysterious for Indian people. Through the Exchange Programme, it was most impressive that we wrote each others’ name in each others’ language and shared such a memory!

(Ritsumeikan Keisho Junior & High School)

My first meeting with Indian students gave me the impression that they are “present-day children” more than I had thought. Though I have met many foreigners from a variety of countries, I had the image of “far country” for India and some different way to see it. However, while we spend time together as baddies, I found that they are totally different from the ones I had imagined, e.g. their daily use of mobile phone, fluency in English and high interest and wide knowledge about Japan. Moreover, the cameras with film used by most of them are similar to the ones used in Japan in the past, and this gave me the thought that India will be developed more and more in the future. I am looking forward to see how the relationship between Japan and India will go forward, and appreciate such an opportunity was given to me.

(Morioka Chuo High School)

“My Another Sister”
I have wished that I could speak English well, I could have foreign friends and make good memories with them. Then I participated in this Home stay programme which is rare opportunity for me. When I met the Indian student who stayed with us on the first day, I tried to introduce myself as her host family, but I could not do it very well. Fortunately she found that I am her host family during my trial to explain. Although I can tell what I want to tell in English, I could not catch her heavily-accented English, even plain words, which is different from English we hear in English class. Our strained conversation made me sad and built up my anxiety that she might not be able to spend enjoyable 3 days with me and she should feel better in staying with students who speak good English. However, while we have dinner and talk together, I came to know that
she came from Orissa, where Taj Mahal is, temperature in Summer could be 43 ℃ in India and what kind of place she lives. I started to feel she is very pretty like me another sister. We visited the aquarium. In India there is not aquarium so that she was pleased very much. She has learned about 20 Japanese words and we tried to use those for fishes there. At night, when she was writing something, she burst into tears saying that she wanted to bring us to India together (Later it was turned out that she wrote a letter for us.) I tried not to cry because it will make me sad, but I cried. I will never forget the “Song for Beloved Person” she sang in the farewell party. I am going to keep in touch with her through letter and looking forward that she will visit us again as a diplomat.

(Ohgaki Higashi High School)

“Through the Exchange Programme with Indian Students”
Through the Exchange Programme with Indian high school students, I leant that eagerness to try to try to convey my feeling is more important than using beautiful words and expressions for successful communication. Although I studied English and prepared in advance, in fact, I could not talk with them as practiced because I was nervous. However, making my best efforts, surprisingly I could make them understood myself just with easy words and gestures. In the future, I will have many opportunities to communicate with foreigners in social life, and in such situations I can utilize this experience. I would like to actively mingle with the foreigners and enrich myself with such experiences. Also, I appreciate all concerned who gave me this wonderful opportunity.

(Yonago National College of Technology)

“After Interact with Indian Students”
Interaction with Indian students provided me with meaningful time. I felt very glad when my rudimentary English was understood by them. They did not buy many souvenirs because the souvenirs they buy in India are very cheap and the ones in Japan is very expensive for them. Through the programme I found such small facts about India. After we finished the last part of the school exchange programme, my partner started to cry. Watching him crying, I thought the programme was meaningful and want to have it again.

(Yonago High School)
He was such a great spokesperson as well as a real goodwill ambassador. He knew well about his own country and was eager to learn about ours. His intellectual curiosity must be the origin of his energy.

We are happy to know about India, the country about which he spoke. Just like we are now in love with his country, we hope he found a lot of good things about ours.

We were also impressed by his well-manners. Especially at the farewell party, his escort and his introduction to supervisors, staff and friends was so sophisticated that my children of about the same age could never follow his example. We are sure a youth like him will lead and create future India. Although our assistance and involvement was limited, we are grateful from the heart to be able to have met youths full of promises. Thank you very much for this wonderful opportunity. (Hokkaido Group)

Our image to India was improved through communication with Indian youths. Our children also enjoyed the time together experiencing the cultural differences from our own. We assume they are able to have some confidence in communication in English. At the departure, we were touched by their showing of respect to us by touching our tips of toes, which is an Indian custom. (Hokkaido Group)

We were wondering what we could do to make the home staying youths happy and asked them. Their answer was that they would like to see our usual life by taking them to where we usually go. Although only a day, we realized significance of home stay. We had a wonderful time listening to how the education or culture is like in India. (Hokkaido Group)

Through pre-research about India and communication with the youths, we were able to deepen our understanding and interests in India. Contrary to our concerns about foods restrictions, they ate well anything other than beef, pork and things raw, as they were not strict vegetarians. They even tried eating black soybeans or seaweeds that are not familiar to them. The best among all was fried potatoes, the all-the-time favorite all over the world! (Tottori Group)

It is very meaningful that children come to have interests toward the country, language or culture by meeting with foreigners. We asked the youths to cook themselves whatever they can eat, and my daughter carefully took note of it. Although it was too short for us to become intimate, there was a lot to learn. (Tottori Group)

It was regrettable that we did not share the language but we believe we could make our
feelings understood. India was a far country before, but now it feels much familiar. There were many differences which were hard to imagine for Japanese, but it was a great chance at the same time to review our own culture. (Tottori Group)

The youth took care of our two children very well. The elder daughter was first too shy to hold hands and ran away when he came near, but gradually she got attached to him. After all, she began crying at the farewell party not wanting to say goodbye to him. It was a wonderful three day. We all are very happy to have experienced things we cannot really do in our daily life. (Gifu Group)

I have never received any people before although I sent my children to host families abroad. Although different countries, I could now realize how grateful it was to have receiving families. We are happy not just because being able to broaden our eyes to Indian cultures, but also because our children, who are not so active and communicative, made efforts in communicating with Indian friends hardly as being passive did not make any sense this time. (Gifu Group)

We were impressed by her question about Japanese religion admiring both gods and Buddha and her understanding about Japanese by our answers, although we were first careful not to bring up topics such as religions. Our host family experience this time was exciting to us, who tend to see America and Europe. We are very much willing to be host family again so that we can learn various values from those of a lot of countries. (Gifu Group)
Press Coverage

- Hokkaido
  - 【News paper】 Hokkaido Shimbun Press (19th of May, 2009)
    “Indian Students Interested in Dairying Facility”

- Iwate
  - 【New paper】 Iwate Nippo (16th of May, 2009)
    “Indian Students Wish to Learn Japanese Culture”
  - 【TV】 NHK Morioka (Local News Programme on 15th of May, 2009)

- Gifu
  - 【News paper】 Chunichi Shimbun (15th of May, 2009)
    “Japanese Diligence is an example to Indian Students”
  - Yomiuri Shimbun (15th of May, 2009)
    “Students from India Visit to Ogaki”
  - Gifu Shimbun (16th of May, 2009)
    “Indian Students Sing in Chorus”
  - Chunichi Shimbun (16th of May, 2009)
    “Cultural Exchange through Calligraphy”

- Tottori
  - 【News paper】 Nihonkai Shimbun (15th of May, 2009)
    “Indian Students Impressed by Robot Making”
  - San-in Chuo Shimpo (15th of May, 2009)
    “Indian Students Observe Classes with a Keen Interest”
  - 【TV】 Chukai Cable TV (Local News Programme 14th of May, 2009)
    Title: “Students Visit from India”
    Also, a feature story on Indian students by Nihonkai Telecasting
General Programme

Lecture on Japanese Culture

Asakusa

TEPIA

Workshop Report Presentation

Performance at Farewell Dinner

Departure for India
Group Programme

Hokkaido-Museum of History

Hokkaido-Calligraphy at High School

Hokkaido-School Visit

Iwate-School Visit

Koiwai Farm with High School Students

Iwate-Mt. Hachimantai