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Quality Management
Dr. Hitoshi KUME

Jointly organized by
THE AOTS ALUMNI SOCIETY DELHI
THE FEDERATION OF AOTS ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION INDIA (FAAAI)



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A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India



Dear Friends,

"The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking."

- Albert Einstein

and what better time to create new orders than that when we herald Spring.

I have a real appreciation for the beginning of Spring. I love the sweet smell in the air, the sounds of the birds, and the hints of warm summer to come. It is indeed a time of rebirth, of new beginnings. The business world has also woken up from its winter grind with opportunities sprouting right and left.

We began the year by working in coordination with the Waku Waku club to re energise our teachers through a Japanese Language Teachers Workshop and hosting the Kyouan competition conducted by them.

26th January marked not only our Republic day celebrations but also the 55th anniversary celebrations of HIDA at New Delhi in which our members participated. In continuation to the One Day Seminar on Best TPM & 5S Practices at Breeze Hotel in the month of January, a WNF Program on Concepts & Practices of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) was conducted in our centre.

In yet another gesture reflecting our passion towards language learning our teachers volunteered to be a part of and extend Japanese Language support to Speech Therapy Experts during the Laryngectomy Seminar held at the Government Museum.

No I quarter Issue of Nihon Mon would be complete without talking about 'Hinamatsuri'. And by drawing a parallel to our very own Navarathri celebrations the deep-rooted Indo Japan relationship is only strengthened further. AOTS, Chennai will play host once again with pride to the Japan Cultural Festival Exhibition on Japanese Dolls, Origami, Bonsai, in coordination with The Consulate General of Japan, & The Japan Foundation in the last week of March.

A little thought, to quote from 'Managing Across Cultures' to ponder over...

"The embracing of culture in all its diversity 'as a resource rather than a threat' is essential for responding to the demands of a global market economy, for reaping the full benefit of cross-border alliances, and for enhancing organizational learning."

Harikumar B



Japanese Language Teachers Workshop in coordination with Waku Waku club at our centre

--- 4 & 11 January 2014 ---



Japanese Language Teachers training program in progress
conducted by Ms. Yumi Watanabe from Japan Foundation



Group photo taken during the Japanese Language Teachers
training program

Japanese Support Services

Translation & Interpretation:

Most of the major Japanese companies in and around Tamilnadu are utilizing our Japanese language expertise for Translation and Interpretation services.

One Day Seminar on Best TPM & 5S Practices

--- 11 January 2014 ---

ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre, AOTS Alumni 5S Forum of India & Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry (TACNITI) conducted the **One Day Seminar on TPM & 5S Practices** at The Hotel Breeze, Chennai on 11 January 2014.

Mr. Hidehiro Ishiura, Director General, JETRO, Chennai inaugurated the Seminar on 11 January 2014 at 9.15 a.m. The seminar was attended by more than 200 delegates from Tiny, Small, Medium & Large Scale Industries.



Mr. Hidehiro Ishiura, Director General JETRO, Chennai lighting
the kuthuvilaku during the Inaugural Ceremony



Section of delegates during the One Day Seminar on TPM & 5S
Practices

Award Giving Ceremony of 12th ABK AOTS – CUMI 5S Competition, 10th ABK – AOTS CDISSIA 5S Competition, 7th ABK – AOTS PSK 5S Competition for Textile Related Industry & 10th Annual Award for Good TPM Practices was held on 11 January 2014 between 4.30pm ~5.30 p.m.

His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai was the Chief Guest and distributed the prizes along with Mr. K. Srinivasan, Managing Director, Carborundum Universal Limited, Chennai, & Mr. PSK . Periyasamy, Chairman, PSK Group, Namakkal, presented as a special guest.



Chief Guest His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai addressing the audience during the One Day Seminar on TPM & 5S Practices



His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai distributed the prizes to the winners



Group Photo taken with His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai during the Prize Awarding ceremony



Kyouan Competition conducted by WAKU WAKU Club

--- 18 & 19 January 2014 ---

Nihongo Gakko (Japanese Language School) of our centre and Waku Waku Club jointly organized the Kyouan (way of teaching method) competition to our Japanese Language Teachers on 18 & 19 January 2014 at our centre



Ms. Yumi Watanabe, Japan Foundation, explain the Kyouan (way of teaching method) to our Japanese Language Teachers



Mr. Akira Hatayama, explaining the Kyouan (way of teaching method) to our Japanese Language Teachers



Group Photo taken during the Kyouan Competition

All India MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest

--- 11 January 2014 ---

The following were the winners of our centre in the MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest Southern region held at our centre on 23 November 2013

Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy – Junior Category
Mr. G. Parthasarathi – Junior Category
Ms. Monika Natarajan – Senior Category

The above participated in the All India Japanese Language Speech contest held at Newdelhi on 11 January 2014 in Junior Category and Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy won first prize in Junior Category and was selected to participate in the **SAFJUAA Japanese Speech Contest and SAFJUAA Meeting on 21 March, CIRDAP, Dhaka** and Ms. Monika Natarajan won second prize in senior category.

Members, Teachers & Staff of ABK – AOTS DOOSKAI, Tamilnadu Centre congratulated Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy for winning First Prize in the South Asian Japanese Language Speech Contest held in Bangladesh on 21 March 2014.



All India MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest winners Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy & Ms. Monika Natarajan along with prizes

Participation in the 55th Anniversary Seminar of HIDA

--- 26 January 2014 ---

HIDA and Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI) organized the 55th Anniversary Seminar of HIDA to celebrate the Strengthen mutual cooperation between AOTS Alumni Societies in India and HIDA on 26 January 2014 at Newdelhi followed by the Seminar on Quality Management in India by

Dr. Hiroshi Kume, Professor Emeritus, The University of Tokyo.

Honorable Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe, was the Chief Guest in the 55th Anniversary Seminar



Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre welcome the Honorable Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe



Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre along with Honorable Prime Minister of Japan Mr. Shinzo Abe

WNF Program on Concepts & Practices of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM)

--- 2 to 7 February 2014 ---

WNF program on Study Tour to Chennai, India for Conceptual Understanding of TPM and visits to TPM implementing and JIPM certified factories were organized by ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre. This event was conducted from 3 to 7 February 2014 at Chennai. 9 participants from AOTS Alumni Society, Egypt attended this program.

The objectives of the program were;-

- To understand the TPM practices in the World Class companies

- To update the knowledge on TPM
- The Methodology of the training course comprised of
- Visits to Best-in-Class companies in and around Chennai

The participants arrived on 2nd February 2014 and after checking into the hotel, a brief presentation was made to explain the administrative procedure of the program. In the evening, reception dinner was hosted at ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre with the Executive Committee Members.

Visits were undertaken to the following world class companies in Chennai

1. M/s. Carborundum Universal Ltd, Chennai
2. M/s. Brakes India Limited, Padi, Chennai
3. M/s. Lucas TVS Limited , Padi Chennai
4. M/s. Tacle Automotive India Pvt. Ltd , Orgadam, Chennai
5. M/s. Delphi-TVS Diesel Systems , Orgadam, Chennai
6. M/s. Rane (Madras) Limited, Pondicherry

The delegates were able to get a clear picture of TPM and implementation steps.

The Valedictory Ceremony was conducted on 7th February 2014 The Chief Guest Dr. N. Ravichandran, Chief Executive Officer, Lucas TVS Limited, Padi, Chennai distributed the certificates to all the participants. Some of the participants of the program spoke about the usefulness of the program which made them to gain knowledge on the TPM in the industries. The Valedictory Ceremony was followed by Dinner with Executive Members.

This program under WNF activity gave a unique opportunity to the participants from the developing countries to come close to gain knowledge from each other and promote friendship and cooperation for mutual benefit to each other.



Group photo taken during factory visit to Carborundum Universal Ltd by WNF Program on Concepts & Practices of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM)



Group photo taken during the WNF Program on Concepts & Practices of Total Productive Maintenance (TPM)

Voluntary Japanese Language Support to Speech Therapy Experts during the Laryngectomy Seminar

--- 2 to 7 February 2014 ---

As part of our Social Responsibility we provided voluntary Japanese Language support services to the Laryngectomy Patients who attended the 5th Esophageal speech Therapy Workshop organized by Cancer Research & Relief Trust (CRRT) that was held at the ICSA Program Centre, Egmore from 2 to 7 February 2014



5th Esophageal speech Therapy Workshop in progress



5th Esophageal speech Therapy Workshop – section of participants



Group photo taken along with the doctors of 5th Esophageal speech Therapy Workshop

Mr. Hashimoto, Shiga Prefecture Government official & Mr. Kawamura Masahiro, Chief Representative Bangkok, Shiga Bank, Japan visited our centre

--- 10 February 2014 ---



Mr. Hashimoto, Shiga Prefecture Government Official & Mr. Kawamura Masahiro, Chief Representative Bangkok, Shiga Bank, Japan visited our centre on 10 February 2014



Mr. Hashimoto, Shiga Prefecture Government Official & Mr. Kawamura Masahiro, Chief Representative Bangkok, Shiga Bank, Japan visited our centre on 10 February 2014



Waku Waku Club activities

--- 16 February 2014 ---

Waku Waku Club a club for the active interaction of Japanese Teachers and Students on various Interesting areas of learning and sharing ideas other than what is taught in the Class room is a part of our Japanese Language School. Orientation and Japanese Rhymes were organised on 16 February 2014 by Ms. Anuradha Rajasekaran



Waku Waku Club - orientation and Japanese Rhymes in progress

Kids Central, Kotturpuram

--- 18 February 2014 ---

The Kids Central School, Kottupuram has been teaching their KG (kinder garden) students about the Japanese folk tales and as a follow up they wanted some presentation on Japan.

As part of our cultural activities in coordination with Waku Waku Club Ms. Anuradha Rajasekaran, Deputy Director, Japanese Language School & Ms. J. Sowmini prepared a power point presentation for children along with some rhymes. Ms. Sachiyo Tatebe, HIDA Intern went in Japanese Traditional dress (yukata).

We came to understand that there was good response and the school was very happy.



Photo taken during the presentation Ms. J. Sowmini and Ms. Anuradha Rajasekarn and Ms. Sachiyo Tatebe



Session in progress



Ms. Sachiyo Tatebe, HIDA Intern the hands on experience about making the kids to have using the chop stick

Farewell Dinner to HIDA Interns Ms. Sachiyo Tatebe and Ms. Saya Ikematsu and Mr. Yuji Ogawa, Faculty

--- 20 February 2014 ---



Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy garlanding the Ms. Sachiyo Tatebe, HIDA Intern of our centre during the Farewell dinner



Ms. Geetha Thyagarajan handed over the memento to Ms. Saya Ikematsu, HIDA Intern deputed to M/s. Scigenic Biotech Pvt. Ltd during the Farewell dinner

HIYOSHI ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD – 2014

Hiyoshi Corporation, Japan an organization working in the field of Environment & Ecology in association with ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre have introduced "Hiyoshi Environmental Award" from the year 2007 to recognize the outstanding contribution and progress in research and application in Environmental conservation and protection. The last date of Application submission is 31 May 2014.

Kaizen Competition

--- 22 February 2014 ---

As part of our yearlong activities on Japanese Management Techniques, ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, conducted the "KAIZEN" competition for industries in Tamilnadu on Saturday 22 February 2014 at our centre. We thank the judges, Totally 68 Kaizen presentation were presented from 27 companies. The best Kaizen from M/s. Gainup Industries India Pvt. Ltd., M/s. FLSmith & M/s. Lear Automotive India Pvt. Ltd, Mahindra World City was awarded Diamond Award. We thank the Juries Dr. R. Balakrishnan, Mr. P. R. Padmanabhan, & Mr. A. Vellapandian.



Awards of the Kaizen Competition



Mr. Hidehiro Ishiura, Director General, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Chennai address the participants during the Kaizen Competition



Kaizen Competition in Progress



Winners of Kaizen Competition

Japanese Tea Ceremony & Release of Video DVD on Japanese Language Conversation in coordination with Waku Waku Club

--- 23 February 2014---

As part of our yearlong activities we organized the "Japanese Tea Ceremony" & Release of DVD on Learning Japanese Onomatopoeia (Japanese Language Conversation) organized by Waku Waku Club of our centre on Sunday, 23 February 2014 at 11.00 .am. at our Centre.

Madam Keiko Nakano, w/o. H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai, Chief Guest of the function Released the Video DVD on Learning Japanese Onomatopoeia (Japanese Language Conversation) and graced the occasion during the Japanese Tea Ceremony on 23 February 2014.



Mrs. J. Sowmini handing over the memento to Madam Keiko Nakano, w/o. H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai



Madam Keiko Nakano, w/o. H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai Release the DVD on Learning Japanese Onomatopoeia and our Chairman M. R. Ranganathan received the first copy of the same



Madam Keiko Nakano, w/o. H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai grace the occasion during the Japanese Tea Ceremony



Japanese Tea Ceremony – section of participants



Japanese Tea Ceremony hands on experience by Nihongo Gakko (Japanese Language School) Students of our centre

Training Programme on Japanese Management Techniques

One Day Training Program on 7 Steps to Improve the MTTR & MTBF In the equipment / machine held at our centre on 25.01.2014, 14 participants from 6 companies participated in the training program.

One Day Training Program on 7 STEPS to improve the OVERALL OFFICE EFFICIENCY on 15.03.2014 held at our centre on 12.11.2011, 9 participants from 4 companies participated in the training program.

For any needs please contact us.
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Kids Central School, Kotturpuram, Chennai

--- 4 March 2014 ---



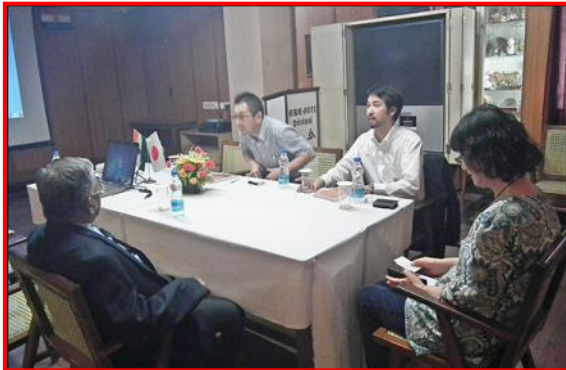
Ms. Anuradha Rajasekaran, Deputy Director, Japanese Language School, Mr. Akira Hatayama & Ms. Saeko Miyasaka Japanese Language Faculty of our centre interacting with the students of the Kids Central School



Group photo taken during the interacting with the students of the Kids Central School by Ms. Anuradha Rajasekaran, Deputy Director, Japanese Language School, Mr. Akira Hatayama & Ms. Saeko Miyasaka Japanese Language Faculty

Mr. Yasujiro Takei & Mr.Yojiro Tanaka Director, Japanese Language & Japanese Studies from Japan Foundation, Newdelhi visited our centre

--- 6 March 2014 ---



Mr. Yasujiro Takei & Mr.Yojiro Tanaka Director ,Japanese Language & Japanese Studies from Japan Foundation , Newdelhi visited our centre on 6 March 2014



Mr. Yasujiro Takei & Mr.Yojiro Tanaka Director ,Japanese Language & Japanese Studies from Japan Foundation , Newdelhi visited our centre on 6 March 2014

“TAMIL THROUGH JAPANESE PICTIONARY”

Tamil Through Japanese Pictionary written with appropriate illustrations and pictures which would be of great use for the Japanese expert community in Chennai, by Ms. Chitra Sivakumar, Member of our Alumni Association. She had training with “SHIGERU JOHO SYSTEMS”, Osaka through AOTS. Ms. Shalini, has co-authored the above book. The Japanese Companies in Chennai will find this book a Great communication tool for their Japanese Staff. The book can be purchased from ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI.

Japanese Language Speech Contest

--- 15 & 16 March 2014 ---

The Consulate General of Japan at Chennai in association with S & N Hayakawa Enterprises Pvt. Ltd, Japanese School and Cultural Centre is organizing a “Japanese Speech Contest” on 15 & 16 March 2014.

The following students from our centre participated in the above contest

Junior Category

Mr. R. Rohit
Mr. Ajat Shadru Balaji

Senior Category

Ms. Mithra Ravichandran
Ms. Nivetha Thyagarajan
Ms. Balarupini
Mr. Ravi Keerthan

Open Category

Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy

The following are winners of the contest

Junior Category

First Prize – Mr. R. Rohit
Second Prize – Mr. Ajat Shadru Balaji

Open Category

First Prize – Ms. Vedha Narayanasamy

Japanese Language Teacher Seminar

--- 15 March 2014 ---



Group photo taken during the Japanese Language Teachers training program



Waku Waku Club activities

--- 16 March 2014 ---

Waku Waku Club Activity on 16th March 2014 between 12.00 pm. to 1.30 p.m. Ms. Saeko Miyasaka is explaining to the students about Japanese New Year.



Waku Waku Club Activity in progress



Ms. Saeko Miyasaka explaining in details to the students about the making of Japanese New Year Card (Nengajou)

on 5S practices in an organization and evaluating the Status against established benchmarks leading to award of Marks / Rating / Grading.

To make the participants of this course understand clearly the concepts of 5S Workplace Management System against the back drop of globalization and the necessity of industries to adopt 5S as the foundation of further activities leading to growth and achieving excellence.

The training program will also provide both technical knowledge and practical skills essential to become a competent LEAD ASSESSOR OF 5S PRACTICE by carrying out live audits in a few companies i.e. M/s. Volvo India Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore & M/s. ACE Designers, Limited Bangalore 16 participants from 7 companies participated in this program.



Dignitaries on the Dias during the 5S Lead Assessor Course



5S Lead Assessor Course in progress

5S Lead Assessor Course

--- 19 ~ 21 March 2014 ---

This is the second of its kind an exclusive 5S LEAD ASSESSOR course is being offered in India from 19 to 21 March 2014 at Volvo India Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore.

This is jointly conducted by ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre and AOTS ALUMNI 5S Forum of India. It is a certificate course to develop skills and expertise needed to audit as well to manage work place management system audits effectively. The objective of this course is to build the required skills, capabilities and competencies for carrying out audits



Group photo taken during the 5S Lead Assessor Course

Japan Cultural Festival

--- 21 ~ 23 March 2014 ---

The Consulate-General of Japan at Chennai, and ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre organized a three-day JAPAN CULTURAL FESTIVAL from 21 to 23 March 2014. The Exhibition was inaugurated by His Excellency Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, 21 March 2014 at our centre



H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai lighting the Kuthuvilaku during the inaugural ceremony of Japan Cultural Festival

The Japan Cultural Festival aims at providing an opportunity for the people in Chennai to know more about Japanese cultures and thus to strengthen the mutual understanding and friendly relationship between Japan and India.

The Festival featured exhibition of dolls, dioramas (miniature models) of the UNESCO World Heritage sites in Japan, Ikebana, Origami and Bonsai. Along with the exhibition, demonstrations of Origami, Judo, Karate, and Kobudo (martial arts).

Dolls & Diorama Exhibition (21 to 23 March - 10.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.)

Display of Hina dolls marks the festival known as Hinamatsuri ("Hina" means dolls and "Matsuri" festival) or Girl's Festival celebrated on 3 March. This is an annual event to pray for the happiness and healthy growth of young girls. On this day, families display Hina Dolls, dressed in traditional court costume, with peach blossoms and offering of such delicacies as sweet, diamond-shaped rice cakes and dry rice-cake pellets.



H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai explaining the display to the students

Drawing Competition– Olympics and Paralympic "TOKYO 2020" in Japan

The forthcoming Olympics and Paralympic "TOKYO 2020" will be held in Japan in the Year 2020 and in this regard The Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre are jointly organized various events and one such event is Drawing Competition on Olympics and Paralympic "TOKYO 2020" visualized by the Indian students studying between 6th & 12th Standard. We receive 318 drawings received from 30 Schools, out of which 27 drawings were selected as prize winners.



H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai awarded the certificate to the winners of Drawing Competition on the theme of Olympics and Paralympic "TOKYO 2020" in Japan



H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano, Consul General of Japan at Chennai adjudicated the prize winning drawings

Ikebana Exhibition:
(21 – 23 March - 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Ikebana is a Japanese art of flower arrangement. It is more than simply putting flowers in a container. It is a disciplined art form in which the arrangement is a living thing where nature and humanity are brought together. Ikebana is a creative expression with certain rules of arrangements. Most of its materials are live branches, leaves, grasses and flowers. Its heart is the beauty resulting from color combinations, natural shapes, graceful lines, and the meaning latent in the total form of the arrangement.



Section of the visitors going around the exhibition of Ikebana

Bonsai Exhibition:
(21 – 23 March - 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Bonsai (literally, “tray planting”) is the art of growing miniature trees or plants in tray-like containers as if they were in the natural scenery. A “Bon” is a traylike pot usually used in bonsai culture. “Sai” means trees and plants grown in the “bon”. Various techniques including leaf trimming, pruning and wiring are used to create unique aesthetics of “bonsai”.



Section of the visitors going around the exhibition of Bonsai

Origami Exhibition / Demonstration
(21 – 23 March - 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
(22 March 2014 @ 3.00 p.m.)

Origami is a traditional Japanese art of paper folding (“Ori” means to fold and “gami” paper). The goal of this art is to create a figure of an object such as birds and animals by folding only one piece of paper. Visitors will have an opportunity to learn the art of Origami.



Section of the visitors going around the exhibition of Origami



Origami demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Origami demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Origami demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival

Judo Demonstration: (21 March –11:00 am)

Judo, which means "gentle and supple way", is a Japanese martial art. It was established as a form of mental training as well as a sport in the early part of Meiji era (1868-1912). Judo then attracted attention internationally and is now an official event at the Olympic Games.



Mr. C. S. Rajagopal, and his team doing Judo demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival

Karate Demonstration: (21 March – 11:00 am)

Karate literally means "empty hand". It was developed from indigenous fighting methods called "te" (literally hand) and Chinese martial art in Okinawa. Karate is a striking art using punching, kicking, knee and elbow strikes and open-handed techniques such as knife-hands (karate chop). Karate originated as a way for the defenseless to defend themselves relying on the effective use of unarmed body of the practitioner.



Mr. Haribabu and his team doing Karate Demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival



Mr. Haribabu and his team doing Karate Demonstrators during the Japan Cultural Festival



Section of the audience

Kobudo Demonstration (22 March – 11:00 am)

Kobudo is a Japanese term that can be translated as "an old martial art". It generally refers to the classical weapon traditions of Okinawan martial arts using various weapons such as Bo, Sai, Nunchaku, Tekko, Tonfa, Kama, Tinbe, and Eku. Besides the weapon techniques, it is not uncommon to see an occasional kick or other empty-handed technique in Kobudo.



Mrs. Vahitha Haribabu and her team doing Kobudo Demonstration during the Japan Cultural Festival

Mini Marathon (23 March – 6.00 am)

This year, in commemoration of the forthcoming “Olympics and Paralympics TOKYO 2020” to be held in Japan, we are conducted “Mini Marathon” which will started from the Labour Statue on Sunday, March 23, at 6:30 a.m. The Chief Guest Mr. Perumal – DGP (Retd) & H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano , Consul General of Japan at Chennai flagged off the Mini Marathon. Around 400 participants from various organisations and institutions will join us in this event



The Chief Guest Mr. Perumal – DGP (Retd) in the left & H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano , Consul General of Japan in the right are all set to blow the whistle and flag of the mini Marathon



The Chief Guest Mr. Perumal – DGP (Retd) & H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano , Consul General of Japan at Chennai along with participants of Mini Marathon



Section of participants of Mini Marathon



The Chief Guest Mr. Perumal – DGP (Retd) & H. E. Mr. Masanori Nakano , Consul General of Japan at Chennai along with participants of Mini Marathon



Section of the participants of the Mini Marathon along medical team lead by Dr. K. Usha



Winners of the Mini Marathon are being felicitated



Section of participants of Mini Marathon

USEFUL JAPANESE PHRASE TO REMEMBER: FREQUENTLY USED EXPRESSIONS IN WORKPLACES

O-denwa ga tooi'n desu ga...

Are there times when you are unable to hear the party you are speaking to on the telephone because the volume of the other party's voice is too soft? The conventional expression used to convey politely to the other party that you are unable to hear clearly is "O-denwa ga tooi'n desu ga..." This expression is often used in business.

"Denwa" means "telephone," while "tooi" means "far away." It is interesting that this expression does not contain any words that mean "cannot hear" or "please speak in a loud voice." Using a deliberately ambiguous expression like this helps to convey the impression that it is not the other party's fault that he or she cannot be heard clearly. In addition, we could also say that the avoidance of making a direct request to the other party (here, the request would be, "Could you please speak in a louder voice?") indicates respect to him or her.

Kyoushuku desu.

The word "Kyoushuku" is made up of two kanji; "Kyou" meaning "to fear," and "Shuku" meaning "to shrink." Thus, combining the two, the literal meaning of "Kyoushuku" is to feel so apologetic as to "shrink" one's own body. This makes one ponder how fearful the incident must be to make one "shrink" his or her own body in guilt. Would it amount to divine punishment from the gods? In truth, this is a convenient expression that is frequently used in business correspondences and greetings.

For instance, it is conventional to add "Kyoushuku desu ga..." before making a request for something. It means, "I am sorry to have to ask you to do something troublesome..." It is also used in the form, "O-isogashii naka, okoshi itadaite, kyoushuku desu." ("Thank you for having come here despite your busy schedule.") In this context, "kyoushuku desu" is used to express gratitude to the other party for the time, effort, and consideration he or she has given to you. "Kyoushuku desu" can also be used as an apology.

Since the literal meaning of the expression is "to fear, to shrink," the key lies in its strong nuance of humility, regardless of whether it is used in requests, to express gratitude, or as an apology.

--courtesy HIDA e-Newsletter

Our Events for the Next Quarter April ~ June 2014

12 April 2014

One Day Training Program on Best 5S Bench Marking at our centre

26 April 2014

One Day Training Program on One Day Training Program on Identifying and Eliminating '**NON VALUE ADDED WORK (NVA)**' using "**VALUE STREAM MAPPING**" at our centre

28 April 2014 to 3 May 2014

ABK AOTS DOSOKAI along with Young Indians(CII) is conducting a summer camp "**Experience Japan in Chennai**" via Language, Culture, Songs, Dance and Origami for students of age 10years and above at our Centre.

5th to 10 May 2014

ABK AOTS DOSOKAI along with Young Indians(CII) and supported by Nihon Technologies Pvt. Ltd is conducting a summer camp "**Experience Japan in Chennai**" via Language, Culture, Songs, Dance and Origami for students of age 10years and above at Nihon Technologies Pvt. Ltd (NTPL) , Adyar, Chennai - 20

10th May 2014

One Day Training Program on **7 Steps to attain 'Zero LOSS'** in the equipment using "**PM Analysis**" at our centre

24th May 2014

One Day Training Program on **LEAN DAILY WORK MANAGEMENT (LDWM) PRACTICES** at our centre

14th June 2014

One Day Training Program on **AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE (AM)** at our centre