



# NIHON MON NEWS LETTER

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**ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI**  
Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai



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**A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India**



## **Arigato Robotosan?**

This may soon be a phrase that we may hear often, in many parts of Japan, if reports are to be believed.

In the news for the past few years, with increased amplification every passing year, the shrinking population in Japan and the even faster shrinking workforce there has added worry creases world over. A universal leader in technological development, very visible measures are now being instituted within their framework to combat this challenge. The role of robots, hitherto visible in their manufacturing sector is now slowly but surely creeping into their service sectors too!

A recent article that I read mentions a new trend of graphically created smiling attendants greeting customers from a large screen within Japanese stores. This new avatar of 'Irasshai' and 'Arigato' needs some getting used to as are the disappearing food trollies on Shinkasens and jidohanbaikis not refilled for many days.

Ofcourse, Japan is no stranger to managing sources that are limited. This combat had started many decades ago through automation that sought to either replace or enhance human effort. Today, the combination of robotics and artificial intelligence –both of which Japan is a leader of – is key.

But, what was neither artificial nor robotic was the special and deep bond Suzuki-san, the former Chairman of Hiyoshi Corporation shared with all of us and India at large. Since 1994, he has played an integral part in all our activities - from Japan Speech Contest to Environmental Awards to Internship Programs and Ecological Services - the list is too big to fit in here.

Many of us at ABK AOTS Dosokai, Tamilnadu Centre have had the pleasure of visiting the beautiful city of Omihachiman and interacting with Suzuki-san, Aiko san and their family. Today, Nishino san, Murata san and all our friends at Hiyoshi are continuing his legacy in a most befitting manner and they continue to be a pillar of support and an embodiment of friendship to all of us.

Suzuki san's recent passing away has left all of us in a state of shock and disbelief. Thank you Suzuki san for your support and the splendid memories of our cooperation. You will be sorely missed!

**Gomeifukuōoinorimoushiagemasu**



## Guest from Osaka Prefecture Government & The Indian Chamber of Commerce-Japan at our Centre

--- 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---



## Guest from Hiroshima Prefecture visited our centre

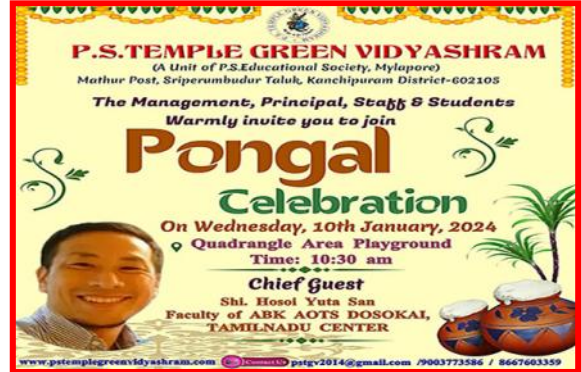
--- 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---



## Participating Pongal Celebration

--- 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

"Our faculty members, Mr. Hosoi Yuta, Ms. Geetha Thyagarajan, and Ms. Kokila, participated in the Pongal Celebration organized by P. S. Temple Green Vidyasharm in Kanchipuram."



## Session on Business E-Mail writing

--- 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

It was a wonderful session on Business Email Writing and Telephone Conversations led by Mr. Hosoi Yuta on January 12, 2024. He guided us through role-playing lengthy conversations in Keigo. There was plenty of learning and enjoyment! Direct knowledge transfer from such an experienced employee was invaluable. It was a fantastic learning experience and a great time spent!"



Mr. Kaketaku, a Choreographer and Video Creator, and Ms. Mayo, a YouTuber, have been invited as special guests. Our teachers and students will explain the Pongal celebrations in Japanese and demonstrate Pongal making, along with Gummi dance and singing. Join us to enjoy the festival.



## Pongal Celebration --- 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

The Pongal celebration held on January 18, 2024, commenced in a grand manner with explanations in Japanese. Approximately 20 native Japanese women participated, and the presence of Mami Teraoka san, Consul at the Consulate of Japan, made the event even more special. We were honored to host special guests Kaketaku san, a video creator and choreographer, Mayo Japan san, a YouTuber, and Pira Japan san, an Influencer, who are currently visiting India.

The event included explanations about why Pongal is celebrated, as well as demonstrations of Bogi, Surya Pongal, Maatu Pongal, Kaanum Pongal, Mayilaatam, Oyilaatam, Kuyilaatam, Jallikattu, and Pongal making. Archana san, one of our teachers, sang Tamil songs in Japanese and Japanese songs in Tamil, while our student Arvind performed dances to famous songs choreographed by Kaketaku, and Mayo sang. We all participated in the traditional Gummi dance. The day concluded with a delicious lunch consisting of Chakkarai Pongal, Ven Pongal, Vada, Chutney, and Sambar. The event received coverage from various press and media outlets.

ABK AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai, invites all native Japanese living in Chennai to join us for a grand celebration of the Pongal Festival, which shares similarities with Japan's harvest festival.



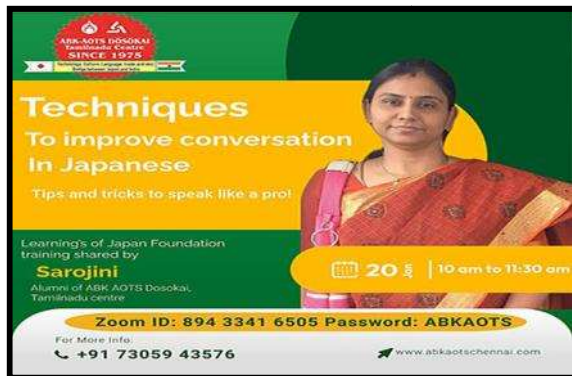
## Webinar on Technique to Improve Japanese Conversation

--- 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

The webinar on techniques to handle conversation classes and tips and tricks to improve conversation in Japanese was expertly conducted by Sarojini Saro sensei.

Several new ideas and methods that she learned at the Japan Foundation were shared and discussed. Knowledge sharing and continuously improving our teaching methods are key components of our commitment to quality education.

Many thanks to Sarojini sensei for a wonderful presentation!

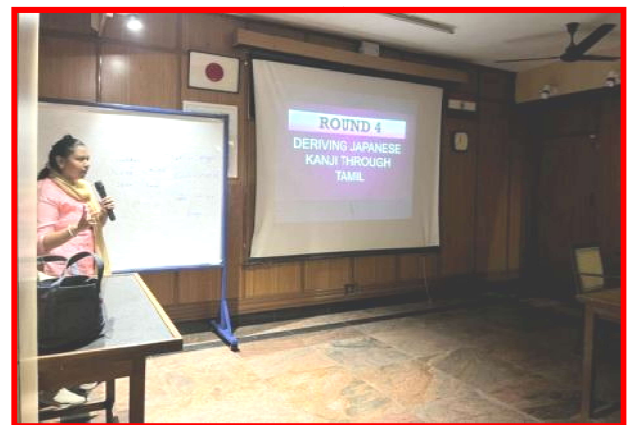


## Fun way to learn Japanese through Tamil Cinema

--- 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024 ---

Archana san rocked the fun way to learn Japanese through Tamil cinema! Students thoroughly enjoyed the session, effectively learning something in a fun way. 'Learn as you play' is the main motto of the Waku Waku club!

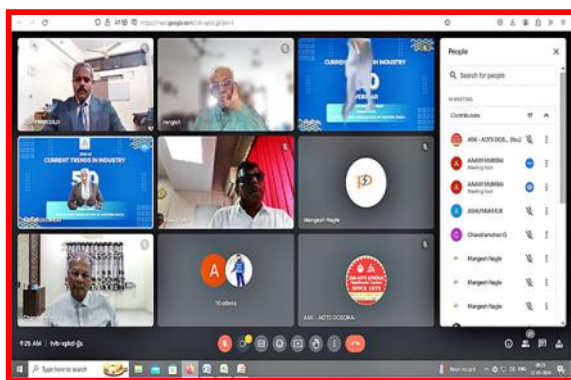
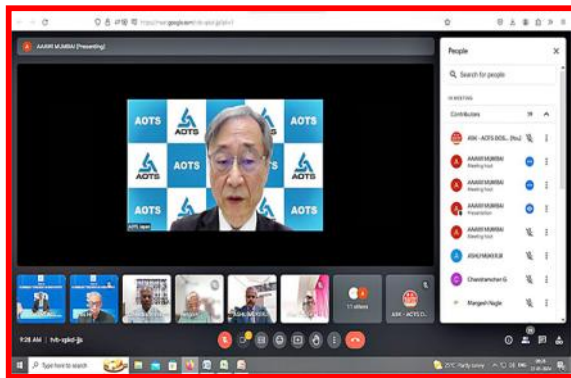
Many thanks to Archana san for this interesting session



## Special lecture during the WNF webinar on Current Trends in Industry 5.0 by AAAWI

--- 22<sup>nd</sup> ~27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

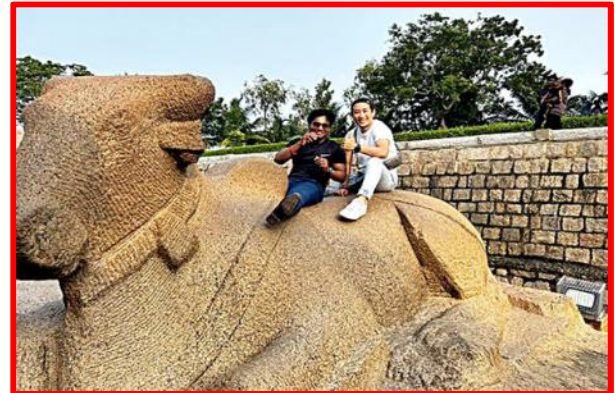
Our Founder Chairman, Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, and Mr. G. Chandramohan, Special Advisor of our Centre and President of the Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI), participated in the Inaugural Session of the WNF webinar on Current Trends in Industry 5.0 on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, organized by the AOTS Alumni Association of Western India (AAAWI), Mumbai. Additionally, our Founder Chairman, Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, delivered a special lecture during the Closing Ceremony of the webinar on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024



## Shiru Shiru Club

--- 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 ---

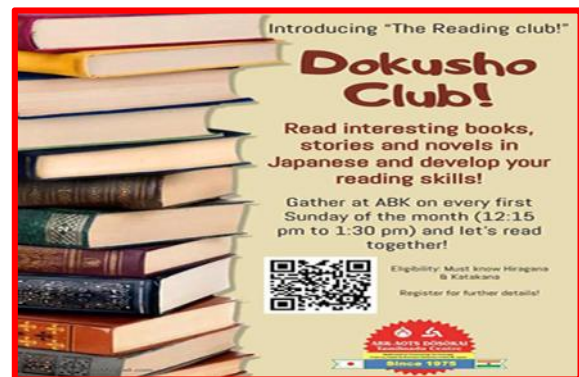
As part of our Shiru Miru club activity, our students took Hosoi Yuka san, who visited India for the first time, to Mahabalipuram on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Happy customers and students mutually enjoyed the learning experience.



## Dokusho Club

--- 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

The Dokusho club went very well, involving reading small passages, attempting to grasp Japanese nuances, and understanding the Japanese way of thinking, writing, and delivering essays. Reading, recognizing each kanji, coming across familiar vocabulary, and comprehending their usage, along with implementing what is taught in class, constitute the best approach to improving Japanese skills and retaining them in memory.



## Women Empowerment Program

--- 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, presented four sewing machines to the Anna Nagar Ladies Club as part of our Women Empowerment Program.

The club, which was initiated by our Founder Chairman, Mr. M. R. Ranganathan's mother, Mrs. Menaka Raghupathy, has named their hall after her as 'Menaka Raghupathy Hall.'

Both our Founder Chairman, Mr. M. R. Ranganathan, and his spouse, Mrs. Brinda Ranganathan, serve as Patrons of the Club. They spoke to the Club members.



## Webinar on Learn about MEXT Scholarship

--- 11<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---



## Participating the His Majesty The Emperor of Japan – Birthday

--- 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

We celebrated the birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services of the Government of Tamil Nadu, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In the photo, he is seen with Her Excellency the Consul General of Japan, recipients of the Japan Emperor's awards, and our Founder Chairman, Mr. M.R. Ranganathan, along with Mr. Narayanan Kumar, Vice Chairman of the Sanmar Group.

Our Founder Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan proposed the toast on this occasion



## Coffee Meet

--- 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

Coffee Meet with Japanese women held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Topic was discussion on latest and trending news in Japan (National, international, sports, entertainment) etc.

We read the news, learned the vocabulary and its usage and new kanjis. It was a very interesting to read and discuss on it with Japanese.

New and innovative learning techniques only at ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre



## Orientation on JIM & JEC

--- 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

An orientation on JIM, JEC, opportunities in Japan, and work culture in Japan was held at Sri Ramachandra University, addressing 150 students on February 15, 2024. The students showed great enthusiasm to learn about Japan and the opportunities it holds for their future





## MOSAI Japanese Language Speech Contest for Southern Region

--- 17<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---

The Consulate General of Japan in Chennai, in collaboration with ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, and in association with the Mombusho Scholars Association of India (MOSAI), conducted the 'MOSAI – Japanese Language Speech Contest for the Southern Region' on February 17, 2024, at our center.

The judges for the contest were Ms. Teraoka Mami, Researcher / Advisor, Culture & Information Section, Consulate General of Japan in Chennai; Mr. Murakami Yoshifumi, Japanese Language Advisor, Japan Foundation; and Ms. Nagai Kana, Japanese Language Teacher in Japan.

The following are the winners of the above Speech Contest in Junior Category.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Ms. Annesha Sen  
ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Ms. R. Nandhini  
ABK AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - Ms. E. Priyadharshini  
Soka Ikeda College of Arts and Science For Women  
Ambattur, Chennai

The following are the winners of the above Speech Contest in Senior Category.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - Ms. Jone Elince  
ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - Mr. S. Vignesh  
ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - Ms. M. Divya  
ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre,

"The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners of the Junior & Senior categories were awarded certificates and trophies from ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, along with a gift from the Consulate-General of Japan, Chennai. All other participants received a participant certificate.

The prize winners are eligible to participate in the ALL INDIA JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST to be held in New Delhi on April 13, 2024.



## Session on conducting classes using games and activities for our teachers by Yoshifumi Murakami San from Japan Foundation

--- 18 February 2023 ---

Many thanks to Yoshifumi Murakami san from the Japan Foundation for accepting our request to conduct a direct session on conducting classes using games and activities for our teachers. It was a highly effective and engaging learning session. We will certainly implement these methods in our classes to make them more effective and enjoyable



初級:ゲーム/活動で教える方法  
(online と offline)  
**Teacher Training**

Details

Date: 18/02/2024  
Time: 2:00 ~ 4:00  
Venue: ABK AOTS Dosokai, Tamilnadu centre

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
044-23743575/0318

Murakami Yoshifumi  
Japan Foundation



## Mr. Seta Akihito JETRO Singapore, Kanagawa Division visited our centre

--- 20 February 2023 ---



## Japanese for SSW Specified Skilled workers



Rs. 9794/- Japanese for SSW

Time: 9am to 11pm (IST)

**JFT EXAM ORIENTED COURSE BASED ON MARUGOTO & IRODORI**

**JAPANESE COURSE ONLY FOR SPECIFIED SKILLED WORKERS!**

Candidates suitable for this course

- People working in
- \* Nursing care
- \* Construction Industry
- \* Agriculture
- \* Building Clean management
- \* Ship building and machinery
- \* Fishery
- \* Aviation Industry
- \* Food and beverages Industry
- \* Electric, Electronic & Information Industry
- \* Accommodation Industry
- \* Food Services
- \* Industrial Machinery

Online class  
Course starting on 23rd April 2024  
Duration: 80Hrs

contact: 7305943576

ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI  
Tamilnadu Centre  
SINCE 1975

Technology, Culture, Language, Trade and Skill  
Bridging Nations Japan and India

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## Brainstrain Meeting of our Golden Jubilee celebration

--- 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 ---



## Farewell to His Excellency Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai

--- 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024 ---

ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre organized a grand farewell for His Excellency Mr. Masayuki Taga, Consul General of Japan in Chennai, on March 4, 2024, at Hotel Rain Tree.

Masayuki Taga-sama has made enormous contributions as a bridge between Japan and India during his tenure. It was a pleasure for our organization to closely collaborate with the Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai under the leadership of Masayuki Taga-sama in hosting several events. In gratitude, ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre hosted a farewell dinner at Hotel Rain Tree and invited all the officials of the Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai, as well as members, teachers, and staff of ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre.

The event began with a prayer song by Aarthi Sriram and Harshida Harikumar. The welcome address was delivered by Mr. Sriram Chellappa, President of our centre. Mr. G. Chandramohan, Advisor and President of FAAAAI, then delivered the felicitation address. Mr. P. Chandrasekhar, the first and oldest employee of ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, honored Masayuki Taga-sama with a shawl.

A special address was given by our Founder Chairman, Mr. M. R. Ranganathan. A photo album of Masayuki Taga-sama in ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre activities was presented to him. This was followed by a chief guest address by Masayuki Taga-sama. Mr. R. Sundaram, Secretary-General of our Centre, delivered the vote of thanks. Mr. S. Gopal, Vice President of our centre, delivered the Kanpai message. The event concluded with socializing and dinner.

Overall, it was a pleasant interaction with the members of the Consulate-General of Japan in Chennai.





## Hiroyoshi Takeda San visited our centre

--- 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 ---

Hiroyoshi Takeda San visited ABK-AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, interacted with students, spoke Japanese with them, taught them about Sushi, and demonstrated how to eat it.

He also interacted with teachers, had lunch, and enjoyed dancing and singing! It was a very fun-filled and memorable day! Many thanks to Takeda san for sparing time for us amidst his busy schedule! Also, many thanks to Vasantha san for arranging his visit.



## 5S Lead Assessor Course

--- 14<sup>th</sup> ~16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 ---

The 5S LEAD ASSESSOR course was conducted from 14<sup>th</sup> ~16<sup>th</sup> March 2024 ATC AP Tires, Vishazhapatnam. 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 on 5S practices in an organization and evaluating the Status against established benchmarks leading to award of Marks / Rating / Grading.

The training program will 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. 20 participants from 7 companies are participants in this program



## June Arisue San visit to our Centre

--- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024 ---

It was wonderful to see Jun Arisue san of Japan Foundation back at ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre on March 20, 2024, after three years. As a Japan Foundation trainer, he was stationed at our centre and conducted several training sessions for teachers in South India. Almost all of our teachers attended his training sessions, which greatly contributed to improving our teaching skills and the quality of education we provide. We are always grateful to Japan Foundation for their continuous support. It was a pleasure meeting sensei today and reminiscing about old memories.



held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024, and 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024, at Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Chennai.



## The Japanese Language “NAT EXAM” at Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Chennai

25<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
&  
24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

The Japanese Language NAT-TEST is an examination that evaluates the Japanese language proficiency of students who are not native Japanese speakers. The tests are divided into five levels of difficulty (Q5 to Q1), and general ability is assessed across three categories: Grammar/Vocabulary, Listening, and Reading Comprehension. The NAT Test is conducted six times a year. ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamil Nadu Centre, in collaboration with Senmon Kyouiku, Japan, has been organizing the NAT TEST in Chennai. The exams were

We are totally shocked on the sudden & untimely demise of our beloved Suzuki San, Hiyoshi Corporation, Japan

--- 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 ---





## AOTS MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS IN JAPAN

### **Program Name: Business Innovation and Organization Development [BIOD]**

Duration : From 24-July 2024 ~ 6-August 2024  
Target Participants : Company Owners, Executives or Senior Managers in developing countries  
Venue : Kansai Kenshu Center,  
Application Deadline: 20 May 2024

### **Program Name: The Executive Program on Corporate Management (EPCM)**

Duration: 24 July to 6 August 2024  
Participation Requirements: Director-level senior executives who have overall responsibility for their organizational management.  
Venue : Tokyo Kenshu Centre  
Application Deadline: 20 May 2024

### **Program Name: The Program on Information and Communication Technology Utilization to Overcome DX-related Strategic Management Challenges (PICT)**

Duration : From 4~ 17 September 2024  
Target Participants : Owners or directors of companies in the manufacturing and logistics industries etc.  
2. Senior managers who are engaged in ICT utilization  
3. Middle to senior managers who are engaged in DX strategy and system  
Venue : Tokyo Kenshu Center,  
Application Deadline: 13 June 2024

### **For application and more details**

**ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI**  
**Tamilnadu Centre**  
**3rd Floor Chateau D' Ampa**  
**New No.: 37, Old No.: 110**  
**Nelson Manickam Road**  
**Aminjikai, Chennai - 600 029**  
**Tel.: 2374 3575 / 0318**

### **Our Planned Events for the Next Quarter April to June 2024**

13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Participating 35<sup>th</sup> All India Japanese Language Speech contest organized by Mombusho Scholars Association of India (MOSAI) supported by The Embassy of Japan, New Delhi, Japanese Association, New Delhi.

18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Coffee Meet at our Centre

20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 - Training Program on Preventive 5S using visual at our Centre

21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 - Japanese Language – NAT Exam at Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Kodambakkam

4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - One Day Training Program on Analytical Thinking in Problem Solving

18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - ONE DAY Training Program on Facing Recession Challenge using "3 GEN APPROACH" Breakthrough Strategies for long lasting results at our Centre

19<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Japanese Language – NAT Exam at Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Kodambakkam.

24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – 6<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Competition for the Unsung Heroes through online and Inperson

8<sup>th</sup> June 2024 - Competition For The Unsung Heroes (The Maintenance Personnel) at our Centre

9<sup>th</sup> June 2024 - Japanese Language – NAT Exam at Meenakshi Sundararajan Engineering College, Kodambakkam

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024 - One Day Training Program on Achieving Zero Defect through "POKA YOKE" at our Centre

*Thank you*