

Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India



Annual Report 2017-18



Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India
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Message by Hon'ble Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of India



Shri Vijay Goel
Hon'ble Minister of State
(Sports & Youth Affairs)
Government of India

The year 2017 is marked as the year of 'Japan-India Friendly Exchanges' to enhance people-to-people contact and cross-cultural exchanges between Japan and India for building youth leadership. The year 2017 also marks the 60th Anniversary since the Cultural Agreement came into force in 1957. This event in the year of Japan India Friendly Exchanges is very important for the mutual understanding, inter-cultural friendship, promoting youth leadership, and people-to-people contact between India and Japan. I am happy to know that as part of the celebration of 2017 as the year of Japan India Friendly Exchanges, Ship of World Youth Alumni Association - India' is organizing a series of lectures/interactive sessions in 8 Japanese Universities and other institutions between 16 and 26 April, 2017.

The Indian side is represented by Smt. Shobhana Radhakrishnan and Shri Ravi Chopra, who would mainly be speaking on spirituality and service to humanity - Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi.

These lectures will emphasize the messages of transformational leadership, spirituality, peace, compassion, non-violence and Indian wisdom. Their life and thought are a historical milestone in humanities quest for service to humanity, global peace, non-violence, and justice. Swami Vivekananda started in journey to the west in 1893 and visited several cities in Japan enroute to the United States before addressing at the parliament of the World's Religions. Mahatma Gandhi's life was one of dedication and simplicity, and dedicated his life in the service of humanity.

On this occasion, I extend my warm wishes to the speakers, organizers and the youth of Japan and wish the event all the success.

Message by Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Government of India



I am glad to hear that you are going to spread the messages of Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi to Japanese Youths on the occasion of the year 2017 being celebrated as the Year of India-Japan Friendly Exchanges'.

I appreciate your effort to enhance the existing cultural ties between the two countries.

I take this opportunity to convey my greetings and wish you and your team all success in your future endeavors.

Message by Mr. Yutaka Kikuta, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, Embassy of Japan in India



Mr. Yutaka Kikuta,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim
Embassy of Japan, India

It gives me immense pleasure to note that Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna will be addressing the Japanese youths in a seminar-lecture tour on the Ideology of Mahatma Gandhi, from April 16 to 26, 2017. Japan and India are now enjoying an ever-closer friendly relationship under the banner of 'Special Strategic Global Partnership' and have been strengthening their ties in a wide range of fields, including politics, economy and cross-cultural understanding.

In order to substantiate our Global Partnership, we need to further deepen our mutual understanding, and an event such as this seminar-lecture tour is certainly of great significance for this purpose.

As this year 2017 marks The Year of Japan-India Friendly Exchanges, we strongly hope that this event will further promote friendship and mutual understanding between the people of both countries, in particular, among younger generations.

I extend my warm greetings and best wishes for the success of the event.

OBJECTIVES

- To propagate peace, non-violence, justice, equity, harmony among youth, preventive and curative health care services, HIV-AIDS, Reproductive Health, De-addiction, Family Welfare and activities with physically & mentally challenged persons. To undertake environmentally sustainable development and management of natural resources
- To take up programmes for socio-economic empowerment, capacity building, skill enhancement, education, poverty alleviation and income generation of youth. To undertake study, action research and strategic planning, advocacy for global issues concerning the above subjects.
- To act as spokesperson of Ex-PYs of India with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and other ministries of Government of India, IYEO of Japan & coordination agency of Government of Japan, Embassy of Japan in India and SWYAA International
- To take an active role in the Global Youth Networking Activities and encourage and assist the Ex-PYs to take up youth promotional activities in their state and region.
- To organize exhibitions, seminars and training for youth & children. with regard to empowerment of youth & children. on National & International issues.
- To assist / extend necessary cooperation to the ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India for selection of participants of SWY and other youth & children. programmes and to organize orientation training to such selected participants before they proceed for the same.
- To assist / extend necessary cooperation in organizing port of call in India whenever the SWY delegates / ship visits India.
- To select and recommend Ex-PYs for taking part in the reunion & international youth exchange programme of Govt. of Japan, which are meant for Ex-PYs.
- To bring out publication, publicity material etc., projecting the activities of SWYAA – India and coordinate with Govt. of India, IYEO and Govt. of Japan. Develop, host and manage a website of SWYAA – India and promote and carry out awareness campaigns on social issues concerned to youth. & children.
- To take up / carry out all such activities as decided by Government of India, IYEO and Government of Japan.
- To act as a link between Ex-PYs and International Youth Exchange Organization and SWYAA of other countries and concerned Governments.

ORGANISATION PROFILE

Profile of the Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India (SWYAA-India)

Head office	:	13/88, Block C-4/B, Janakpuri, New Delhi -110058, India
Telephone	:	+91-11-41570597 (M) +91-9810078620
Email	:	swyaaindia@gmail.com
Website	:	www.swyaa-india.in
Legal Status	:	Registered under societies registration act XXI of Government of India <i>Registration No.:</i> S/58262 <i>Registration date:</i> 02/04/2007 Registered under section 12A and 80G of the Income Tax Act 1961, Government of India
Geographical coverage	:	All India
Executive committee	:	
▪ President	:	Mr. Ravi Chopra
▪ Vice President	:	Ms. SamritaKaur Gill, C.C.S
▪ Treasurer	:	Mr. Rupesh Gupta, C.A.
▪ Chief Executive	:	Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna

Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India (SWYAA-India) completed eleven years in 2017. As decided by Prime Minister Modi and Prime Minister Abe, our two countries celebrated the year 2017 as the Year of India-Japan Friendly Exchanges to further enhance people-to-people exchanges between Japan and India. The year 2017 also marked the 60th anniversary since the Cultural Agreement came into force in 1957. On this occasion, various commemorating events were held in both countries. It is expected that a friendly relationship will be further strengthened through such events so that mutual exchanges in various levels and fields will be further deepened and mutual understanding will be further promoted.

SWYAA-India was effectively engaged in promoting people-to-people contact, cross-cultural exchange, and nurturing the spirit of international cooperation while serving the disadvantaged sections of society. The social development activities undertaken as part of the post-program initiatives made an impact and helped in changing the lives of the underprivileged sections of the society through SWYAA-Open Schools. This year we were happy to receive 7 Ex- PYs, 18 Japanese university students, and 13 students from the university in Norway to volunteer in the Open Schools. They had a unique learning

experience as they interacted with underprivileged children and understood the objectives of the post-program activities of SWYAA-India.

SWYAA-India took an active role this year in two events namely seminar lecture tour of Japan and participated in the Konnichiwa Japan Cultural Festival Delhi which was endorsed by the Embassy of Japan in India. Both the events were very well appreciated as they fulfilled the objectives of furthering friendly exchanges and people-to-people contacts. It has been a very fruitful journey which was made possible with mutual cooperation from friends and supporters of SWYAA-India.

SWYAA-India reconnected with various Alumni Associations (AAs) around the world to seek possibilities of working together on common programs and welcome Ex-PYs and key organizations. While our Ex-PYs individually made a mark in their respective fields, achieving great heights and bringing laurels to the country, SWYAA-India was hailed as one of the most active Alumni Associations and got recognition in India and Japan.

The post-program social development activities undertaken by SWYAA-India during 2017-2018

1. Education of children in SWYAA-India Open Schools
2. Participation in Konnichiwa Japan Cultural Festival 2017
3. Digital education and computer training program
4. Seminar Lecture tours for Promoting International Peace, Leadership, Compassion and Non–violence based on the Ideology of Mahatma Gandhi in Japan
5. School cleanliness program in private and government schools and open school running in the slum of Delhi in Delhi
6. Visit of Ex-PYs to Open schools for social contribution activities.
7. Field visit of Ex-PYs and university students from Japan and Norway
8. Coordination from POC 2018 and pre-departure training of PYs of SWY30

To make this successful we are thankful for the cooperation and support received from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan, International Youth Exchange Organization, Indian Embassy in Tokyo, Universities in Japan, North Delhi Municipal Corporation, DISHA and the Discover Japan Club, New Delhi.

Education Program - SWYAA Open schools

In SWYAA Open School we educated 350 underprivileged children in the age group of 4 to 14 years living in slum clusters in New Delhi.



The children were taught up to the primary level as per the school syllabus and 225 children were mainstreamed in the government primary schools for further education. Multi-group and multi-level children were enrolled in the Open School and separate lesson plans were prepared for children of 4 to 6 years and for children in the age group 7 years and above. In two municipal corporation government primary schools the students of III to V standard are learning the language, Math, and social science through activity-based teaching and classroom-based support by SWYAA-India. With our efforts, their learning abilities have increased significantly.



Younger children were taught to count, recite, identify, and write numbers using simple activities with beads, games, charts, and the older children were taught according to the lessons from the school text books.

Field Visit by students of Keio University

SWYAA-India facilitates the tour of 18 Japanese students from Keio University, Tokyo who were accompanied by two professors from the Department of Business and Commerce from 11th to 15th September 2017 in New Delhi and Bihar.



This tour to India was aimed at studying the current economic situation and rural public health in India in the context of the education of children, women's empowerment, and livelihood opportunities. The students also had the interest to understand the differences between the economies of various countries around the globe in relation to Japan. With this special interest, they requested SWYAA-India organized an interaction with the children of SWYAA Open schools, students of the Municipal Corporation Primary Schools.

The Japanese students were divided into eight groups and each group was given one section each with forty girl students studying in standard V. The Japanese students introduced various aspects of Japanese culture to these children through songs, familiar phrases, cartoon characters, and Origami.



Later during their visit to the Open Schools, the students mentored the children and taught those Japanese songs, counting, painting, Origami before going for a slum walk and meeting the community.



From 12-15 September they visited the rural villages in Bodhgaya block in Bihar in coordination with the Project called 'Jeevika' (Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project) of state government and World Bank for enhancing social and economic empowerment of the rural poor. After they were given an orientation about the Jeevika project, the student participated in the meetings of the women’s self-help group. The representative from that the Jeevika accompanied them during the interaction and gave a presentation about their activities to promote self-reliance and livelihood opportunities being provided due to such a large-scale program.

Field visit by students of University of Tokyo



On September 12 students studying liberal arts at the University of Tokyo visited SWYAA Open Schools in Delhi. We gave an overview of about SWY leaders program and the post-program activities by SWYAA-India. They were very happy to learn about the SWY program.

Through this, we gave them an opportunity to gain insight and to help them to grow themselves as future leaders to pull the world beyond the fence of the country and to do the seeding for the future.



Digital education and computer skills

SWYAA-INDIA initiated the digital education and computer skills program for children of the Open School. In the six months course a batch of 12 children attended in the first half of the year completing their basic computer training course & this was followed by another batch of 12 students who benefitted from the training. The computer class was highly valued by the parents of the children who expressed their satisfaction at the progress of their wards.



In addition, certificates of completion were given to these bright students who have expressed their desire to continue to learn more next year.

School cleanliness program in private & government schools in Delhi

SWYAA-India continued with the school cleanliness program in 2017 in government schools in Delhi and implemented various activities to maintain clean habits. Children & teachers together participated in songs, stories, painting & demonstrations. They also took part in understanding how the Japanese schoolchildren take part in keeping their schools clean and neat every day by dusting, sweeping and mopping, and maintaining a high degree of school cleanliness.



The program went off well and the children really enjoyed all the presentations. For personal hygiene, the student also learned the Japanese way of greeting and have some understanding of their culture. This program had developed an interest in learning about Japan, its people, and how they keep their country and homes clean and green.

Seminar Lecture tour of Japan

SWYAA-India organized a seminar lecture tour to Japan for promoting International Peace, Leadership, Compassion, and Non-violence based on the Ideology of Mahatma Gandhi in Japan from 16th to 26th April 2017 by Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Functionary of SWYAA-India. The Embassy of Japan in India and Consulate General of India in Osaka-Kobe endorsed this event and gave full support as one of the events under 2017 The Year of Japan India Friendly Exchanges. Support was also received from the DISHA, Discover India Club, Tokyo & Discover Japan Club, India.



The seminar lectures were held in collaboration at the Sophia University, Kansai University, Keio University, Ongaku No Mori (NPO), Nippon Vedanta Kyokai, Osaka University, Global India International School Tokyo, University of Tsukuba, Hiroshima University, and Tokyo University of Foreign Studies in their institutions and universities.

Hon'ble Minister of State, Youth Affairs and Sports, Hon'ble Minister for State of External Affairs, Government of India, Ambassador of India in Japan, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations, Deputy Chief of Mission of Embassy of Japan in New Delhi, Consul General of India, Osaka-Kobe and the Director-General, SCOPE, India sent their message of support for the success of the event. During the tour, we had an opportunity to personally meet and appraise about the post-program activities of SWYAA-India to the dignitaries.



They appreciated our work for promoting international leadership for peace and harmony. Special meetings were held with H.E. Ambassador of India in Japan and the First Secretary at Embassy of India, Tokyo, Consul General of India at Kobe during this visit to appraise them about SWYAA-India initiatives in Japan.



Japanese Ex-participating youth of the Ship for World Youth Program overwhelming extend their support and friendship including Ms. Tomoko Okawara, Ms. Tamae Saito, Mr. Masahide Morita, Ms. Yumiko Tanabe, Ms. Mari Kimura-Okamoto, Ms. Yoko Suzuki, Ms. Ayako Sekimoto, Ms. Yuki Shimuzu, Ms. Yukiko Chikamori, Ms. Mamiko Fukushima, Ms. Kahori Shoji, Ms. Sayoko and other Japanese people like Mr. Daichi Yamazaki, Mr. Tomohiro Ueno-san, Ms. Sachiyo Hiraiwa, Ms. Naomi Tada, Prof. Masahiko Tagawa and Ms. Setsu Togawa.



Prominent Japanese priests from Nara like Rev RyobunKono, DaiANJI Temple, Rev. Kodo Yoshida, IkomasanHohzanji temple, Rev. BaiganRyoumyou, Houtokuji temple Rev. KitakawaraKokei, Chief of IndosanNipponji Temple and Ms. Atsuko Arai, Director, Ongakunomori attended the lectures at Nara and discussed about nonviolence and Indian philosophy.



Interaction was held with Swami Medhsananda, President of Nippon Vedanta Kyokai, Dr. Rabinder Malik President, Discover India Club, Mr. KenkichiKanakogi, vice President, Discover India Club, Prof. Toshiya Hoshino, Prof. Hinako Tasaka, Professor Takuya Matsumoto, Professor Kota Fukui, Associate Professor Megumi Akai-Kasaya and Assistant Professor Yasutaka Saeki of Osaka University, Prof. Akira Hayashi from Hirosaki University, Prof. Cyril Valiath from Sophia University and Mr. Tomoharu Katsuta from Japan India Association at Tokyo, Prof. Kazushige Shimpo from Keio University and Prof. Kenichi Kubota from Kansai University on youth leadership and international exchange opportunities.

Visit of Ex-Participants of SWY programs to SWYAA open schools.

During the year eight Ex-PYs drawn from different batches visited India and spent time in volunteering with the children of the Open School. They were provided home stay and an opportunity to interact and mentor the children in the Open School education program.



This was a joyous occasion for children as they got to learn some useful information, stories and songs from different cultures.

Konnichiwa Japan Cultural Festival Organized by Discover Japan Club, Delhi

SWYAA-India took part in the celebrations for commemorating 2017 as the Year of Japan India Friendly Exchange by participating in the 'Konnichiwa Japan cultural festival' on 18 & 19 November at New Delhi.



This festival transformed the venue into a little Japan island of all things local to Japan and was held to strengthen the cultural bonds between India and Japan. It indeed became a platform for the confluence of cultures where the language was not a barrier. This two-day festival was endorsed by the Embassy of Japan in India as the official event during the Year of Japan India Friendly Exchanges and was supported by the Japan Foundation and the World Heritage Academy.



The guests of honor for the first day of inauguration for cutting the ribbon were Mr. Ravi Chopra, President, SWYAA-India and Discover Japan Club, Mr. Sakamoto Takema, Chief Representative of JICA, Mr. Kaoru Miyamoto, DG, Japan Foundation India, Ms. Mizuho Hayakawa, Director, Japan

Information Centre, Embassy of Japan in India, Ms. Ikuyo Shimakura, Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan in India, Mr. Kazuharu Kono, Secretary-General, Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industries in India, Mr. Markus, Vice President Discover India Club and Dr. Unita Sachidanad, Ex-PY, Vice President of Discover Japan Club, India.



The second day's inauguration was held in the traditional way by banging on the Sake drum and saying 'Kampai' for the long and enriching friendship and cultural ties between India and Japan. The guests of honor were Former Ambassador to Japan Mrs. Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa, Mr. Rabinder Malik, President of Discover India Club, Tokyo and Advisor, IYEO, Mr. Ravi Chopra, Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Executive of SWYAA-India, Mr. Kanakogi and Mr. Markus of Discover India Club, Tokyo. The stage came alive with excitement as the Anime artists presented cosplay and transformed themselves in DJs and played Japanese pop songs. Solo singers and the Koto performer brought the sound and music of Japan alive in the festival.



On display were a beautiful specimen of Bonsai, Ikebana and Origami to showcase the culture of Japan. Lectures were held for introducing Japanese life, festivals, crafts & places to be visited. In his inaugural address, Mr. Ravi Chopra said, "We seek to promote youth exchanges between India and Japan through such initiatives. The festival comprises of many cultural demonstrations from traditional to modern and Indian people will be able to experience a glimpse of traditional and modern Japanese culture." The festival achieved its objective to showcase and introduce Japanese culture to Indian people as on these two days around ten thousand people Indians and Japanese both mingled with each other.

Pre-departure training of PYs of SWY30

In December 2017 representatives of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India & the members of SWYAA-India conducted the pre-departure training in Delhi for the PYs of Ship for World Youth Leaders (SWY30) program.



Detailed information was given about the SWY program by showing them the official film and PowerPoint presentation. They were briefed about the preparation for the PY seminar and Club activities and the National Presentation. In addition, their queries were addressed, and information was given about the post-program activities of SWYAA-India.

Networking and Linkages

SWYAA-India strengthened the linkages with the Embassy of Japan in India as well as with the Embassy of India in Japan. Strong relationships were forged with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Japan Foundation, Universal Peace Federation, and Indo-Japan Partnership Forum. Meetings were held with the officials of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, and the official of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute Youth Development, Government of India for the youth development program.

“The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong”.

-Mahatma Gandhi