

# NIHON MON NEWS LETTER

Vol - 1 Private Circulation Only

July - September 2009



ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, TAMILNADU CENTER wishes to Congratulate AOTS for celebrating its 50th Year Anniversary on 10th August 2009. This celebration is a memorable milestone in the untiring dedicated contribution of AOTS and its Staff from its inception in providing training and education to Technocrats, Managers and Entrepreneurs of developing nations.

We also wish to thank AOTS for the special events, AOTS Success Story Convention, the International Symposium and the 8th Convention of AOTS Alumni Societies to be held from 27th to 30th October 2009.

On this great occasion, we are happy to say that Our Alumni Association has been selected as one of the TOP 10 Successful Alumni Associations of AOTS and Our Chairman Mr. M.R. Ranganathan is invited to present our success story during the Success Story Convention on 27th October 2009. We wish him all Success.



## ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai

3rd Floor, Chateau 'D' Ampa 37 (110), Nelson Manickam Road Aminjikarai, Chennai - 600 029. INDIA. Tel.: 91-44-2374 0318 / 3290 3332. Fax.:91-44-2374 3575 E-Mail.: rangaots@eth.net / rangaots@airtelmail.in Web.: www. abkaotschennai.com

A Cultural, Technical & Trade Bridge Between Japan & India





#### Dear Friends,

Konnichiwa. Ogenki Desu ka. We are very happy to inform all, that AOTS (The Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship) is celebrating its Golden Jubilee this year.

AOTS supports human resource development of private sector companies in overseas countries, thereby contributing to the future mutual development of Japan and other countries and enhancing mutual understanding and friendly relations between them and Japan.

During this AOTS 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration, there will be a Success Story Convention on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and 10 "excellent" stories (best practices) duly selected from 198 success stories which were submitted by ex-participants in 26 countries, in the activity fields of "Technology Transfer", "Cultural Exchange" and "Social Contribution" will be presented. In the area of cultural activities under the theme "India-Japan Exchange Activities" our chairman M.R. Ranganathan will be presenting our success story.

We congratulate AOTS for its untiring Marathon innings of 50 years and wish them many more years of great service to the global community and also wish to thank every one of you who stood behind us in every effort of ours, so that we could be considered as a success.

In this year of AOTS Golden Jubilee, We moved away

from Printed News Letter to Nihon Mon to **C**News Letter and seek your continued support to this effort of ours.

Yoroshiku Onegai itashimasu

B. Harikumar

P. R. Padmanabhan - Editors Nihon Mon

## Events Conducted From January 2009 by ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI TAMINADU CENTER

**"Facets of Sogetsu Ikebana"** (Japanese Art of Arranging Flowers) (30<sup>th,</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009)

Ikebana Exhibition on "Facets of Sogetsu Ikebana" in coordination with the Sogetsu Study Circle, Chennai was inaugurated by Madam Lan Minagwa



Consul General Mr. Kazuo Minagawa and Madam Lan Minagawa graced exhibition with their Presence. Our Ikebana exhibitions with Sogetsu and Ohara School of Chennai are annual attractions.



Visitors enjoying the Ikebana Exhibition

Colleges, universities and students please contact us for Hiyoshi 2 months Summer Internship at Hiyoshi Corporation, Japan for students of 3<sup>rd</sup> Bachelor,s degree in Bio Tech, Chemical, Environmental Engineering or 1<sup>st</sup> year Master's Degree in the above areas – 044 2374 0318 rangaots@eth.net or rangaots@gmail.com. Also kindly contact us for details for Hiyoshi Environmental awards

## Sharaku Interpreted by Japan's contemporary Artists

(9~20 February 2009)

Exhibition organized in collaboration with Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and Japan Foundation.



Sharaku Interpreted by Japan's contemporary artists



Young Students trying their drawing skills

## Cultural Week Celebration

(3~6 March 2009)

Mr. Kazuo Minagawa, Consul General inaugurated the Cultural Week Celebration organized in association with the Consulate General of Japan at Chennai, and the Japan Foundation



Tea Masters - Sponsored by Japan Foundation.

#### Japanese Tea Ceremony

(3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009)

Japanese Tea Masters, Ms. Fumiko Boughey, Ms. Hitomi Matsushita and Ms. Mayumi Sagunaiyappan, Chado Ura-senke Tanko-kai Bangkok Association, demonstrated the art of Japanese Tea Ceremony.

Chano-yu is a mental discipline for pursuing wabi (a refined state of serenity and simplicity) sharing a bowl of tea together with the others in peace and with grace.



### Koto - Shamisen Demonstartion (3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009.)

Ms. Yuko Kinoshita and Ms. Mamiko Namiki played the traditional Japanese stringed musical instrument Koto and Shamisen.



Koto and Shamisen Demonstration

### Judo Demonstration (3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009.)

Mr. Hideaki Sakane, Consul, and Judo team from Rajagopal Sensei's school for Judo in Chennai demonstrated the skill of judo during the cultural week. He has a Kuroobi 5th Dan of kodokan.



Visitors enjoying the Judo Demonstration

#### **Origami Exhibition & Demonstration**

(4<sup>th</sup> March 2009.)

Mr. Shivaram Narayanan and Ms. Romona Abraham Ruth demonstrated and taught the art of Origami.



School Children's enthusiastic Participation



#### Shodo –Japanese Calligraphy (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March 2009)

Ms. Makiko Ikeda and Ms. Mamiko Namiki demonstrated and taught the skill of Shodo, calligraphy, is the art of drawing character using brush and Chinese ink.



Demonstration of Shodo - Japanese Calligraphy

**I'AI-Do** (6<sup>th</sup> March 2009.)

l'ai-do ("I" means "the state of mind", 'ai" responding to a sudden attack, and "do" way) is a Japanese martial art. Mr. Yoshinori Yakabe, Deputy Consul General who has a 4th Dan of l'ai-do, demonstrated the skill of l'ai-do, smooth and controlled movement of drawing a sword from its scabbard and replacing it back in the scabbard.



Mr. Yoshinori Yakabe, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai in action during the I'aido demonstration

## Business Japanese Education Seminar

(16<sup>th</sup> March 2009)

The Business Japanese Education for the Japanese Language Teachers of South India was organized in association with Consulate General of Japan at Chennai and Japan Foundation



Seminar was inaugurated by Mr. Tomonori Minowa Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai . Also Present were Mr. Yasumi Suzuki, General Manager, AOTS New Delhi Office Ms. Aya Kondoh, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies Tokyo and Ms. Tomoyo Shibahara Language Advisor Japan Foundation Newdelhi.



Participants of Business Japanese Education Seminar

## Seminar on "Japanese Business in India: Strengthening Ties"

(19<sup>th</sup> March 2009)

The Japan Foundation in association with ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre, Chennai & Japan Chamber of Commerce, Chennai organized a Seminar on "Japanese Business in India: Strengthening Ties". by Prof Tanaka Mr. Kazuo Minagawa, Consul General inaugurated the seminar.





Prof . Tanaka addressed the gathering. Dr. N. Ravichandran President Lucas TVS, Dr. Chandra Sekar, Vice President Wipro Chennai, Mr. Nishie, NSK Chennai and Mr. S. Chandrasekaran of Nihon Technology also Spoke.

## We Started Japanese Language Learning Centre at Coimbatore

(24<sup>th</sup> March 2009)



Ms. Shanmuga Priya, Director Coimbatore Chapter of our School.

## **TACNITI**



#### Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade and Industry (10<sup>th</sup> April 2009)

We are happy to inform that a Chamber of Trade and Industry called as TAMILNADU CHAMBER OF NIPPON INDIA TRADE & INDUSTRY (TACNITI) was formed by a core team of Our Dosokai Alumni members who underwent their training in Japan under the "Programme for Indian Entrepreneurs", to function as a bridge between Japanese and Indian industries.

The Inaugural Ceremony of "Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry" (TACNITI) was held on Friday, 10th April 2009

His Excellency Mr. Kazuo Minagawa, Consul General, presided over the inaugural ceremony and delivered presidential address. TACNITI was Inaugurated by Mr. M. F. Farooqui, I. A. S. Principal Secretary to Government of Tamilnadu Department of Industries & Keynote Address was given by Mr. Kazuo Kaneko, President, Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS) Japan, Felicitations were offered by Dr. N. Mahalingam, Chairman Emeritus – Sakthi Group of Companies, Mr. Kazumasa Kuboki, Director General – Japan External Trade & Organization (JETRO) Bangalore, Mr. Toshihiko Suzuki, Chairman – Hiyoshi Corporation, Japan & Mr. Yasumi Suzuki, General Manager – AOTS, New Delhi Office.

Mr. Sakurai CEO & Managing Director Nissan also graced the occasion with his presence.





Mr. Kazuo Kaneko, President, AOTS Lighting the Lamp – Mr. Kazuo Minogawa Consul General of Japan at Chennai , Mr. Farooqui I.A.S and Dr. N.Mahalingam, Chairman Sakthi Group are also in the Photo



## Cultural and Historical Study of Japan through Japanese Stamps

(To Commemorate the Philatelic week of Japan) (23<sup>rd</sup> ~ 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009)

In association with South India Philatelists Association we jointly organized "Cultural and Historical Study of Japan through Japanese Stamps" (to Commemorate the Philatelic week of Japan) was held from 23rd to 25th April 2009 at our Centre. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Mr. Tomonori Minowa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai 10.00 a.m. on 23rd April 2009. Mr. B. Selvakumar, Director of Postal Services – Chennai City Region presided over the function.



Mr. Tomonori Minowa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan at Chennai inaugurates the Stamp Exhibition



A section of the Audience during the exhibition



We also organized the exhibition in Bangalore along with AOTS Karnataka Alumni Association



Our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan and our Member Mr. C. Sriram made a courtesy call on the President of Japan India Association, Mr. Hiroshi Hirabayashi and Mr. Hara, Secretary General. Japan-India Association is a great source of inspiration, to ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, with continued support.



We wish to thank His Excellency The Governor of Kanagawa Mr. Shigefumi Matsyzawa and his office for accepting Ms. Gayathri in 2008 and also accepting Mr. Aterya in 2009 for attending Kanagawa Perfectural Government Program for Overseas Technical Trainees.

## **Events of this Quarter**

Mr. Hiroshi Hirabayashi, President of Japan India Association in Tokyo, and Former Ambassador of Japan to India Visited our Centre on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009.





Visit to ABK- AOTS DOSOKAI by Hirabayashi san is seen on the cover page of the Japan India Association monthly journal



Mr. Kyoichi Kato, Toshiba Corporation, Japan Visited our Center on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009.



"Talk Your Way to Japan" Speech Contest 2009 Prize Awarding Ceremony

(From 22nd August 2009)

The Theme for our annual **"Talk Your Way to Japan"** – Speech Contest always centers on Ecology and Environmental issues. **Hiyoshi Corporation**, **Oomihachiman, Japan sponsored** this Contest for the students in Tamilnadu, from 1995 and so far 50 students have gone to Japan under this scheme.

The following four first prize winners left for Japan on 26<sup>th</sup> September on a totally free two weeks study cum cultural exchange trip.

Speech Contest in Tamil – I (for Corporation & Government Hr. Sec. Schools in Chennai) First Prize Winner Ms. P. Nivedha XII std.

Speech Contest in Tamil – II (for All other Higher Secondary Schools, in Tamilnadu). First Prize Winner Mr. K. Shekkppan – XI std.

Speech Contest in Japanese (for our Japanese school students) First Prize Winner Mr. K. Vijayakumar

Speech Contest in English (For all the colleges in Tamilnadu) First Prize Winner Ms. S. Pavithra,

Mr. Tomonori Minowa, Consul, Consulate General of Japan, Chennai was the chief guest of the prize awarding ceremony & distributed the "Talk Your Way to Japan" – Prizes to the Winners, Mr. Paul Morris, Maintenance – India PV, Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd. presided over & delivered presidential Address on Saturday, 22nd August 2009



Some of the participants in action during the speech Contest.







Mr. Paul Morris, Maintenance – India PV, Renault Nissan Automotive India Pvt. Ltd. delivers presidential address



This year's prize winners with Mr. Minowa and Mr. Paul Morris



## Study Tour to Vietnam & Cambodia

#### (From 24th to 30th August 2009)

Tamilnadu Chamber of Nippon India Trade & Industry (TACNITI) organized a 16 member trade delegation from Small & Medium sector industrialists led by Mr. G. Chandramohan, Vice President, TACNITI to Vietnam between 24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2009 and they reached Saigon / Vietnam on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2009. They visited two manufacturing industries and interacted with the members of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce & Industry during their stay in Vietnam. They had also visited the historical places like World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat Asian Temple.







Japan India Students Conference (JISC)

(From 24th to 30th August 2009)

Japan India Students Conference (JISC) is a Non Profit Organization in Japan to promote goodwill & understanding between Japan & India through University students of both India & Japan interacting face to face, discussing on various topics of mutual interest. JISC believes in the long-term value of mutual understanding, and friendship through crosscultural exchange in student-run conferences, which will contribute to build a more peaceful world.

This year is the 13th Year they are visiting India and this year, 2009, is the First JISC visit to Tamilnadu. Thanks to the introduction of Indo – Japan Association, Tokyo, and JISC and our center could successfully organize this year's first Programme of their visit to Tamilnadu.

The 13th Japan India Student Conference (JISC) group consisted of 10 students from various famous universities in Japan. The group visited Dr. MGR University, Meenakshi Sundararajan College of Engineering to interact with Students of these colleges and discuss on various Topics of mutual interest and concern. In Anna University they also carried out Tree Planting apart from discussions. They visited two industries one in the SME sector namely Precision Machine and Auto Components and Lucas TVS in the large scale Industries.

At the school level they visited and interacted students of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School at T P Road and made a sight seeing trip to Mahabalipuram and went around Chennai City. They enjoyed their trip in the electric Train.

13th JISC visit to Chennai





The 'Tree Planting Program' at Anna University.



During Student Interaction with Chennai college students



Singing with the students of Padma Seshadri Bala Bhavan School



JISC Students watching the cultural event during their visit to our centre



JISC Students' cultural show during the farewell party

Prof. Norio Suzuki, President of Consulting Bell Office Pvt. Ltd, Japan, Visited our Centre on 03 September 2009.



### Participation in the AGM of Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI) (5<sup>th</sup> ~ 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009)

Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI), had its Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) at Kolkatta between 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009. Our Center was represented by M.R. Ranganathan and R. Balakrishnan.

## Yearlong Japanese Management Training Programmes –

(12th September 2009)

Monthly Two Programmes are being conducted at Our Center by our Industrial Consultancy Division. We also offer in house training Programmes to Industries in Tamilnadu on various Japanese Management areas and shop floor improvement techniques.

We also offer a special Programme called as "Cross Cultural Communications and working with the Japanese" for Indian IT and manufacturing companies and Indian staff of Joint venture companies.



Dr. R. Balakrishnan – Program Director is seen during a Japanese Management Training Program at our centre





Participants of the Japanese Management Training Program

#### Japan Management Association Consultant Inc., Visited our Centre. (14<sup>th</sup> September 2009)

Japan Management Association Consultant Inc., (JMAC) visited our centre on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 7.00 p.m. In Honour of JMAC Consultants' visit to our center, we hosted a dinner and Mr. Yasumi Suzuki, General Manager – AOTS New Delhi Office and Executive Committee Members of our centre also attended the dinner.



JMAC Group members visited us and are seen in the photo

## We Started Japanese classes in at Kanchi Mamunivar Centre for P.G. Studies Puducherry (15<sup>th</sup> September 2009)



M.R. Rangnathan exchanging MOU with Honourable Minister for Higher Education Government of Pudhuchery Mr. Shajahan.



Quiz on Japan 2009 (19<sup>th</sup> September 2009)

Seventeen years before a summer vacation became very meaningful for three small girls when they came with an magnificent idea of creating a question bank with answers on Japan which could become a "Quiz Program" on Japan for the Chennai City School Children. These three girls viz: Shobana, Sadhana, and Harshida sowed the seed, which has grown into a Seventeen year old tree attracting enthusiastic young students of Chennai schools. Every year New CDs containing more than 8,000 questions and answers about Japan with pictorial explanation are sent to all schools in Chennai free of cost. The questions will be in English on various aspects of Japan – its land, its geography, its people, its festivals, its religion, its contribution to literature, its rituals, its weather, and anything and everything connected with Japan.

ABK - AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre conducts the inter school "**QUIZ PROGRAM**" annually on the Theme Japan for the Students of 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Standards of Chennai City Schools. Mr. R. Veeramani Chairman & Managing Director GEM Granites, who donated the Gem Granite Rolling Trophy in 1993, inaugurated this year's quiz and was presided over by Mr. T. Manoharan, Managing Director, Ajinomoto India Pvt. Ltd on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2009. This year around 70 students from 35 Schools participated in this Quiz Program.



Mr. R. Veeramani Chairman & Managing Director, Gem Granites inaugurates the 15<sup>th</sup> year Quiz on Japan



Mr. T. Manoharan, Managing Director, Ajinomoto India Pvt. Ltd, Chennai delivered Presidential Address



Quiz in Progress

We are also happy inform that the Young Hiyoshi Alumni Group has taken over the responsibility of Organising "Talk Your Way to Japan", The JISC visits and "Quiz on Japan" programme as our 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation to take care of Dosokai activities.

## AOTS World Network of Friendship – WNF for JASTECA - Srilanka

(From 21<sup>st</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2009)

Under the "World Network of Friendship" programme of AOTS for Inter Alumni Cooperation this year 10 Members of JASTECA, Srilanka visited Chennai for a study tour to visit TPM certified factories in and around Chennai to see and understand the best practices in TPM and 5S. They following world class companies the visit Brakes India Limited, Lucas TVS Limited, TTK – LIG Ltd, GMR Power Corporation Ltd, Carborundum Universal Ltd, and Delphi-TVS Ltd.

Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Deputy Consul General, handed over the certificates to the participants during the Valedictory Ceremony on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009.



WNF Program on Study Tour to Chennai, India



Speech by Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Deputy Consul General



Group photo taken during the Certificate Awarding Ceremony of WNF Program on Study Tour to Chennai, India along with Mr. Takayuki Kitagawa, Deputy Consul General, Consulate General of Japan, Chennai

## Drawing Competition – "JAPAN" From the eyes of an Indian Child – 2009

live-in-japan.com is a non profit, non political minded organization formed in the year 2007, providing useful information and services about India to the foreign community & Japanese community in Japan It conducts society programs in arts, and non-academic activities for children living in Japan.

From this year onwards ABK – AOTS DOSOKAI, Tamilnadu Centre in coordination with live-injapan.com is organizing a Drawing Competition on the theme "JAPAN from the Eyes of an Indian Child" for the students studying between 6th and 12th Standard in Tamilnadu.

We received 664 drawings from schools in Tamilnadu. These 664 drawings received were sent to Japan to be exhibited in Tokyo along with live-in-japan.com during the 3rd Ajantha – The Drawing competition that was held on Sep 26, 2009. From each category the top three were selected for the I, II and III prizes.



Some of the Drawing



Displays our drawing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ajantha – The Drawing Competition was held on 26 September 2009 at Japan

## "5S for Shop floor Safety" – One day Training Programme for Komatsu India

(30<sup>th</sup> September 2009)

The above Programme was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 by our Chairman Mr. M. R. Ranganathan for 50 shop floor employees of Komatsu India at their Orgadam Factory.

## Jobless rate hit six – year high of 5.4% in June

#### **Kyodo News**

Japan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate reached a six – year high of 5.4 percent in June, 2009 clouding prospects for a real economic recovery anytime soon, as the largest – ever number of people were axed, government data.

The rate rose from 5.2 percent in May at a time when industrial production and exports are in a recovery phase. The rate is at its highest level since April 2003, when it hit a record – high 5.5 percent.

The number of jobless people increased by the largest figure ever – 830,000, or 31.3 percent – from a year earlier to 3.48 million for the eighth straight monthly increase, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications said in a preliminary report.

Of the told, 1.21 million had been laid off, up 620,000 from a year ago, the biggest increase since comparable data became available in January 2003, the ministry said. Separate data, released by the labor ministry, said the ratio of job offers to job seekers in June was at a seasonally adjusted 0.43, the lowest on record for the second straight month.

The latest ratio, down from 0.44 in the previous month, means there were 43 jobs available for every 100 job seekers.

Though economists and policymakers think the worst of the downturn is over, continuing layoffs and shrinking incomes could act as a drag on domestic demand and consumer spending – which makes up more than half of the economy – for some time to come. Many economists believe it is just a matter of time before the rate tops the current postwar record high of 5.5 percent. "The rate will worsen at least through the end of this year," Aida said. "It is projected to reach nearly 6 percent by that time."

The Cabinet Office said last week Japan now has millions of hidden jobless people, who are not counted in official labor figures.

Its annual report said the number of excess workers at Japanese Companies during the first three months of 2009 is believed to have swelled to up to 6.07 millon, and that the capability of these workers to remain employed under severe business conditions is reaching its limits.



#### Flexibility of Japanese Writing System

Japan's rapid modernization and subsequent economic success was due not to the loyalty and endurance of the Japanese worker, neither to the symbiotic relationship between business and government, nor even to the legendary Japanese ability to copy and refine ideas and technologies from elsewhere. The foundation for Japan's success, many Japanese feel, lay largely in the power and flexibility of its writing system.

Whereas the French fanatically attempt to preserve the purity of their language – to the extent of having a government committee police the introduction of foreign words (like le coke) – the Japanese took the opposite approach, first by basing their written language on Chinese pictographic characters, then by borrowing and adapting words as needed, mainly from English but also from Dutch, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish, and Portuguese.

"Japanese are an island people. They have no resources apart from their own diligence". Said a Japanese friend. She meant that Japan, with no oil or mineral wealth and barely enough arable land to feed its population, could survive only by importing raw materials and exporting finished products. Doing this successfully depended solely on the skill and imagination of its people. Unlike the French, the Japanese regarded language as a raw material like any other, to be imported and fashioned into something use full.

The Japanese had no native writing system until, during the Asuka period (593 – 710). They began to borrow Chinese ideographic characters (called kanji). Each kanji represents as concrete word or concept but does not indicate how that word is pronounced, as an alphabetical writing system (such as English) does.

Moreover, kanji are ill – suited for representing grammatical markers and inflectional endings. To circumvent these problems, by the middle of the ninth century the Japanese had developed two phonetic alphabet systems the corved hiragana and the angular katakana.

Thus, the word for the Japanese language – nihongo – can be written using kanji, hiragana, or katakana.

Alternatively, it can be written in romaji (Roman letters), used for teaching elementary or conversational Japanese to foreigners and to enter Japanese text on a computer with a Standard English keyboard.



## Our Forth Coming Events for the Next Quarter - Year 2009

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2009

## Finals Quiz on Japan and Prize awarding ceremony:

For Quiz on Japan, Children's Drawing Competition and Hiyoshi Environmental Award for best research papers.

#### 9<sup>th</sup> October 2009

One Day Seminar on Best 5S & TPM Practices.

#### 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009

One Day Training Programme on "SMED" (Single Minute Exchange of Dies)

#### 27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 Presentation of our Success Story in Tokyo

#### 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Participation on AOTS 8<sup>th</sup> Convention

#### 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009

Origami Demonstration & Display and on the spot Competition.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009

One Day Training Programme on "Statistical Tools" for Effective Office Work.

#### 14<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Lecture & Demonstration of Ikebana.

#### 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Okinawa Folk Music Concert by Japanese group from Okinawa, Japan jointly organized by Consulate General of Japan, Chennai and our centre in association with Japan Foundation.

#### 21<sup>st</sup> November 2009

One Day Training Programme on Removing Wasteful Activities thro "Lean" Manufacturing Process.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009

Gemba Kaizen – Training Program by Mr. Norio Suzuki from AOTS, Japan Organized by The Association for Overseas Technical Scholarship (AOTS) In cooperation with the Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI).

#### 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009

JLPT Exam.

#### 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009

One Day Training Programme on "Office TPM" for Improving Office Overall Efficiency (OEE)

We are glad to inform that you read our first issue of e-Nihon Mon, which is of 14 pages because this is our first e news letter covering last 9 months' news. Our next quarterly issue of e-Nihon will be 10 pages or 8 pages Thank you for your support and cooperation.

- Editors