

# Discovery



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Indian trainees come to Japan

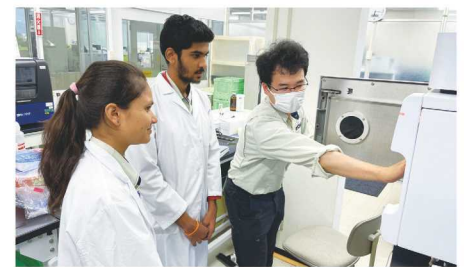
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## International Contribution



### Indian trainees come to Japan

This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the Indian Internship Program, which was held after a period of two years. There were 508 applicants, the largest number ever, and among them, Preksha and Muneeshwaran Karthikeyan, were selected. Since their arrival in Japan on May 22<sup>nd</sup> they have been trained in food analysis, general water quality analysis and wastewater treatment for two months. Apart from the technical training, they also experienced the traditions and culture of Japan and the charm of Shiga prefecture.



### Interview with the interns

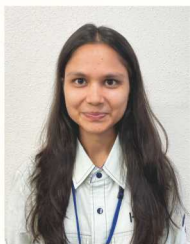
#### What did you learn at Hiyoshi?



During my two-month internship at Hiyoshi, I had the incredible opportunity to immerse myself in the local culture, work in a professional environment, and explore the rich traditions and vibrant landscapes of this fascinating country. The Japanese work culture emphasized respect, diligence and collaboration. Throughout my internship I had the chance to explore new technologies and learn new things. I am immensely grateful for the opportunities and experiences I had. The internship provided me with valuable professional skills, a

deeper appreciation of Japanese culture and lifelong memories. It broadened my horizons, enhanced my adaptability and enriched my understanding of global perspectives. I am confident that the knowledge, skills and connections gained during my internship in Japan will positively influence my future endeavors. The internship served as the stepping stone for my personal and professional growth. Overall, the two-months internship was an unforgettable journey filled with valuable experiences, cultural immersions and valuable connections.

Muneeshwaran Karthikeyan



Preksha

I learned more about Japanese culture and tradition, and I was amazed to see the amount of hard work done by senior citizens and their volunteering activities. I observed that the workplaces were cleaned and well maintained by the employees. This internship not only provided me with all the facilities but also made our weekends memorable. Along with fun and enjoyment, we could also interact with new employees and everyone and come to know about their day-to-day lifestyle. We also got the opportunity to visit and interact with the students at the Kyoto University of Advance Science.

Before coming to Japan, I was worried, being a vegetarian how I will manage food and without knowing Japanese it will

be difficult to interact. But later, everything went easily, and I learned a few Japanese words and enjoyed Japanese meals too. However, first, we faced a bit of difficulty when we went to a convenience store or supermarket, but I realized nothing was impossible. It took only a week to get habitual with the lifestyle of Japanese people.

After coming to Japan, I learned various new things and could get exposure to a laboratory equipped with high technology. I realized how much Japanese people are concerned about keeping the environment safe and sustainable. We also went to the Taneya rice plantation, where we learnt different rice planting methods.

## Hiyoshi endowed course conducted in India, 2years in a row

The “Manufacturing Skills Transfer Promotion Program” aims to develop human resources in the manufacturing industry. Following last year, the “Hiyoshi Endowed Course”, which was certified by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, was conducted once again at Dr.M.G.R University in India.

At the completion ceremony on October 28th, Mr. Odagawa, Consul-General of Japan in Chennai, awarded certificates of completion to the 15 participants. In addition to chemistry and civil engineering faculties, the number of students increased by 1.5 times as the target faculties were expanded to include biotechnology, architectural engineering, and mechanical engineering.





## Hiyoshi held technology exhibition and seminar lecture at “Japan-India Environment Week”

At the “Japan-India Environment Week” held in Delhi, India, sponsored by the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, Mr. Chhibharath, an employee of Hiyoshi India Ecological Services Private Limited, gave a presentation on the theme of disseminating and developing model projects for improving the water environment in Asia. Additionally, we exhibited a simple measurement method for dioxins using bioassay technology that also contributes to CO2 reduction.

Minister of the Environment, Mr. Nishimura, visited our technology exhibition and provided favorable comments about our long-standing efforts to contribute to the international community. We will continue to strive to expand our business to meet the needs of society, including India, towards a decarbonized society, based on our basic philosophy of internationalization: “There are no borders to the Environmental issues.”



## Business in Japan

### Aiming for the revival of “Biwa pearl”, cooperate as a water quality advisor

Saiki Industries Co., Ltd., a group company of Hiyoshi Corporation, has been cultivating and selling freshwater pearls “Biwa Pearl” in Lake Nishinoko, one of the subsidiary lakes of Lake Biwa for three generations. Biwa Pearl is a freshwater pearl that takes 7 years to grow. It is a unique pearl that has a thick nacreous layer, a wide variety of colors and shapes, and a deep brilliance.

In recent years, the yield has decreased sharply due to changes in the environment, making it a very rare and valuable product.

We are conducting a water quality study of Lake Nishinoko in order to reduce the occurrence of blue-green algae, which affects the aquatic environment. Blue-green algae tend to proliferate more favorably as compared to other phytoplankton, which also causes the musty odor problem. We have also presented these results at academic conferences, as blue-green algae may be caused as a result of multiple factors, such as water depth, water temperature, residence time, and leaching of nutrients from the bottom mud in Lake Nishinoko. However, there are still many difficulties in establishing countermeasures against blue-green algae, and research to improve water quality is still ongoing.

Freshwater pearls are a symbol of the natural richness and beauty of Lake Biwa and the western lakes. We will continue our efforts with the belief that pearl cultivation is a livelihood that makes the most of local resources and that maintaining it will lead to the preservation of Lake Biwa and the western part of the lake.



### New Laboratory building completed!

A new laboratory building was completed in March 2022. With the completion of the new research building, we have improved efficiency by bringing together at one place the various analytical rooms, strengthened quality control with new equipments, and increased production lines. We have established a system that can respond to a wider range of requests.



- Paper: Lake Biwa eco-friendly paper (includes a donation to support environmental preservation activities for Lake Biwa)  
FSC®-certified paper using responsible wood or recyclable resources
- Ink: Environmentally friendly ink (vegetable oil or non-VOC ink)
- Printing: Waterless printing without discharge of harmful effluents
- Carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) generated in manufacturing and disposal offset by credits from businesses with emission reductions in Shiga Prefecture
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 229 kg/1,000 sheets