

JENESYS2017 In-bound Program SAARC 1th Batch Report Country: 7 SAARC countries Theme: Economic Cooperation

1. Program Overview

109 high school and university students from SAARC 7 countries visited Japan from November 27 to December 5, 2017 as part of "JENESYS 2017" under the scheme of "Japan's Friendship Ties Program" and participated in the program with the theme of "Economic Cooperation".

With the theme, "Economic Cooperation," the participants attended lectures related to the theme in metropolitan and rural areas, visited relevant facilities, experienced Japanese culture, homestay, and participated in a workshop. Group A visited Aomori Prefecture. They participated in that company visit, school exchange, and the experience program of the traditional painting of toy horses called Yawata-uma in Hachinohe City. They also visited Nanbu Town and attended a lecture introducing the area. Group B visited Fukushima Prefecture. They experienced local activities to recover from the earthquake disaster through a courtesy visit to Fukushima Prefectural Government Office, a company visit, and participated in a school exchange. Group C visited Akita Prefecture. They had a courtesy visit to the Akita Prefectural Government Office, company visit, and participating in a school exchange. Group D visited Hiroshima Prefecture and local companies there. They also visited the Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome and Peace Memorial Park, gaining a newfound appreciation for peace. Group E visited Nagasaki Prefecture and prayed for peace through the visit to the Peace Memorial Park and the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum. They also learned about local ambience through visiting local companies, participating in a school exchange, and direct cultural experience.

Through the exchange with Japanese people, they also gained a broad understanding of Japan, and shared their interests and experiences by social media. Based on those findings in Japan, participants made group presentations in the final session and reported their action plans, which are to be implemented after returning home.

[Participating Countries and Numbers of Participants]

109 participants (Bangladesh 16 participants, Bhutan 16 participants, India 16 participants, Maldives 16 participants, Nepal 13 participants, Pakistan 16 participants, Sri Lanka 16 participants)

[Prefectures Visited]

Tokyo (all participants), Aomori (22 participants), Fukushima (22 participants), Akita (32 participants), Hiroshima (15 participants), Nagasaki (18 participants)

2. Program Schedule

November 26 (Sun)/November 27 (Mon) Arrival

November 27 (Mon)	[Observation of Disaster Prevention-related Facility] Tokyo Fire Department Life Safety Learning Center (Bangladesh, Nepal)
	[Observation] The Imperial Palace (India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Nepal)
	[Orientation]
	[Observation of Cutting-Edge Technology]
November 28 (Tue)	Group A, B and C: TEPIA Advanced Technology Gallery
	Group D and E: RiSuPia Panasonic Center Tokyo
	[Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture]
November 29 (Wed) -D	December 3 (Sun) Divided into 5 groups
Group A visited to Aomo	
Group B visited to Fuku	shima prefecture
Group C visited to Akita	
Group D visited to Hiros	
Group E visited to Naga	isaki prefecture
1) Group A: Aomori	
November 29 (Wed)	[Courtesy Call] [Lecture on the Region] Nanbu Town
November 30 (Thu)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Yahoo! Inc. Hachinohe Center
	[School Exchange] Hachinohe Gakuin University
December 01 (Fri)	[Cultural Experience] Painting Yawata-uma
	[Nature Experience] Making dried flower
	【Meeting with Host Family】 Nanbu Town
December 02 (Sat)	[Homestay]
December 03 (Sun)	[Farewell Party with Host Family]
	[Workshop]
2) Group B: Fukushima	
November 29 (Wed)	[Courtesy Call][Lecture on the Region]Fukushima Prefectural Government
	[Observation of Theme-related Facility] Bank of Japan Fukushima Branch
Neversher 20 (Thu)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Yakult Honsha Co.,Ltd.
November 30 (Thu)	Fukushima Factory
	[Cultural Experience] Adachigahara Furusatomura (Japanese Paper Craft)
	[Observation of Environment-related Facility] Centre for Environmental
	Creation Komyutan Fukushima
December 01 (Fri)	[School Exchange] College of Engineering, Nihon University
	[Courtesy Call] [Lecture on the Region] Kitakata City
	[Meeting with Host Family] Kitakata City
December 02 (Sat)	[Homestay]
December 03 (Sun)	[Farewell Party with Host Family]
	[Workshop]
3) Group C: Akita	
November 29 (Wed)	[Courtesy Call] Akita Prefecture
	[Lecture on the Region] Akita Prefecture Promotion Policy Department
	International Affairs Division
November 30 (Thu)	[School Exchange] North Asia University
	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Akita Syurui seizo Co., Ltd
December 01 (Fri)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Warabiza Co., Ltd
	[Cultural Experience] Lake Tazawa

December 02 (Sat) December 03 (Sun)	【Meeting with Host Family】 Senboku City 【Homestay】 【Farewell Party with Host Family】	
	[Workshop]	
4) Group D: Hiroshima		
November 29 (Wed)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Mazda Museum	
November 30 (Thu)	[Courtesy Call] [Lecture on the Region] Hiroshima city [Observation of Peace-Building related Facility] Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum / Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Dome / Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park [Lecture on Peace-Building Field] Atomic Bomb Experience [Observation of Historical Landmark] Miyajima / Itsukushima shrine	
December 01 (Fri)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Miyajima Shopping Street [Cultural Experience] Fudenosato Kobo (Japanese calligraphy) [School Exchange] Kumano High School [Meeting with Host Family] Kumano Town	
December 02 (Sat)	[Homestay]	
December 03 (Sun)	[Farewell Party with Host Family]	
	[Workshop]	
4) Group E: Nagasaki		
November 29 (Wed)	[Courtesy Call] Isahaya City	
	[Observation of Historical Landmark] Megane Bridge, Goshoin	
November 30 (Thu)	[Observation of Regional Industry/Company] Omura Yume Farm shu-shu	
	[School Exchange] Ngasaki Isahaya High School	
December 01 (Fri)	【Observation of Peace-Building related Facility】 Nagasaki Peace Park, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum	
	[Lecture on Peace-Building Field] Atomic Bomb Experience	
	[Cultural Experience] Tea ceremony, origami	
	[Meeting with Host Family]	
December 02 (Sat)	[Homestay]	
December 03 (Sun)	[Farewell Party with Host Family]	
	[Workshop]	
All Group: After the program in local prefectures, all groups moved back to Tokyo on December 4.		
December 04 (Mon)	[Reporting Session]	
December 05 (Tue)	[Observation of Historical Landmark] Asakusa (Maldives)	
	[Observation] Kokyo Higashi Gyoen Garden (The Imperial Palace), Tokyo	
Tower (Maldives) December 4 (Mon) / December 5 (Tue) / December 6 (Wed) Departure		

3. Program Photos (All Groups: Visit to Tokyo)



11/28 [Lecture on Japanese Culture/Key Note Lecture]

12/4 [Reporting Session]

(Group A: Visit to Iwate)



12/2 [Homestay] 12/3 [Workshop] (Group B: Visit to Miyagi) 11/29 [Courtesy Call] [Lecture on the Region] 11/30 [Cultural Experience] Adachigahara Fukushima Prefectural Government Furusatomura (Japanese Paper Craft) 11/30 [Observation of Environment-related 12/1 [School Exchange] College of Engineering, Facility] Centre for Environmental Creation Nihon University Komyutan Fukushima 12/2 [Homestay] 12/3 [Farewell Party with Host Family]

(Group C: Visit to Fukuoka)







4. Voice from Participants (abstract)

(Group A: Visit to Iwate)

• Maldives, University student

My host family was the best. They made me feel like I was their own daughter. I was lucky to try out Japanese food, kimono, hot springs and many more. Japanese people are really inspiring. I have never seen so polite, so well behaved people in my entire life. I only wish Maldivians would behave like this too. Japan is so safe and the people always greet us whenever they see us. Always showing so much respect, even though we get discriminated a lot in other places due to our differences. Japan is really the best. Every country should learn from Japan on how to be a safe and successful country! I cannot wait to become the ambassador to strengthen the relationship between Maldives and Japan.

Bangladesh, University student

The school exchange program game us the opportunity to experience and interact with the students of Japan. We got to see the infrastructure of the university, the systems, which they follow their learning materials. Visit to Yahoo! Japan was another exciting experience where we got to see the work-friendly office, the interior decoration and how much fun the employees have during their work over there. The kind words from the honorable deputy mayor of Nanbu town and his kind warm welcome make us feel more at home at Nanbu Town.

(Group B: Visit to Fukushima)

Sri Lanka, University student

We visited Nihon University. We had a really good time. The students were so kind. And they shared all their experiences with us. The innovative mind of the students amazed me. They created their own LOHAS houses, which was really amazing. During the visit to Bank of Japan, I learned how to identify the fake note. Then I too checked our own money. So I guess everyone will have good knowledge to identify fake money. During our visit to Fukushima prefecture government, I could feel difficulties of earthquake. Their courage of stand back amazed me. TEPIA advanced technology gallery was one of the place where I could see the Japanese people creative mind. Every exhibit was so amazing and impressive.

• Pakistan, University student

Through the Keynote lecture, I conclude that Japan is full of peace and their economy why is too strong. To policy of Japan is very implementing and so overcoming of unpredictable disaster. When I went to Nihon University, I realize that how technology advancement is important for country's economy. And I'm really inspired for education system. Because when we visit Yakult factory, I saw the small kids of school or pre-school they also visit the factory which was visited by us as an international delegation. So we can measure from that how education system is advance compared to other country's education system. In the company visit, we saw and learn how to increase

productivity in a short time and with less Human being. At the end I'm talking about homestay. I have no words to explain my feelings and emotions because the homestay is the best event during the trip. I never forget these memories, their hospitality and their kindness. I was crying at the time when I was leaving the family of Kitakata.

(Group C: Visit to Akita)

• Nepal, University student

I was amazed by the working hours of company and government offices. In my country, usually working hour is from 10:00AM to 4:00PM but I was impressed because usually Japanese works from 7:00AM to 11:00PM. I found out that this was the reason of success of Japan. Home stay was a new experience for me. At first, I was very nervous about home stay. But when I meet the host family, all my nervousness was gone. The host family was so kind, humble, polite, caring and loving. I never felt that I was far away from home. They welcomed us so warmly and took care of us as if we were their own children/family. I understood the Japanese people and their culture a lot from the home stay.

• Bhutan, University student

Out of all the program, home stay program has kept the most significant impression on me. I really like the way host family has treated us and got to learn a lot from them. About the school exchange, it was too bad because we did not have much time to talk with the students.

One of the interesting program was a visit to TEPIA Advanced Technology Gallery where we got to see some of the advanced technology that Japanese people has developed and it really pinch me thinking that our country is lacking behind in many ways and gained lots of knowledge and ideas.

We also got to learn the secret for Japanese success which was the lecture delivered by Professor Emeritus it was quite improvise and was amazed to see or watch the Japanese economy.

The Akita Shurui Seizou Company, rice wine brewer was very systematic and wonderful. The way people make wine here in Japan was quite similar to that of Bhutan and the only difference is that we make less quantity mostly for self-consumption where as in Japan it was huge and tasty.

Lastly, I really like the way people in Japan were and their way of living and I really wish if I could make some difference in my country and really like to come back again.

(Group D: Visit to Hiroshima)

Bangladesh, High school student

The keynote lecture was very illuminating. It contained very important facts about the governments, which we could implement in Bangladesh. The Mazda company visit was awesome. We learned about the company's history and saw the manufacturing of cars, and different models.

Home stay was by far the best experience of this entire trip. It was as if they were our very own family. The time with them was fantastic. It was very sad for us when we had to separate from our host family.

One of my favorite parts of the program was the fact that we had the opportunity to socialize with people from different SAARC countries and Japan, and make new friends. Overall, it was a wonderful experience.

• Pakistan, High school student

The professor gave us the keynote lecture in which he told us many things about Japanese culture and traditions. In Hiroshima, we get a lecture from an A-bomb survivor. School exchange was amazing. The most impressive was to see how Japanese students study and learn.

Homestay was so far the best experience in Japan. The best days of my life was staying with the host family. Meeting other people from different countries like Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka was amazing and a very different experience. To communicate with the people of different culture and countries was the best experience so far. We have become good friends and would love to carry this friendship forever in my life.

(Group E: Visit to Nagasaki)

• India, High school student

During the lecture, we get to know very new things about Japan economy like the past history of Japan economy and how it transformed it economy to such a high place. They have also told us that they will cooperate with other developing countries for its improvement. During the school exchange, we had lots of experience such as communication with different Japanese students about culture, cloths, language, sports. We have also experienced a lot about the history of Japan. We have also watched Judo and Japanese archery.

Japanese companies are very useful, advanced and time conscious. When we visited the company, it was very nice experience. We came to know about different technology and working staff as well. Another nice experience was home stay. There we go the chance to experience the culture and common people in Japan. We also came to know about time management and the goods provided by them.

• Bhutan, High school student

From the lecture, the most significant impression was the government of Japan was giving support to the private companies so that economic development can take place rapidly. During the school exchange program, we came to meet with the new Japanese friends and we have bonded a good long lasing friendship. Homestay was my most favorite as I came to meet with new family.

5. Voice from Japanese Students/Schools/Host Families/Organizations

• Host family (Group A)

The participants were very proactive when doing everything. When I dressed them in kimonos, they dressed me in a sari. I was very happy. I could feel their kindness even though we could not understand language each other.

• Host family (Group B)

I was happy that the participants were impressed with the beauty of nature. They looked having fun picking apples in the field, the participants repeatedly said, "We have never had such delicious apples before." This gave me energy to keep working in the cold. Although Fukushima has not fully regained its spirit yet, I had such a good time with them. I treasure the fact that the participants said that they became fans of Fukushima.

• Host family (Group C)

The students who came from a country of happiness communicated with us with many smiles and taught us their language, Dzongkha. Some of their languages are similar to Japanese and we felt the far away foreign country was very close to us during these three days.

• Administrative staff for the school exchange (Group D)

The students enjoyed the exchange program and wished to learn English in the future according to their reports. Although the students may flinch when they cannot communicate in English, they will want to learn English once they see people are enjoying themselves and can feel it is fun to communicate in English.

Student for the school exchange (Group D)

The participants knew a lot about their own countries while I do not know enough about Japan to introduce it to others. It is important to learn English but it is also important to learn about the culture of your own country. I will like English more once I have positive experiences using English in real situations.

6. Dissemination by the participants



7. Presentation of action plans to be implemented after returning home

