## Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India



**Country Report 2015** 





Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India 13/88, Block C-4/B, Janakpuri, New Delhi -110058, India Phone: +91-9810078620 swyaaindia@gmail.com www.swyaa-india.in



Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India (SWYAA-India) will complete ten years in 2016. It has been a very fruitful journey which was made possible with mutual cooperation from friends and supporters of SWYAA-India. SWYAA-India worked hard in 2015 to reconnect with ex-PYs and key organizations who have been involved with the SWY program. We strengthened relationships with organizations affiliated with Japan in India and found new acquaintances. While our Ex-Participants 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. SWYAA-India was acknowledged by the Embassy of Japan in India for effectively promoting people to people contact, cross cultural exchange, and nurturing the spirit of international cooperation while serving the disadvantages sections of the 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.

This year we are happy to receive the PYs of SWY 2016 at Chennai and hope you all are having an enjoyable learning experience on board Nippon Maru. SWYAA-India is honored to host the 10<sup>th</sup> SWY Global Assembly in September 2016. We are eagerly looking forward to reviving the SWY spirit and discuss the future activities of the SWYAA-International member countries.

In recent years Japan India relations have undergone a significant and qualitative shift. The strategic Global Partnership between Indian and Japan, which started a new era of bilateral relations which has marked by mutual good will friendship and respect. In this direction Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken the initiative to visited Japan from August 31 to September 3 and had said that "Japan is a very important country and the bilateral relationship is a priority for India". This will strengthen the cultural inflow and people to people contact between India and Japan as per the Global strategic relationship spearheaded by our Prime Minster Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

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The social development activities of SWYAA-India included initiatives for promoting Peace, encouraging volunteerism and education of children undertaken by SWYAA-India as part of the post program initiatives. We received encouragement from the Japanese Embassy in India, Indian Embassy in Tokyo, Universities in Japan, Japanese companies like Canon India and Mitsui Chemicals and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Youth Development, Govt. of India.

As part of the endeavor to encourage volunteerism SWYAA-India collaborated with Kieo University, Tokyo and welcomed 16 students and their Prof. Shimpo. Together we worked out a program for sensitizing the Japanese students about the social issues and encouraged them to participate by volunteering their time with primary school students and children from the marginalized communities.

RAVI CHOPRA Vice President

BASIC FACTS		
Basic facts about your country's Alumni Association:		
Country	INDIA	
,		
Name of the organization	SHIP FOR WORLD YOUTH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION-INDIA (SWYAA-INDIA)	
Organisational structure	Officially registered with Government of India as a NPO	
Board members (Name/batch)	President: Mr. U.K.S.Chauhan, IAS, EX-NL, SWY6 Vice President: Mr. Ravi Chopra, EX-PY SWY6 Treasurer: Mr. Rupesh Gupta, CA, EX-PY SWY6	
Number of members	Total number of ex-PYs: 158 Active members: 78	
Annual membership fee	Yes → Indian Rs.500 or US \$ 8	
Basic facts about your country's participation in SWY:		
Which batches has your country participated in?	14 Batches (SWY2, SWY4, SWY6, SWY8, SWY12, SWY14, SWY16, SWY18, SWY20, SWY22, SWY24, GLDP & SWY28)	
Which institution has conducted the selection process?	Government of India	
Which institution has conducted the predeparture training?	Government of India SWYAA-India	
How many days was the pre-departure training?	4 – 6 days	
Communication:		
How does your AA communicate internally with members & externally with non-members?	Website → https://www.swyaaindia.org Newsletter → Wave of Freindship (Attached) Facebook page → https://www.facebook.com/swyaa.india	
NETWORKING AND COLLABORATIONS WITH JAPAN AND THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY		
Important associates and collaborators?	Embassy of Japan in India JICA-Head Quaters (Tokyo) and India office Japan Foundation, India Suginami City Government Japanese Universities: Keio, Toyo Eiwa, Sophia, Soka, Tokyo university for foeign studies Japanese Companies: Canon India Pvt. Limited and Mitsui India Private Limited Initiative of Change (NPO), Tokyo, Universal Peace Federation, Japan and IEWA, Tokyo	
Do you organize events with the Japanese Embassy?	Yes  → How often: Quarterly  → What kind of events: Seminar & meetings	

Do you organize events	□ Yes	
with the Japanese	→ How often: Monthly	
community?	→ What kind of events: Educational classes,	
	cultural exchange programs and voluntary work	
<b>ACTIVITIES IN THE PREVIOUS</b>		
International reunions (Please write your AA has hosted an international reunion)		
Name of the event	Yes, Reunion of SWY 2	
Date of the event	April, 2015	
Hosting city	Shillong and Delhi	
How many participants? From which countries?	Number of domestic participants: 19 Number of international participants: 7 Names of the countries participated: India, Japan, Greece, Beharin, Egypt, United Kingdom and Oman	
Please write a summary of the event	In the reunion of Ex-Pys of SWY 2 program met together and relived the moments spent together on the ship. We exchanged information about the post program activities in their countries. Information was also given about other Ex-Pys who have achieved eminence in their chosen fields like politics, bureaucracy, social development, art and culture and academics.	
National reunions (Please write your AA has hosted a national reunion)		
Name of the event	Get Together	
Date of the event	September 2015	
Hosting city	Delhi	
How many participants?	Eleven eight	
Please write a summary of the event	In this get together the Ex-Pys shared information about their work & contribution for the post program activates through sustaining the contacts with other Ex-Pys, performance of Japanese and Indian music, poetry reading & discussed future plans.	
Receiving ex-SWY participants		
How many SWY visitors did you receive in your country?	Twelve Ex-Pys and advisors have visited our country in this year.	
Did you organize a  "Homestay + 1" project for the visitors? If yes, please write in detail.	Yes. Some of them stayed with the Indian EX-PYs in their homes.	
OTHERS		

#### **OTHERS**

Mr. UKS Chauhan. IAS, President of SWYAA-India is Joint Secretary, Government of India (Sr. Bureaucratic posting in Indian Government)

Mr. Ravi Chopra, Vice President of SWYAA-India becomes a Chief Executive of Gandhian Forum for Ethical Corporate Governance for Public Sector Enterprises of India

Mr. Atulya Misra, IAS, Members SWYAA-India becomes a Chairmen of Port Trust, Chennai, Government of India (Sr. Bureaucratic posting in Indian Government) Ms. Samrita Kaur Gill, Joint Secretary of SWYAA-India promoted to Deputy commissioner of Custom, Government of India

Mrs. Upma Chaudhary, IAS, Members SWYAA-India promoted to Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh (Sr. Bureaucratic posting in Govt.)

#### POST-PROGRAM SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES:

## Volunteer Exchange Program with Japanese University "\*" (Study tour by Japanese students of Keio University)

#### **Keio University students**

SWYAA-India organized a study tour of 16 Japanese students from Keio University, Tokyo from 7<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in New Delhi along with Professor Kazushige Shimpo. These students were from the Department of Business and Commerce. This study tour to India was aimed at studying the current economic situation in India and to understand the differences between the economies of various countries around the globe. With this special interest they requested SWYAA-India to help in organizing their study tour to cover a rural village, slums and an urban slum.





SWYAA-India facilitated the rural village visit to Haryana for two days at the Social Center for Rural Initiative and Advancement, Khori in Rewari district (Haryana State) in order for the students to study the status of basic education and health care systems in the villages. They were impressed to see the thrust on environmental conservation through the use of solar energy, conservation of water, use of biogas and smokeless ovens in the houses and involvement of women in decision making and in keeping their surrounding green and clean.





Japanese students had a rare opportunity to interact with the underprivileged children studying in the Open Schools of SWYAA-India and volunteered in our educational activities in the low income settlements and government primary schools. The students introduced various aspects of the Japanese culture to children and brought the creativity by developing their imagination and motor skills through origami. Later they went for the

slum walk to get the feel of existing reality of a major population living in Delhi in the slums and to get a feel of day to day struggle to cope up with the existing economic conditions.





SWYAA-India organized their visit to an urban village called Jaunti in North Delhi. They got an opportunity to interact with youth with myriad for their future who were eager to know more about the situation in Japan. They got a chance to be part of the community meeting in the village and took a heritage walk around the village. It was an important activity organized by SWYAA-India with Japanese youth who also got first hand information about the SWY program.

## SWYAA-India Launches School Cleanliness Program (Gakkō no seijō-do) in Government Primary Schools in New Delhi "\*"

Government of India has initiated the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan' (Clean India Mission) program with people's participation. Ship for World Youth Alumni Association-India participated by launching the school cleanness and sanitation program in February 2015 in government primary schools in New Delhi. This program was accomplished with the association and participation from the Embassy of Japan in India, Education Department of the local Government, Discover Japan Club (DJC) India and Discover India Club (DIC), Japan.





Mr. Kubo Satoshi, Second Secretary and Mr. S. Sinha from the Embassy of Japan in India actively participated in this event that included demonstration of Gakkō no seijō-do. The other participants included Dr. Rabindra Malik, Advisor of the SWY program (twice) and the President of DIC, Japan, Mr. Ravi Chopra, Vice-President cum General Secretary, SWYAA-India and the President of DJC, India, Mrs. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Executive, SWYAA-India, Dr. Unita Sachidanand, Ex-PY and Vice President, DIC, Ms. Tomoki Tazawa, member of DJC and Mr. Masayo Kaneko, member DIC and representatives of the local Japanese community. The school officials included the Principal, class teachers and eight volunteers from SWYAA-India.





One hundred students of class 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> took part in two groups. The activities included a film show on the classroom activities in the Japanese primary schools by Mr. Ravi Chopra, interaction with students on *Tokubetsu Katsudou* by Mr. Kubo Shatoshi and Tomoko Tazawa for one group accompanied by singing of the song on DOREMON and teaching to count till ten in Japanese. Dr. Rabindra Malik was very thrilled to interact with girl children who addressed him endearingly addressed him as *Dadaji* from Japan (Indian grandfather from Japan) and informed them spoke about the Japanese school children who clean their class rooms as part of their daily routine. Dr Malik also sang *Enka* song for them which children love very much. Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna narrated her childhood incidences about the collective sanitation activities in Mahatma Gandhi's ashram, which the children enjoyed immensely.





To the second group of eager and happy girl students, Dr. Unita Sachindanand introduced Japanese script and drawing of figures along with a song in Japanese and in Hindi based on DORAEMON characters, Mr. Masayo Kaneko taught Japanese greetings and conducted a painting competition. On their part students presented a role play on sanitation and participated in cleaning of their class rooms as they got an on-hand training in the Japanese way of meticulously cleaning the classrooms as demonstrated by Mr. Kubo Satoshi and Ms. Tomoki Tazawa.

The pure innocence, boundless energy and extreme happiness of the students from an underprivileged background studying in government schools, who rarely have such occasion of meeting the Japanese nationals, won everyone's hearts. Children's expressive faces, eagerness to perform and learn turned these two hours into an unique experience of serenity, joy and pleasure for the Japanese nationals and for all of us equally. SWYAA-India, thank the Embassy of Japan in India, DIC & DJC for their participation and appreciation of the sanitation program.

## **Education program - Open schools**

SWYAA-India continued to the educational activities in the Open Schools and educated 640 underprivileged children in the age group of 4 to 14 years living in slum clusters in New Delhi. In the open schools children were taught up to primary level as per the school syllabus and 530 children were mainstreamed in the government primary schools. This project has been supported by the Canon India Private Limited.





Multi group and multi-level children were enrolled in the classes separate lesson plans for children of 4-6 years and for children in the age group 7 years and above were used. Younger children were taught to count, recite, identify and write numbers from 1-9 using simple activities like counting with beads, playing games, using the counting chart, writing on their slates and the older children were taught according to the lessons in the school text books.

As a result of our educational classes 421 children were mainstreamed in the government schools & the children's learning ability in language and numeric was enhanced by 70%.

## Reunion for Celebrating Silver Jubilee of SWY 2nd Program

To commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SWY 2, Ex-PYs Ms. Passah Pynbit Bha, Ms. Namita Jacob and Ms. Aishwarya Rai organized a reunion in India in Shillong, Meghalaya in April. Nineteen Ex-PYs from Japan, Greece, Bahrain, Egypt, United Kingdom, Oman and India took part.







According to Ms. Tomoko Okawara, who participated in the reunion, 'we had new discovery and great experience yet such a warm welcome and wonderful Indian hospitality is the most memorable thing. The amazing thing is that the strong bond of friends which was created 25 years ago

#### Orientation of PYs of SWY 28





As the new batch of twelve Indian PYs got ready for the magical voyage on the 'Next Generation Global Leaders Program 2015 "The Ship for World Youth Leaders" SWY 28, SWYAA-India oriented PYs Dr. Manpreet Uppal, Ms. Sweety Pandey, Mr. R.P. Singh in Delhi. They had an opportunity to interact with Mr. Ravi Chopra, SWYAA-India Vice-President of SWYAA-India, Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Executive, SWYAA-India, Mr. Mike Leafleur, NL, SWY 21, Mr. Samatar Jama, from Kenya and Ms. Nidhi Singhal, both from SWY 27. Here is wishing the PYs all the best!!!

## **UTA NO CHIKARA' - Power of Song**

SWYAA-India organized a musical session in government primary schools in the Open schools by inviting Ms. Atsuko Arai, Japanese Music Therapist from Nara, Japan on 22nd September, 2015. Children participated enthusiastically and tool part in the games while singing songs they know very well from childhood. Children sang songs like 'Poshamba bhai Poshamba', Machali Jal Ki Rani Hai" and were taught similar songs in Japanese as well.





Arai san informed children that even in Japan children sing similar songs and play games. Music binds people together and it is a very good medium of boosting confidence and creativity in children as well as in adults. Ms. Arai has started a Chorus Club in Agra with school children. She is famous to give a talk with songs on 'Power of Songs' 'Uta no Chikara'





#### **Network with SWYAA-Sri Lanka**

On the occasion of the International Day on Non-Violence, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2015, Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna, Chief Executive of SWYAA-India was invited by the High Commission of India in Sri Lanka to deliver lectures on 'Ethical Leadership and Universal Peace based on the messages of Mahatma Gandhi.'





SWYAA-India took the opportunity to network with SWYAA-Srilanka and organized a collaborative program of a lecture on 'Transformational Leadership' for 100 youth of Sri Lanka at the *National Youth Services Council* (NYSC) in Maharagama, Government of Sri Lanka.

Mr. Buddhika Iddamalgoda, President, SWYAA-Sri Lanka, Mr. Ravi Chopra, Vice President, SWYAA-India, Mr. Manula Perera, Deputy Director, NYSC, Mr. Oshikiri, Cabinet Office of Japan and Ms. Tamae Saito, IYEO were present during this event in Sri Lanka. This is the beginning of joint programs between the AAs of India and Sri Lanka!



#### Visit of overseas Ex- PYs

Mr. Michael Forent Felix Lafleur, Ex-NL SWY21 and Adviser, SWY 23 visited the Open Schools in the slums and interacted with students. He is helping SWYAA-India in planning for the forthcoming GA in India.





He said 'as a researcher interested in inclusive education that values 'self-worth' and child-centered learning, I was excited to see these principles come to life at the open school. Children were all smiles when reciting their poems and songs. To find such a place in the slums was even more inspiring. Certainly, the basic needs in this area were great. As a foreigner, such exposure was eye-opening. Secondly, as SWY alumni from Canada, I was very pleased to see that SWYAA-India was highly involved in serving the educational and social needs of the local children residing here. I'm sure that many SWYers who attend the upcoming GA in India will feel the same when they visit this magical place. Lastly, a special thank you to all the SWY alumni who have shown me much hospitality since my arrival'.

Mr. Samatar Jama, Ex-PY, SWY 27 from Kenya who is currently working in Delhi is volunteering his time for the preparatory work for GA.

## Visit by representatives of Cabinet Office & IYEO

SWYAA-India hosted a special dinner for Ms. Tamae Saito, IYEO, Mr. Tetsuo Oshikiri from the Cabinet Office, Mr. Tomoyuki Kuroda from Tobu Top Tour, Mr. Seiichi Urachi from the Embassy of Japan in New Delhi and 8 Indian Ex-PYs on the 29<sup>th</sup> September. They were in Delhi for coordinating with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India for the forthcoming Port of Call in Chennai in 2016.





Before the dinner the delegates from Japan paid a courtesy call to the Mr. U.K.S. Chauhan, IAS, President of SWYAA-India and discussed about POC and the Global Assembly.

### Participation in POC conference, Tokyo

Mr. Ravi Chopra, Secretary General of SWYAA-India along with Mr. Naveen Rawat from Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India participated in the Conference on the Global Youth Leaders Development Program 2015 "The Ship for the World Youth Leaders" Port of Call Activities in Tokyo held from 5-7 July, 2015.



## Forth coming events

#### **Port of Call**

This year the ship for the Next Generation Global Leaders Program 2015 "The Ship for World Youth Leaders" will be coming to India for **Port of Call** at Chennai from 9th to 12th February 2016. To welcome the PYs around 30 Ex-PYs will be volunteering from SWYAA-India and will take part in all the activities during the POC.

#### **SWYAA Global Assembly**

The 10th SWYAA Global Assembly will be hosted jointly by SWYAA-India and IYEO from September 20 to 24, 2016 in Delhi in conjunction with the conference for post program activities and to discuss the future activities of SWYAA-International member countries. The optional tour to experience the Indian culture will be from September 25 to 27, 2016.



The main theme of the SWYAA Global Assembly is- *Contribution of the SWY Alumni to the Society*. SWYAA-India invites and welcomes all the Ex-PYs from around the globe to come to India to experience the SWY culture.

#### Value creation for children

SWYAA -India strived to promote visits of people from different countries to create a wide variety of learning opportunities for them to give a firsthand opportunity to speak and act as responsible citizens in a global community.





Venerable Dorji Damdul, Director, Tibet Center, New Delhi taught the children of SWYAA-India Open schools about Buddhism and the importance of being compassionate and spreading love and peace.

### **Cross Cultural Exchange**





Ms. Sachiyo Hiariwa, Ms. Miyuki Yamada and Yasuda san from the Universal Peace Foundation, Japan visited SWYAA-India project site in Delhi to see our social development activities. They volunteered with the children of SWYAA-India and showed appreciation for post program social development activities SWYAA-India.

### Japanese dance and tea ceremony





A Japanese dance and tea ceremony was held on 31st August 2015 at the Japan Foundation, New Delhi by Ms. Hirokiku Fujima, Japanese Traditional Dancer and Professor of Japanese tea ceremony along with her troupe. Ms Hirokiku Fujima was born in Saitama prefecture and graduated from Chuou University. When she was student, she wanted to be an actress because of her grandmother (SKD) and her mother (Nikkatsu) were actress. She is an accomplished Japanese traditional dance and expert of Japanese traditional tea ceremony. Her motto as [Japanese beauty is going to The World! to The future!]

## Discover Japan Club (Promoting India - Japan Friendship, Culture and Cooperation)

SWYAA-India launched the 'Discover Japan Club' (DJC) India in 2014 for promoting friendship, cooperation and better understanding in India about Japan, its people, culture and business styles. Since then DJC is providing a strong foundation for mutually beneficial relationship in view of the strategic Global Partnership between Indian and Japan. This is the counterpart of the 'Discover Indian Club', Japan founded in 1978 by

'Japan India Association', Tokyo which celebrated its' 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013. Our mission at DJC is to promote and strengthen friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Japan and India. In carrying out these activities, DJC will collaborate closely with the Japan Foundation, Japan Information Centre in Embassy at the Embassy of India, JICA, SWYAA-International and other like-minded public and private institutions.





Even though ties between Japan and India are becoming stronger and stronger every year, there is still lot of scope for promoting interpersonal exchange and cultural exchange. DJC is working to expand cultural exchanges between the peoples of two countries through music and dance, stage dramas, arts and architecture, textile and fashion. DJC looks forward to joining hands with Japanese people and organizations in Japan who are interested in India and wish to discover the "real Japan". SWYAA-India will work with them to promote friendship and collaboration between the peoples of the two countries.

According to Mr. Ravi Chopra, President DJC and General Secretary SWYAA-India "It was felt that our task would be more effective if DJC in India had a partner in Japan so that information about Japan and its society and culture can be disseminated in different parts of India. For this purpose, we had established DJC in India. Strong bilateral ties between Japan and India will be good not only for our two countries but will also contribute to world peace and stability".

### Forth coming events

The events planned for next year are:

- Volunteering in Port of Call of SWY 28 at Chennai
- Organizing 10<sup>th</sup> SWYAA Global Assembly in Delhi
- Talks to youth on 'Mindful Leadership for Transformation and Social Responsibly'
- Promoting India Japan relations through Discover Japan Club
- Volunteer exchange program with Japanese Universities
- Get together of Ex-PYs
- Educational classes of Open School
- Waste Disposal And Resource Recycling Activities
- Networking with Japanese Embassy, agencies and companies in India

#### **Publication**

SWYAA-India re-printed two coffee table books of photographs by the underprivileged children titled 'Our World One World' and 'My Habitat; My Friends' with the support of Canon India Private Limited.

SWYAA-India brought out the yearly newsletter 'Waves of Friendships' for distribution to Ex-PYs, PYs and to Japanese embassy and agencies in 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 relationship were forged with Suginami City in Japan, Suginami Association for Cultural Exchange, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Keio University, Tokyo University for Foreign Studies (TUFS), International NGO Volunteer Platform in Japan, Japan Foundation, Initiatives for Change-Japan, Canon India Private Limited, Honda Car India, Mitsui Corporation, OISCA International, Sophia University, Soka University, Kyoto University, Universal Peace Federation, Discover India Club, Tokyo 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.

## 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 : 91-11-25533204, 41570597

(M) 9810078620

Fax : 91-11-25533204

Email : ravi2chopra@gmail.com

swyaaindia@gmail.com

Website : www.swyaa-india.in

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Act 1961. Government of India

Geographical coverage: States of India - Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand,

Uttaranchal, Kerala and Assam

Executive committee:

• President : Mr. U.K.S.Chauhan, (I.A.S.)

Vice President : Mr. Ravi Chopra
 Treasurer : Mr. Rupesh Gupta
 Joint Secretary : Ms. Samrita Kaur Gill

Chief Executive : Ms. Shobhana Radhakrishna

Contact Person : Mr. Ravi Chopra, Vice President

# "Be the change that you want to see in the world". -Mahatma Gandhi