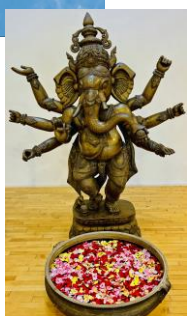


**MYAS-SAI_NOC_FEDERATIONS_JSW Sports Delegation Visit to Japan (October 3rd to 8th
2019) HIGHLIGHTS**

Following the first general (introductory meeting on July 26th and July 30th, 2018) between the **Indian Sports Delegation** and the **Embassy of India, Tokyo** for the upcoming **Tokyo 2020 GAMES**, the **second visit** was (ongoing at the time of writing) from **October 3rd to 8th, 2019**, led by **Shri L.S. Singh, Joint Secretary (Sports, MYAS, Government of India) = Team Leader** (L.S. シン、インド政府青少年スポーツ省次官補(スポーツ担当) (代表団長) and coordinated by **Shri Karan Yadav, Second Secretary (Political) at the Embassy of India, in Tokyo, Japan** (<https://www.indembassy-tokyo.gov.in/>).

The Indian delegation consisted of **5 members** including **Shri L.S. Singh (Team Leader)**, and were - **Shri Ashwani Kumar, Deputy Director, Sports Authority of India** (アシュワニ・クマール、青少年スポーツ省スポーツ庁団体競技局副局長); **Shri R.K. Sacheti, Executive Director, Boxing Federation of India** (R.K. サケッティ、インドボクシング連盟常任理事); **Shri Nitin Arya, Manager (Competitions & Operations), Athletics Federation of India** (ニティン・アリア、インド陸上競技連盟 部長 (競技&運営担当)); **Shri Aman Shah, Lead, Media & Communications, JSW Sports** (アマン・シャー、JSW Sports リーダー、メディア・コミュニケーション課) plus Prof. Randeep Rakwal (University of Tsukuba-TAIKU-TIAS; and, coordinating between SAI and UT and NSSU, the Sports-related projects). The team was introduced to **Shri. Gaurav Gupta, First Secretary**, and a pre-discussion as held on the visit agenda, including role of volunteers and the food issues.



The first meeting, on the day of arrival, **October 3rd**, was with **H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma, Ambassador of India to Japan at Tokyo**, who welcoming the delegation, emphasized three main points, as the time required for decision making in Japan follows a set of protocols and the importance of deadlines, Tokyo 2020 working philosophy and terms of conditions, and for the Indian side to define parameters and create flexibility. The Ambassador also mentioned how the **Indian Field Hockey Women's Team** will be hosted by the **Okuizumo town, Shimane Prefecture** for the pre-games training camps (a preliminary report can be found at - <https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/backstories/431/>), and welcomed the Indian delegation visit to finalize some more pre-games training sites and cooperation on SPORT between India and Japan.



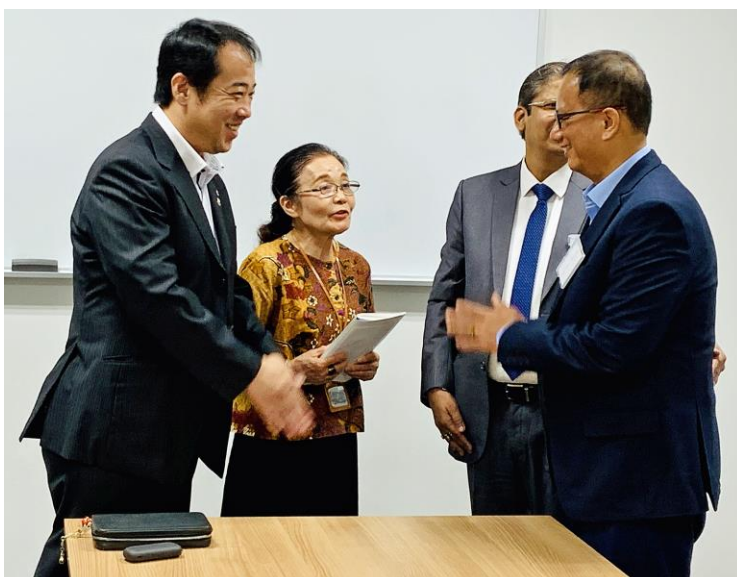
The Ambassador also empathized on the importance of training camps, in not only they fulfil the need of 'TRAINING; prior to the OLYMPIC and PARALYMPIC GAMES, but also serves to the **internationalization of Japan and provides an intercultural experience**; thus a win-win situation for both countries through SPORT. Issues reading food, volunteers, both official and non-official (outside the Games), cultural sensitivity and accreditation were put forth by both the Joint Secretary Shri. L.S. Singh, but also by one of the highly experienced persons in the international Sporting movement and games organization in India, Shri, R.K. Sacheti (also representing the IOA, Indian Olympic Association, the local NOC) who described the finer details of the games especially the Olympic-Paralympic games from previous experiences. The meeting also discussed **on the INDIA OLYMPIC HOUSE** (tentative name) a program for the hospitality, an initiative by the JSW sports, and being coordinated by Aman Shah (who is also an ex-student of the TIAS-UT, a Tokyo 2020 Academic Legacy program), and it was discussed how the HOUSE can and should serve not only as a platform for various **SPORTING** issues meetings and discussion but also **SHOWCASE INDIA** and its **CULTURE** and **PEOPLE**. The Ambassador also emphasized that the 'house' should be used to **RAISE AWARENESS** of **INDIAN SPORT** or **SPORT in INDIA** among not only Japan but the visiting countries to Tokyo next year (2020). The involvement of the Indian community will be critical to its success, and volunteerism is a prestigious issue.

The above was immediately followed by the Indian diaspora (in Tokyo/Japan) meeting the visiting Indian delegation at the Embassy, where **28 members** from the Indian community (including scientists, business people, state association members, company employees and students) attended, Lasting for more than an hour, the gathering listened to the Indian delegation and discuss on the needs and various issues regarding the visiting Indian National Team and support staff and others, for the next year 2020 Games,

and present their views and local context. Shri L.S. Singh mentioned – ‘*Sport is becoming a very big movement, other than economic power, we need to be being a great sporting nation-movement, and a coordinated focus and direction is the need of the hour. This opportunity for the ‘house’ and the volunteer system and support through the Indian community here will give us a base for the Paris 24 and LA 28 Games, and so your inputs are required*’. Shri. R.K. Sacheti mentioned an important point- ‘*we need your support as cheerleaders, and this is also very critical aspect and what brings the motivation to go to the extra step for an athlete winning the medals; and also not to forget the PARALYMPICS*’. The role of volunteers other than the TOKYO 2020 volunteer program (<https://tokyo2020.org/en/special/volunteer/>), which is an official part of the GAMES, Indian Diaspora was highly enthusiastic for having a **volunteer system** (and also appreciation letter for volunteers from the authorities concerned) through the Embassy of India in cooperation with the MYAS-SAI and Indian community together. A management / core committee was recommended to be set up. Other aspects discussed were – obtaining tickets, sharing the information for the Indian athlete’s events with the Indian community, and practical issues such as apartments-food, outside the Olympic Games Village. Additionally, a LIST of **DO’s and importantly DON’T’s** was requested for by the delegation to the Indian Community based here, for smooth participation in the Games and visit to Tokyo. In all,



The Day 2 was started with a visit to the **JAPAN BOXING FEDERATION**, at the newly opened **Japan Sport Olympic Square** adjacent to the **NATIONAL STADIUM**. The meeting was with the **President of JBF, Mr. Sadanobu UCHIDA**, who graciously kept time for the visit by the Indian delegation, here led by **Executive Director, Boxing Federation of India Shri R.K. Sacheti**, who thanked Mr. Uchida for the warm welcome and time during the National Games Season; and introduced the Joint Sec. Shri. L.S. Singh, to the President of JBF. Following up on the meeting in Russia with JBF, the need for more training camps and joining training camps with more multinational teams was on the agenda. The JBF asked of the BFI on what and when they need training camps, and it was discussed for 2020, prior to the games a need for these camps and practice. JBF informed of the **May 2020 Miyazaki prefecture** multinational training camp (with 4 countries; and having 2 rings) and if Indian would like to join; and the dates are 'tbd'. The other option was **Hiroshima (also sister city to India)** (having 3 rings) where the Mexico team will be training pre-games. The BFI would like to participate and start with the test event later in October, is looking forward to the 'dates' which will be provided in the coming weeks. The JBF also asked how many Boxers and Staffs will attend; and approximately **8 Boxers (male) and maybe 5 women boxers** (in all weight categories) will like to join the training here; and with staff the total number maybe 20. BFI also welcomed the JBF to join in the multinational Boxing Training to be held in India (Bengaluru) from 4th to 20th of January, and which was appreciated by the JBF. Shri R.K. Sacheti also mentioned that **BOXING is fast becoming a PRIORITY SPORT in India**. The meeting ended with a warm note and a move towards welcoming the **INDIAN BOXERS to Japan**.





The next visit of the day was a detailed meeting and field site checks at/to **CHUO UNIVERSITY** (Tama Campus) and **NITTAIDAI (Nippon Sport Science University-NSSU)**; both Setagaya and Kenshidai campuses), and the training sites for **ATHLETICS** (Chuo University- Indian National PARA TEAM is already been accepted to join for pre-games training next year) and **WEIGHTLIFTING and WRESTLING** (at NSSU). The meetings gave an opportunity for the Indian Delegation to see first-hand the excellent training sites and facilities, including the **SPORTING SYSTEM** for their **STUDENT ATHLETES** at these **Universities**. A very good meeting for the pre-games training was held and the **weighting camp for next year has been concluded at NSSU**; options on wrestling are being deliberated on the Indian side/federation; and also for Athletics are being discussed and will be decided soon.



(CHUO UNIVERSITY TAMA CAMPUS)
Below page shows the meeting (International and the Olympic-Paralympic Project Promotion Office) and site visits to NSSU campuses



NSSU
(Tokyo-Yokohama)

Day 3 was to check the **ACCOMODATIONS** (critical issue for the support staffs) in Tokyo and **UNIVERSITY of TSUKUBA, Tsukuba Campus**. The UT visit saw the Global Sport Innovation (GSI) building which not only houses the TIAS program, from where Aman graduated with honors, and is now working towards the LEGACY, but also high-tech **HUMAN HIGH PERFORMANCE and SPORTS SCIENCE and BIOMECHANICS SYSTEM** geared towards excellence and Olympic Golds. An hour long vast sporting facility walk (with Indian students, including recently joined at TIAS from NADA) was organized by Prof. Rakwal, and the delegation was impressed not only on sports science and excellent sporting fields and gymnasiums, but also how the university emphasizes on **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, especially the participation of KIDS in SPORT**.



(UNIVERSITY of TSUKUBA – Faculty of HEALTH and SPORT SCIENCES – TAIKU; Tsukuba Science City CAMPUS)

Day 4 (Sunday) was to recap on the 3-days visits to numerous potential pre-games training sites, accommodations and discuss various issues amongst the delegation, followed by a **briefing – update** by the Team Leader Shri. L. S. Singh and others members) **H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma**, Ambassador of India to Japan at Tokyo on the visit progress and the final day plan – to Kurobe-shi, Tokyoama prefecture for the Archery training venue; a productive almost 2-hour long meeting took place in Tokyo and the progress discussed and recorded.

Day 5 was the final day of Japan visit, and a day-long trip was undertaken to **KUROBE CITY**, in Toyama prefecture (=state) for **Indian National ARCHERY Team pre-Games TRAINING CAMP** (<https://pregamestraining.tokyo2020.jp/en/module/search/result/?prefecture=16&municipality=207>) at the **NAKANOKUCHI PARK** (<https://www.city.kurobe.toyama.jp/index.aspx>). The cooperation was facilitated by the **SPORTS DIVISION** at the **Kurobe City Hall**, **Mr. Masanori Hashimoto** and Prof. Randeep Rakwal, University of Tsukuba (UT). Briefly, the request from the **Archery Association of India** (<http://www.indianarchery.info/>) came following the **Archery Test Event in Tokyo** a few months back [through SAI (<http://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/>)] AD, Mr. Dhandapani (who is currently a student at TIAS; UT)] to contact Kurobe city for the possibility of a pre-games training camp. Following 3 visits (and numerous details via mail) to Tsukuba by Mr. Hashimoto and the ensuing discussions, the possibility of both sides (Kurobe/Japan and **TOPS-Target Olympic Podium Scheme at SAI under MYAS** - working with Archery Federation) the go-ahead was received from the TOPS-SAI for a meeting along with other TRAINING SITES visits and preparations towards Tokyo 2020. Therein the current visit to Kurobe city, within the whole mission of the Indian Sport Delegation. A **MoU draft** was discussed and various other modalities prior to the October 7th visit by all parties concerned. **Shri Karan Yadav, Embassy of India, in Tokyo** coordinated the interactions from the Embassy side, and updating the Ambassador, **H.E. Mr. Sanjay Kumar Verma**. Prof. Rakwal (as facilitator) arriving directly from Tsukuba met Mr. Hashimoto who introduced the city officials including greeting **Mr. HISAYOSHI ONO (Mayor, Kurobe, Toyama, Japan)** and having a pre-meeting on the day’s schedule.



The visit started by arriving (11 AM) at the Kurobe IC by the Indian delegation and being welcome by the Kurobe city officials and a staff (Indian national – who also served as a an official translator for Kurobe city, Mr. Ramesh Dasari-International Affairs Division, Toyama Prefectural Government) and we proceeded according to a **planned schedule to visit the various facilities (accommodation and training venues and sports gyms and centers), have meetings and sharing opinions, finally culminating in the MoU signing Ceremony at the KUROBE CITY HALL and a press conference (media).**

黒部市視察スケジュール
Kurobe City Visit Schedule

日 Day	開始時間 Start time	終了時間 Ending time	内容 Content	場所 Place	備考 Remarks
10/7 (MON)	11:00	11:30	ホテルアクア黒部視察 Hotel Aqua Kurobe inspection	ホテルアクア黒部 Hotel Aqua Kurobe	
	11:40	12:40	昼食 lunch	パッシブキッチン Passive Kitchens	黒部市長他関係者が出席いたします Mayor Kurobe and other related parties will attend
	13:00	13:20	黒部市健康スポーツプラザ（屋内練習場）視察 Kurobe City Health Sports Plaza (Indoor practice arena) inspection	黒部市健康スポーツプラザ Kurobe City Health Sports Plaza	黒部市長がご案内いたします Mayor Kurobe will guide you
	13:30	14:00	中の口緑地公園（屋外練習場）視察 Nakanokuchi Green Space Park (Outdoor practice arena) inspection	中の口緑地公園 Nakanokuchi Green Space Park	黒部市長がご案内いたします Mayor Kurobe will guide you
	14:10	14:40	黒部市総合体育センター視察 Kurobe City Sports Center inspection	黒部市総合体育センター Kurobe City Sports Center	黒部市長がご案内いたします Mayor Kurobe will guide you
	15:00	15:25	キャンプ実施に向けての意見交換会 Opinion exchange meeting for camping	黒部市役所市長応接室 Kurobe City Hall mayor's reception room	黒部市長他関係者が出席いたします Mayor Kurobe and other related parties will attend
	15:30	16:00	覚書締結 Memorandum concluded	黒部市役所301会議室 Kurobe City Hall 301 meeting room	黒部市長他関係者が出席いたします Mayor Kurobe and other related parties will attend
	16:10		黒部市役所発 Depart from Kurobe City Hall	黒部市役所 Kurobe City Hall	

Visiting the **hotel for accommodations**, which was found quite suitable to all requirements of the athletes and coaches, the **Indian delegation led by Shri. Singh, Joint Secretary (Sports)** including Shri. Ashwani Kumar and Shri Karan Yadav moved to a lunch meeting at a wonderful south Asian kitchen with the **Mayor Mr. Ono** and his team, including Education officials, Archery Federation officials where there was welcome speech by both sides team leaders, and exchange of views on Japan and India; Shri Karan Yadav explained about various activities by the Embassy of India and welcomed the Mayor to visit the Embassy and further strengthen the cooperation between Kurobe city and India. Both sides agreed that **SPORT has connected us** but there should be movement in the long-term cooperation and collaboration.



ACCOMODATION & LUNCH MEETING

Next was the visit to the **INDOOR ARCHERY ARENA** which is connected to the **Main OUTDOOR ARCHERY ARENA** – 6-minutes by minibus; and the **MAYOR** explained each site with great detail and followed by Q&A by the Indian delegation. **This served the first aim of the training camp- VENUES.** **The venues are excellent**, as also determined by the Indian side and the environment is perfect; with beautiful green grass; and the availability of the indoor venue is also a plus point; additionally a prehab facility for the **ARCHERS** will be set up during the camp period. Three Japanese archers also demonstrated their archery skills and the bulls eye.



INDOOR and OUTDOOR VENUES

The delegation was next taken to the **SPORTS GYMNASIUM** where, both fitness and conditioning can be performed with excellent equipment's and training rooms, and also rehabilitation and relaxation in the swimming pool. Mr. Singh was highly impressed by the clean facilities and more so by the level of sport participation by 'senior citizens' there. This visit took care of the **TRAINING & REHABILITATION** aspects of the training camp.



Final stop was the **KUROBE CITY HALL**, site for the meetings and signing of the MoU. A surprise and **WARM WELCOME** by **CITY HALL OFFICIALS** greeted the Indian delegation, and wishing them 'Happy Dussehra'. First, starting with an introduction video of Kurobe city showcasing its natural environment and pure water and air, conditions essential to sport, the city delegation discussed with the Indian delegation on their field and site visits and exchanged views on the suitability of the city venues as appropriate for the pre-games training camp of the Indian Archery Team. This was followed by an exchange of gifts on both-sides, representing Kurobe city art and Indian legends and philosophy – Mahatma Gandhi and Yoga and Sports activities in India.



(Exchange of views and looking back at the days visits)





Finally, the **Joint STATEMENT** (appreciating the Indian delegation visit and thanking the city officials for their wonderful welcome and hospitality) and **SIGNING of the MoU by Kurobe City Mayor (Japan) and MYAS Joint Secretary (India)** and answering the questions by the **MEDIA personnel** (who enquired the reasons to the selection of Kurobe



city and the time duration / schedule of the camp, and the efforts and considerations by Kurobe city. This concluded the visit by the Indian delegation and we were warmly seen off at the City Hall gates by the Mayor and his team, awaiting the Indian Archers.



‘THE CEREMONY’



Thank you.
Sincerely Yours,

Randeep Rakwal

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Dated: 2019.10.08