

Request for Media Coverage

August 21, 2026

Sakura Science Program Headquarters
Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

**Nearly 150 Early-Career Researchers from India Who Are Drawing Global Attention
to Gather for Academic Exchange in Japan**

LOTUS Programme Club Talent Circulation Conference to Be Held in Hokkaido

The Sakura Science Program Headquarters of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), a National Research and Development Agency of Japan, will jointly host the International Joint Seminar on Science and Technology, entitled “the LOTUS Programme^{※1} Club Talent Circulation Conference,” with the India Japan Society for Science, Technology and Education (IJSSTE) and Hokkaido University on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan.

In recent years, researchers of Indian origin have attracted increasing global attention for their work in advanced fields such as AI, semiconductors, quantum technology, and biotechnology. This event will bring together Indian graduate students and postdoctoral researchers selected under the LOTUS Programme who are engaged in international collaborative research at universities and research institutions throughout Japan, along with their Japanese and Indian academic supervisors. It will also welcome Indian faculty members and researchers who are actively pursuing careers at universities and research institutions in Japan. Approximately 150 researchers of Indian origin are expected to participate. Through research exchanges and networking opportunities, the event aims to further strengthen and expand the circulation of talent between Japan and India.

On the day of the event, young Indian researchers conducting cutting-edge research will present their work, while Japanese and Indian faculty members will deliver lectures on the LOTUS Programme and the significance of conducting research activities in Japan.

For members of the media, the event offers not only opportunities to cover the participants’ research but also a valuable chance to gain insights into the personal and professional experiences of highly skilled individuals who serve as bridges between Japan and India, including their research activities and career development in Japan, which has recently attracted growing interest among researchers of Indian origin.

In addition, India’s ambassador to Japan, Her Excellency Ms. Nagma Mohamed Mallick, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India, is scheduled to deliver remarks

on expectations for Japanese-Indian cooperation in science and technology, as well as the exchange of human resources between the two countries.

^{*1} LOTUS Programme

The LOTUS Programme is designed to provide joint academic supervision by Japanese and Indian faculty members, while enabling participants to pursue long-term career development in Japan. By promoting Japanese-Indian collaborative research, the global exchange of knowledge, and the development of internationally mobile research talent, the program aims to strengthen Japan's research capabilities and capacity for innovation. In addition to supporting research activities, the LOTUS Programme strongly emphasizes career development opportunities in Japan. A number of the participants invited under the program in the previous fiscal year have gone on to secure employment with Japanese companies after completing their research activities in Japan. These outcomes demonstrate the program's emerging success in developing and retaining highly skilled science and engineering professionals who serve as bridges between Japan and India.

<https://www.jst.go.jp/program/india/en/>



We are pleased to invite you to cover this event.

If you wish to attend and cover the event, please submit your application by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, September 7, using the media coverage registration form below, or by contacting us by telephone or email.

Media Coverage Registration Form (for Press Registration)

https://form2.jst.go.jp/s/kouhou_form



For Further Information

Sakura Science Program Headquarters

Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

E-mail: ssp.press<at>jst.go.jp (Please replace <at> with @, the at symbol)

Event Overview**LOTUS Programme Club Talent Circulation Conference**

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Hokkaido University (Sapporo, Hokkaido)

Participants:

- Young researchers of Indian origin who are currently conducting research in Japan under the LOTUS Programme, together with their Japanese and Indian academic supervisors, and stakeholders from the science and technology community
- Faculty members and researchers of Indian origin working at universities and research institutions across Japan

Co-organizers:

- Sakura Science Program Headquarters, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
- India Japan Society for Science, Technology and Education (IJSSTE)
- Hokkaido University

Note: Detailed information on the program schedule will be provided upon your media coverage registration.