



ALUMNI SOCIETY OF AOTS, TRIVANDRUM CENTRE

Annual Activity Report – (5 June, 2019- 31 March, 2020)

5th June 2019:

FAAAI (Federation of AOTS Alumni Associations of India) had decided unanimously to upgrade “Alumni Society of AOTS, Trivandrum Subcentre” to an Independent full-fledged alumni society named: “ALUMNI SOCIETY OF AOTS, Trivandrum Centre” (ASATC).

We have received a communication from the President of FAAAAI as “WELCOME TO THE TENTH MEMBER OF FAAAAI - ALUMNI SOCIETY OF AOTS, TRIVANDRUM CENTRE”

Yasumi Suzuki, General Manager, Global Connectivity Division, AOTS, Japan sent a congratulatory message about the elevation of Trivandrum Centre as an independent alumni society. For registering ASATC in the AOTS alumni list a few more formalities were remaining.

16th June 2019:

A special General Body (SGB) meeting of the Trivandrum Centre was held. In this meeting the new “Memorandum of Association and Bye-Law of the newly forming ASATC” was discussed and approved. The SGB also approved the list of names and addresses of the desirous persons as required by the Registrar of Societies according to the “Travancore Cochin Literary, Scientific, Charitable Societies Registration Act 1955”

The General Body unanimously decided that the same team of office bearers of Trivandrum Subcentre to continue as the first team of ASATC, the new independent centre.

The SGB also authorized the founder president of Trivandrum Centre Mr. Leon Mohanraj to coordinate with AOTS, Japan, regarding the registration of ASATC with AOTS, Japan.

16th June 2019

Office Bearers:

The Office-Bearers of ASATC are:

President:	Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar
Vice-President:	Dr. R. Harikumar
Secretary:	Dr. G. Sreenivasan
Joint Secretary:	Ms. Rakhee Venugopal
Treasurer:	Mr. Dinesh Kumar

Patrons:

Mr. A. Leon Mohanraj
Mr. K. Asok Kumar

1st July 2019:

Mr. Leon Mohanraj had a meeting with Ms. Megumi Shimada, the Cultural Officer of the Consulate General of Japan, Chennai. He had given an overview of the activities in Trivandrum and informed her about the imminent upgrade of the Alumni Centre. He also had requested for some Cultural Programs for the Trivandrum region. She promised to consider favourably.

3rd July 2019

Mr. Leon Mohanraj had a meeting with Respected Kojiro Uchiyama-san, Consul General of Japan, at the Consulate General of Japan at Chennai. He had informed the upgrading of the Subcentre as an independent AOTS Alumni Society. Leon-san also handed over documents including the history of Trivandrum Indo-Japan activities, Alumni movement and Collaboratory activities with the Consulate. He was impressed with the activities and had congratulated and conveyed his interest to work with Trivandrum Alumni Centre.

8th July 2019:

The formal application for registration with AOTS, Japan requesting approval of ASATC as a new independent Alumni Society in India, was submitted. Along with the application the supporting documents, including the Activity Report, Copy of MOA and Bye-Law, Members List, Photographs, new Logo, recommendation of FAAAI and the No Objection Certificate of ASA Kerala etc were submitted.

24th July 2019:

AOTS, Japan had decided to approve ASATC as an independent alumni association in India and included the name of Alumni Society of AOTS, Trivandrum Centre in the global list of Alumni Associations of AOTS. The President of AOTS, Japan conveying this decision, sent a formal Congratulatory Message to the President of ASATC.

29th July 2019:

AOTS, Japan formally announced that the Trivandrum Sub-Centre has acquired full status of an independent AAS (AOTS Alumni Society) and was established as a new independent alumni society ASATC in India. This announcement was published in the "GLOBAL INTERFACE, Japan Newsletter (Issue No: 61)" the official Newsletter of AOTS, Japan.

30th July 2019 – 2nd August 2019

AOTS Global Convention and the 60th Anniversary were celebrated from 30th July to 2nd August 2019. AOTS formally invited the founder president of ASA, Trivandrum Mr. Leon Mohanraj as the Representative of the newly formed ASATC.

Leon Mohanraj had requested the President of AOTS SAFAAS Region Mr.M.R.Ranganathan, the membership in SAFAAS for ASATC. It was approved and requested Leon Mohanraj to make an Introductory Presentation about ASATC, in the SAFAAS convention in Tokyo.

As the ASATC Representative, he was also invited and participated in the 60th Anniversary Seminar in the Iino Hall, Tokyo, 60th Anniversary Reception in Dai-Ichi Hotel, Tokyo, Inaugural Function and the Closing Ceremony.

Mr. Leon Mohanraj was also nominated as the Moderator of the Group C Theme Session.

Mr. Ratnakumar, former President of JCIC, also attended the convention as a member of ASA Trivandrum Subcentre.

2nd August 2019:

The Contract Agreement (for AOTS trainings) between AOTS and ASATC was formally signed. This Contract will enable ASATC to publicise, Select and recommend trainees for various training programs conducted by AOTS in Japan.

Trivandrum Centre already had experience in doing this. The NGC division of AOTS in collaboration with JCIC, the sister organization of the Trivandrum Centre had successfully recruited several trainees.

After signing the Contract, for the first time, ASATC had the opportunity to recruit the trainees. Mr. Asok Kumar and Mr. Leon Mohanraj had coordinated this activity.

As per the terms and conditions, Prof.V.K.Damodaran was nominated as the Advocator. ASATC could recommend three trainees during 2019-20. They are:

1. Mr. SIJO JOSEPH (PICT, November, 2019)
2. Mr. LEO DAVIS (SHOP, December, 2019)
3. Mr. MISBAH SALAM (SFCM, January, 2020)

17th August 2019:

Alumni Society of AOTS, Trivandrum Centre (ASATC) was formally registered with the Government on 17th August 2019. The territories included for the activities of ASATC are Trivandrum, Kollam and Pathanamthitta districts of Kerala.

26th August 2019:

Ms. Megumi Shimada, the Cultural Officer of the Japan Consulate General, informed the Alumni Society about a Cultural Event in collaboration with the MOFA (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan). She had enquired whether ASATC could organize such an event. The enquiry was readily agreed and the matter was discussed in the Executive Committee. With T.D. Krishnakumar (President), Leon Mohanraj (OC, Chairman) and Asok Kumar (PC, Chairman) a core group was formed for the cultural event.

10th September 2019;

It was finalized to conduct a cultural event at Trivandrum during February 2020. A draft proposal was submitted to Shimada-san. The plan was a three-day Japan festival highlighting the cultural aspects of Japan. The event name proposed was "Discover Japan". It was mutually agreed by the consulate general and ASATC.

September 18-19, 2019:

FAAAI Annual General Meeting was held in New Delhi. Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar and Mr. Leon Mohanraj participated in the meeting representing ASATC. Being a new member of FAAAI, Krishnakumar-san made a presentation about the Alumni activities in Trivandrum. In the new Executive Committee of FAAAI, Krishnakumar-san was nominated as one of the members. A three-member committee of seniors to monitor and control the financial and legal matters of FAAAI was proposed and was approved. Leon Mohanraj san was nominated as one of the members in this committee.

16th November 2019:

Head of AOTS New Delhi office, Mr. Hisashi Kanda and Mr. Leon Mohanraj had a meeting at ASAP (Additional Skill Acquisition Program) of Government of Kerala with the senior officials. In the meeting it was decided that ASATC will have an agreement with ASAP for providing Japanese Language Course. Later Kanda-san and Leon-san accompanied by the Head of ASAP had a meeting with the Higher Education Secretary, Government of Kerala regarding signing an agreement between ASATC and ASAP.

16th November 2019:

Launch Function of the new independent alumni society ASATC was conducted at 5:30PM at the Mascot Hotel, Trivandrum. Mr. Hisashi Kanda, General Manager, AOTS, New Delhi, India had formally inaugurated the activities of ASATC. Mr. T K.A Nair I.A.S (Retd), former Advisor to the Prime Minister of India and the recipient of the Award of Japan Emperor's "Order of the Rising Sun Gold and Silver Star", had delivered the keynote lecture on the topic: "Changing Paradigm of India Japan Relationship – Opportunities and Challenges"

Mr. M.R. Ranganathan, Chairman, ABK-AOTS Dosokai Chennai, Mr. E.V. John, President of ASA Kerala, Mr. T. Balakrishnan I.A.S (Retd), Alumni Member and the former President of INJACK, Leon Mohanraj, T. D. Krishnakumar and G. Srinivasan spoke on the occasion.

23rd December 2019:

The first ASATC-ASAP "Japanese Language Course" started at the Multi Linguistic Centre, Community Skill Park of ASAP, Trivandrum.

The programme was inaugurated by the Honourable Chief Minister Shri Pinarayi Vijayan

25th January 2020:

ASATC- ASAP collaboration Agreement was formally signed, Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar signed on behalf of ASATC.

5th February 2020:

Joint Meeting of all Committees of Discover Japan was held in the New Office Premises, near AKG Centre Junction, for reviewing the status of Discover Japan Festival.

10th February 2020:

Convened a Press Meet to explain about the forthcoming Discover Japan – Cultural Festival. Representatives from Print, Visual, Audio and Digital media participated in the event. Mr. Leon Mohanraj (OC Chair), K. Asok Kumar (PC Chair) and Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar (President ASATC) explained the details of the Discover Japan Festival to the press representatives.

February 14-16, 2020:

“Discover Japan” Japan Festival and Exhibition was successfully conducted in the Ayyankali Hall, Trivandrum.

The Festival included several cultural events:

- Exhibition of artefacts,
- Photos and posters exhibition,
- Dolls, Costumes and
- Paintings Exhibition,
- Books exhibition,
- Bonsai exhibition,
- Japanese Philatelic, and numismatic exhibition and
- Video Shows.
- There was a Japanese Food Festival also.

14th February 2020:

“Discover Japan” Cultural Festival, was inaugurated by the Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, and presided over by Hon Minister Kadakampally Surendran. Other Speakers were Ambassador T.P. Srinivasan (Key note speech), Dr. Shashi Tharoor M.P (Theme address), Mr. Hisashi Kanda, AOTS (Role of AOTS), Mr. T. Balakrishnan IAS (Retd), Mr. Leon Mohanraj (OC Chair), Mr. Asok Kumar (PC Chair), and Mr. T. D. Krishnakumar (President ASATC)

Discover Japan was organized by ASATC in association with MOFA (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan)

Inaugurated by: Hon. Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister of Kerala

Presided by: Hon. Mr. Kadakampally Surendran, Minister

Keynote Speaker: Ambassador Mr.T.P. Sreenivasen

Theme Speaker: Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, India

Felicitations: Mr. T. Balakrishnan I.A.S (Retd.)

Special Address: Mr. Hisashi Kanda, General Manager, AOTS India.
Welcome Address: Mr. A. Leon Mohanraj, Chairman Organizing Committee
About the event: Mr. K. Asok Kumar, Chairman, Programme Committee
Vote of Thanks: Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar, ASATC, President.

15th February 2020:

“Japan Cultural Seminar” (in connection with “Discover Japan”)

Participants:

Mr. Kanai KunhIRaman, Renowned Sculptor

Prof. K.S. Ravi Kumar, Writer and Pro Vice Chancellor of Sanskrit University

Mr. Vijay Krishnan, Film Maker, Cinema Critic and Film Historian

Moderator:

Mr. Pradeep Panangad, Media advocacy coordinator, (Institute of Sustainable Development and Governance).

Dr. S. Ratnakumar, former President of JCIC, welcomed the gathering and Dr. G. Srinivasan, General Secretary, ASATC, delivered Vote of Thanks.

2nd March 2020:

Mr. Leon Mohanraj had a meeting with Ms. Miyuki Inoue, Cultural Officer in the Consulate General of Japan, at her office in Chennai. The meeting agenda was to submit a detailed report on “Discover Japan”, Media Reports, Photographs, and the accounts and the utilization certificate of the funds to be transferred from the MOFA.

11th March 2020:

Ms. Saranya, an alumna of Institute of Japanese Studies of ASATC was selected to undergo a “Japanese Language Teachers Course” (with scholarship) organized by the Embassy of Japan in New Delhi. She was one of the 10 participants selected from all over India. The Course was completed on 11th March 2019. The participants were personally invited by the Ambassador Suzuki for a felicitation meeting. ASATC is proud of her achievement. It is also an achievement of the teachers of ASATC. Congratulations to Krishnakumar-san, Asok Kumar-san and others.

5th May 2019:

ASATC (Alumni Society of AOTS, Trivandrum Centre, India) has contributed an amount of Rs. 50,000 (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) to the Kerala Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund. The Contribution includes donations of individual alumni members and a nominal amount from ASATC funds. This is our humble participation in the Covid19 fighting efforts of our government.

8th May 2019:

Shri. Man Mohan, President of FAAAI had passed away after brief illness in New Delhi. He was an acclaimed Management Guru and an expert in Japanese Management. He had tirelessly served for the development of AOTS dosokai movement in India for nearly four decades.



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5th May 2020

ASATC donated Rs. 50,000 (Rupees Fifty thousand only) towards Kerala Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund for COVID19 disaster.

10th May 2020

ASATC executive committee met and mourned the sad demise of Shri. Manmohan, President of FAAAI. The committee gratefully remembered his support in the process of ASATC becoming an Independent Alumni Society. The last time we had met him was in September 2019 during the AGM of FAAAI at New Delhi.

31st July 2020

The Japanese Language Course for ASAP (Government of Kerala) conducted by ASATC was continuing using On-Line model. (It was started in physical Class-Room model). ASAP requested us to increase the number of batches parallelly. It was agreed and identified more faculty members. The Faculty are Mr. Asok Kumar (director of Institute of Japanese Studies, under ASATC), Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar, President of ASATC, Mr. S. Prabhakaran (Former President of ASATC) and two guest faculties Ms. Saranya and Ms. Aparna Asok.

ASAP requested us to conduct an additional batch for students based in Kochi. We have declined that offer and requested ASAP to contact ASA Kerala to organize the Course.

4th October 2020

Online meeting of the **Executive Committee of ASATC** was convened on 4th October 2020. The meeting discussed about the future activities including the ongoing Language Courses, conducted in association with the ASAP, Government of Kerala. The committee also explored the possibility of how to organize more activities, strictly following the Covid Protocol.

2nd to 13th November 2020

Mr. T.D. Krishnakumar and Mr. Leon Mohanraj attended the Monozukuri wa Hitosukuri, a webinar-based course conducted by ABK-AOTS Dosokai, Chennai.

It was an excellent course well organized.

13th November 2020

APJ Abdul Kalam Technology University, Kerala had requested the assistance of ASATC for planning some Collaboratory activities including:

Possibility of Academic and Research Linkages, Faculty and student exchange programmes, offering Industry minor programmes on Japanese Language, establishing a Centre of Excellence for Japanese Language etc.

There was an Exploratory Online meeting attended by the VC and Registrar of the University, Mr. Hisashi Kanda (AOTS General Manager, New Delhi), Ms. Miyuki Inoue, Cultural Advisor, Consulate General of Japan, Chennai, Mr. Murakami Yoshifumi of Japan Foundation, Mr, Asok Kumar, ASATC and Mr. Leon Mohanraj, ASATC.

27th and 28th November 2020

Mr. Leon Mohanraj, conducted a special session on “Cross Cultural Communication and Skills” for two batches of Japanese Language Courses on 27th and 28th November, respectively.

4th to 13th December 2020

“Best of Japanese Cinema, Online Japan Film Festival”- This was a festival organized by Japan Foundation.

The Consulate General had requested ASATC to publicize the Film festival to all members of ASATC and also the Japanese Language students of ASATC. We have done our best to promote this Japanese Film Festival among all cinema lovers of our region. It was a success.

5th and 19th December 2020, 1st January, 2021 and 6th February 2021

Webinars of **ICOSA** (International Cooperation Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises in Asia). In response to the invitation from **Mr. Masafumi Sato**, Secretary General of ICOSA, **Mr. Leon Mohanraj** attended the following Web Seminars representing ASATC.

- (1) What we have Learned from Covid-19 disaster – Part:1 (5-12-2020)
- (2) What we have Learned from Covid-19 disaster – Part:2 (19-12-2020)
- (3) Management Under Covid-19 disaster – Leadership (01-01-2021)
- (4) Management Under Covid-19 disaster – Leadership Summary (6-02-2021)

23rd and 24th February 2021– **Forthcoming WNF Program**

ASATC has agreed to conduct the following Webinars under WNF programme for NAAS, Nepal.

23-02-2021: 11:00-13:00 PM “Challenges and Opportunities brought by the Pandemic COVID19 in the Manufacturing Sector- Session:1” by **Dr S. Ratnakumar**

24-02-2021: 11:00 -13:00 PM Session:2

23-02-2021: 2:00 – 4:00 PM “Challenges and Opportunities brought by the Pandemic Covid19 in the ICT Sector” – Session:1 by **Mr. G. Neelakantan**

24-02-2021: 2:00- 4:00 PM Session:2

Activity Report prepared by:

Leon Mohanraj, ASATC

6 February 2021