Experience of current JET from India No.4 (Dasari Ramesh)

Date: February, 2018

Name	Dasari Ramesh
Place of birth	Andhra Pradesh
Type of position	Coordinator for International Relations (CIR)
Period and duration of	2017 – present
assignment	
Name of Prefecture you	Toyama Prefecture
are dispatched to	

Hello All, Namaste.

I am working as a CIR (Coordinator for International Relations) at the International Affairs Division at the Toyama Prefectural Government Office in Toyama City, in order to especially engage in promotion of friendly exchanges between Toyama Prefecture and the State of Andhra Pradesh. I have started working here since August 2017, and it has been great experience until now. Working as a CIR in Japan is always challenging but also very interesting. It gives you an opportunity to promote your country as well as to understand more about Japan and Japanese work culture very closely.

I still remember when I came to Toyama for the first time in August. It was a bit hot that day (but not as hot as India). When I heard from my colleagues about snow fall in Toyama, I was excited for the current winter season. Now it's snowing in Toyama and I feel fantastic almost every day (playing with snow) while commuting to my office.

Toyama is a very beautiful and calm city. Toyama Prefecture has a very rich culture and Toyama Bay is a paradise for delicious sea food, especially for fish and crab.

Toyama people are quite familiar with India and Indian food (most of them love naan and curry) because of the Indian restaurants in Toyama Prefecture.

Though it has been just 6 months since I started my job, I have had the opportunity to experience many things such as meetings with delegates from AP, India and Toyama, moderating international conferences, coordinating the Japan-Asia Youth Exchange Program in Science (Sakura Science Exchange Program in Science) in Toyama and more. This helped me to understand more about international activities.

In general, I would describe my job as doing the following:

 Translate (Japanese-English/Telugu and English/Telugu-Japanese) and edit (English) official government documents and publications, promotional materials, and other miscellaneous documents.

- Interpret (Japanese-English/Telugu and English/Telugu-Japanese) for and escort officials of the prefectural and national government and delegates from abroad– mostly in relation to conferences in Toyama, Toyama sightseeing and sister state affairs.
- Plan and deliver presentations about India to (mostly middle and high) schools and public/private organizations in Toyama to promote international understanding.
- Plan and conduct promotional events/seminars to promote sister state relations between Toyama Prefecture and Andhra Pradesh, India
- Teach English lessons for government employees once a week to facilitate international communication and conduct English chats (Namaste India! — monthly twice) for Toyama people etc.

I also do other things with my time such as study Japanese, read the news and cultural articles for both India and Japan (these are all actually extremely important for being able to translate and interpret) to update myself.

I believe that the CIR position is a great opportunity for Japanese language aspirants to prove themselves at an international level.



1. Tateyama Alpine Route, Toyama Prefecture

2. Meeting with Andhra Pradesh Economic Development Board (APEDB) team in Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh



3. The Great Buddha of Takaoka, Toyama Prefecture



4. With other CIRs of Toyama Government Prefectural Office



5. Dance performance at Toyama Festival



6. Published in a local toyama news paper



7. Published in Hokuriku Chunichi newspaper



8. Samurai style at International Exchange Festival in Toyama



9. While Interpreting in dring meeting with AP Higher Education officials





10. View of Gokayama, Toyama Prefecture (World Heritage Site)

11. Interpreting at a courtesy call in the Toyama Government Prefectural Office



12. At my desk at Toyama Prefectural Office

