

## BUIITEMS Team's Study Visit to Japan

Under the ongoing JICA-BUIITEMS Project “Provision of Engineering Equipment and In-country Training of BUIITEMS”, a team of BUIITEMS visited Japan for a 10-day study tour.

The BUIITEMS Team consisted of the following members:

- Ahmed Farooq Bazai, Vice Chancellor
- Muhammad Shah Khan, Director University Advancement
- Dr. Ehsanullah, Dean Faculty of Engineering
- Dr. Muhammad Tariq, Faculty Member P&G Engineering Department
- Shahpur Azam, Faculty Member P&G Engineering Department
- Sher Bacha, Faculty Member Mining Engineering Department
- Muhammad Bilal, Faculty Member Mining Engineering Department

The Team visited JICA headquarter in Tokyo and had a meeting with Vice President JICA, Mr. Heditoshi Irigaki. Mr. Irigaki said that JICA is providing all the support to help Pakistan achieve its Vision-2025. He said that the development of Balochistan, in particular, is JICA's



priority. Regarding the BUIITEMS-JICA Project, Mr. Irigaki said that this project will play a vital role in the human resource development of the region. Vice Chancellor, Ahmed Farooq Bazai in response added that the Government of Balochistan looks towards BUIITEMS when it comes to capacity building. BUIITEMS mission is to contribute in the socio-

economic development of Balochistan, in particular and the region in general. He added that BUIITEMS is gradually transforming into an international university and we intend to attract more international students, especially from central Asian region. The Vice Chancellor stressed on long-term linkages with JICA and Japanese universities.

BUIITEMS Team also visited the Embassy of Pakistan in Japan. Mr. Imtiaz, The Economic Advisor and Dr. Rafique Soomro, Press Counselor greeted BUIITEMS Team. Mr. Imtiaz talked in detail regarding the historical ties between Pakistan and Japan. Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS,

Ahmed Farooq Bazai highlighted the importance of education in the development of a country. He urged the Embassy staff to help BUITEMS develop linkages with Japanese higher education institutions.

Later during the tour, BUITEMS Team visited Akita University and had a courtesy call on the President of Akita University, Prof. Kenichi Sawada. Executive Director and Vice President of Akita University Dr. Fumio Yamamoto was also present on the occasion. Vice Chancellor BUITEMS, Ahmed Farooq Bazai discussed different issues including MOU between BUITEMS and Akita University. Both of them agreed to continue the cooperation and collaboration between the two Universities in the field of research and faculty exchange programs. Vice Chancellor BUITEMS presented souvenirs to the President and the Vice President of Akita University.



BUITEMS Team met the two BUITEMS scholars Mr. Zaheer Kasi and Mr. Nawaz Ali who are pursuing their higher studies in Akita University, Japan. Mr. Zaheer is enrolled in MS leading to PhD Program in Mining Engineering and Mr. Nawaz Ali is doing his MS in Civil Engineering. Both the scholars praised the academic standards and learning environment of Akita University.

BUITEMS Team also visited various labs of Civil, Mining and P&G Engineering in Akita University. During the visit of each lab, the concerned professors of Akita University gave a detailed briefing on the available equipment. The Team also visited the Mining Museum at Akita University. Based on the feedback of Akita University professors and the observations of BUITEMS Team visit to the Akita University labs, a list of equipment was finalized which will be procured and delivered to BUITEMS under this Project.

Vice Chancellor BUITEMS, Ahmed Farooq Bazai emphasized the need for long-term collaboration between BUITEMS and Akita University. He said that BUITEMS and Akita University can undertake joint mineral exploration projects in Balochistan. He also extended an



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invitation to the Akita University professors for the upcoming International Conference on Engineering Studies to be conducted at BUIITEMS earlier next year.

JICA officials appreciated the dedication of BUIITEMS Team in making the study visit fruitful.