

Block- IV, Old JNU Campus, New Delhi

Dated: 11.10.2024

**Training Circular**

**Subject: Applications invited for two-year Masters Degree through HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP (JDS) programme sponsored by JICA for five universities in Japan from September/October 2025 to September 2027.**

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JICA is offering scholarships in five Universities of Japan (as mentioned below), through which exceptionally bright, young public administrators and government officers who are expected to play active roles in the future as national leaders, are invited for a fully-funded programme to pursue two-year Masters Degree Course in various areas (as mentioned below).

Accepting Universities for the JDS Program in India (Academic Year 2025-27)

Name of the Accepting University	Name of the Masters Programme	Number of officers to be sponsored
Graduate School of Public Policy (GraSPP), University of Tokyo	Master of Public Policy, International Programme	3
Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo	Master Programme on Urban Engineering	2
Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies, Waseda University	Master Programme on International Relations	2
Graduate School of International and Public Policy, Hitotsubashi University	Master Programme on International and Administrative Policy	1
Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, Kobe University	Master Programme on International Studies, Economics, Laws, Political Science	1

2. JDS is designed to foster exceptional human resources capable of working to resolve various development challenges in the recipient countries in future by imparting advanced expertise to JDS Fellows through studying at Japanese universities. It contributes to strengthen the partnership between Japan and the recipient country by graduating a wide range of Fellows who have deep understanding of Japan. **The Master's Programme will be taught in English only and shall be for 2 years.**

3. The **eligibility criteria** as follows:

- i. The programme is open to officers of All India Service and Central Civil Services (list enclosed). **Officers should have completed minimum 7 years of Group ‘A’ service;**
- ii. **Age: Shall not exceed 45 years of age** (inclusive) as of April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of arrival in Japan;
- iii. Possession of a Bachelor’s degree;
- iv. Proficiency in English language;
- v. Good health – both mental and physical;
- vi. Must not be serving in the Armed forces or as Defence civilian officers. Additional details have been enclosed in the JDS Programme Brochure (enclosed herewith).

4. **Application:**

- An applicant can apply to **up to two graduate schools.**
- Apply via JDS portal (<https://scholarship.jds21.com/india>).
- University of Tokyo (GRaSPP) applicants, in addition to applying on the JDS portal, shall be required to apply separately on the GRaSPP portal.
- The proforma application forms are attached in the Application Guidelines document (enclosed).

5. **Selection Process:**

Preliminary screening of applications submitted through the portal shall be done by the JDS agent.

A. **IELTS**

Computer-based exam will be arranged by JDS Agent company in multiple designated cities across India.

- Fee for examination and transportation/accommodation (wherever necessary) shall be borne by the JDS agent.
- All applicants must take the IELTS Academic Module unless presenting an IELTS score obtained within 2 years (not earlier than 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023) or a Certificate of English Proficiency issued by a work supervisor/academic supervisor/university as applicable. Please refer to the below table for necessary information.

<b>Accepting University</b>		<b>Equivalent certificates accepted</b>
University of Tokyo (GraSPP)*	✓	-
-University of Tokyo (Engineering)	✓	Certificate of English proficiency issued by supervisor at work
Waseda University	✓	Certificate of English proficiency issued by the academic supervisor or the university of graduation
Hitotsubashi University*	✓	-
Kobe University	✓	Certificate of English proficiency issued by supervisor at work

\*These universities shall require a mandatory IELTS score.

## 2. Mathematics Exams

- Applicants to The University of Tokyo (Engineering) and Kobe University shall mandatorily take a Maths exam conducted by the JDS agent.
- **Paper-based exam** and shall be held in **Delhi only**.
- Fee for transportation/accommodation (if necessary) shall be borne by the JDS agent.
- Kobe University requires high school level mathematics, while the University of Tokyo (Engineering) requires higher secondary level of mathematics. Past exam papers and answers shall be published on the JDS portal.

## C. Document Screening and Technical Interview by Universities

- Document screening and technical interviews are undertaken by faculties of respective graduate schools in India.
- University of Tokyo (GraSPP) has its own document screening and technically interview in addition to the JDS document screening and technical interview.

## D. Comprehensive Interview

An Operating Committee (OC) co-chaired by Indian and Japanese side shall evaluate applicants who had successfully passed technical interview by universities to determine the JDS fellows to be sponsored.

### Consideration of social inclusion

- i. "JDS Programme values diversity and inclusion. It encourages officers of all genders, castes, tribes, classes and those officers *posted in North East/J&K/LW-affected areas/Divyangjan* to apply.
- ii. The OC's decision on the selection of JDS fellows shall be final and binding.

## 6. Undertaking:

1. Before joining the programme, the officer shall be required to execute a Bond to the extent that "in the event of his/her failing to resume duty or resigning or voluntarily retiring from service or otherwise quitting service, without returning to duty after expiry or termination of the period of the foreign training programme or failing to complete the programme, or quitting the service at any time within a period of FIVE (5) years after his/her return to duty, the officer shall forthwith pay to the Government or as may be directed by the Government, on demand all charges and expenses that shall or may have been incurred for the programme i.e. all monies paid to him/her or expended on his/her account during the programme period such as pay and allowances, leave salary, cost of fee, travelling and other expenses met by the Government/agency concerned together with interest thereon from the date of demand at Government rates for the time being in force on Government loans or if payment is made in a country other than India, the equivalent of the said amount in currency of that country converted at the official rate of exchange between that country and India and together with all costs between the attorney and the client

2. **Controlling Authorities shall ensure that selected JDS fellows are relieved from duty only after furnishing of bond to Training wing, DoPT.**

