

# THE BULLETIN OF JSA

## THE JAPAN SCIENTISTS' ASSOCIATION

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### ***“FOR HARNESSING REGIONAL RESOURCES TO BUILD THE SOCIETY INDEPENDENT OF NUCLEAR POWER”***

2015 Forum in Shizuoka entitled as above was held on January 24-25, where 150 participants gathered from all over the country. Following organizer's address, Mr. Inoue (chief producer, NHK news bureau) delivered a commemorative lecture on *Satoyama* (communal woodland) *Capitalism*.

He first said that the money capitalism had become a completed gigantic system taking advantage of the impact of Lehman's bankruptcy and Great East Japan earthquake. While he kept company with village people after having been transferred to the Hiroshima broadcast station, he, together with Mr. Motani (The Japan Research Institute, Limited), coined a word *Satoyama Capitalism* antithetically to the word *Money Capitalism*. In his series of programs relevant to Chugoku region, he introduced rice boiling using eco-stove made from scrapped pails, wood meal pellets from wood pieces spun off in a lumber mill as alternative of fossil fuel, and economic development in Subo-Oshima Town by establishing jam shops. The mid and high-rise building construction using CLT (Cross-Laminated-Timber) was also introduced.

Mr. Amano (Shizuoka Future Energy), who had called for contributions to start "Regional electric power generation" in Shizuoka, explained his plan to develop regional sustainable activities by increasing citizens who changed from user side to manufacturer side.

As to government's revision of Free-in tariff, Mr. Tsuzuku (rep., Photovoltaic-Net) criticized that connectable electricity of renewable energy is the one set up on the promise of resumption of nuclear power generation plants, straying from government's basic energy plan. Mr. Yoshii (House of Representative ex-member) clarified the so called nuclear power interest group clings to the resumption and export of nuclear power plants.

On the second day participants discussed separately in the following three sessions: (a) Regional resources, improvement of FIT, reform of electricity system; (b) Disseminating renewable energy through local production for local consumption; (c) Learning an advanced case of citizens launched electric power generation.

## ***JSA TOKAI DISTRICT SYMPOSIUM “THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW’S UNIVERSITY”***

JSA branches in Tokai district held a symposium “Thinking about tomorrow’s university” in Nagoya on March 1, 2015.

At first Prof. Nakajima (Nagoya University Graduate School) did a key report titled “Opposition axis against the university reformation by neoliberalism: creation of popular higher education”. “Politics” is going to control “too many universities” qualitatively and quantitatively. He mentioned that consideration about the practical unification of study and higher education based on the theoretical unity by asking on the meaning of living and learning, and problems of the higher education policy and the issues of the practical overcome. He reported the following themes. 1) Higher education as human being education, 2) Reproduction in society and higher education, 3) Real nature and problems of the governance reform of universities, 4) Why governance reform of university? 5) Strengthening of management more than national university corporation systems, 6) Revision of School Education Law, 7) National university corporation law revision. Finally he said that the university self-government was custom that has been accepted since before the Second World War and it was most important for a university.

Next Prof. Fujieda (Tsu City College) presented a report titled “Significance of the university self-government and its history”. She reported the following themes.

1) Freedom of learning and university self-government, 2) Security of the mental freedom in the constitution, 3) Security of the freedom of learning, 4) History of the university self-government, 5) Substance of the university self-government, 6) Current significance of the university self-government, 7) Students who carry university autonomy.

After a break several reports on the present situation of university were presented. In Gifu University, various business and projects have been carried out without hearing opinion in the university to get budget or by the instruction of Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. In Aichi University the weakening plan of the university council as separation of the president and the chairman of the board of trustees and the review of the regular trustee system were suggested.

In the discussion it was reported that University administration based on the neoliberalism spreads on a global scale. The power concentration to president and university self-government destruction were carried out in the New Zealand about 20 years ago. In Shizuoka University, whole school personnel committee has been made based on the leadership of the president. The participant of the symposium was 32 people.

## **ACTIVITIES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEES AND GROUPS**

*The JSA headquarters organizes a number of research committees and groups undertaken on a nationwide scale, which are encouraging the members across the country*

### **1) ACTIVITIES OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF LINEAR CHYUO SHINKANSEN PROBLEMS**

The committee held a study meeting in which the committee reported the research results on Linear Chyuo Shinkansen on January 11, 2015 with 35 participants.

Firstly Mr. Nagata (the representative of the committee) explained the basic viewpoint of the JSA statement. JSA has regarded the task of “the scientific creation and comprehensive” as important activity. We don’t make light of the sign of fascism in the administration, the financial world and the industry and strengthen the solidarity with the scientific popularization and civic movement. It is important to change social reason to social power.

The reporters and themes were as follows: (a) Mr. Matsunaga: The present condition of the linear vehicle technology and the problems of the tunnel; (b) Mr. Yahagi: The present state of the development of the super-conducting magnet of Linear Shinkansen; (c) Mr. Nakano: Environmental influence of the magnetic field of the linear vehicle and the problems of the magnetic field measurement and the electromagnetic field regulation level by JR; (d) Sakamaki: The difficulty of spring water measures in the tunnel and the problems of mountain tunnel construction.

Mr. Yoneda (Secretary General, JSA) examined the need, profitability of Linear Chyuo Shinkansen economically and insisted that JR must not push forward the plan without a national agreement. Mr. Sakurai (Nihon Univ.) explained the process that Germany canceled the development of linear vehicles and insisted that JR should use the profit of Tokaido Shinkansen for a fare reduction in price. Mr. Ito (the study plan director JSA) mentioned in the closing address that JSA branches along Linear Chyuo Shinkansen rout gathered in the symposium and we will spread the understanding to be the problem of all nations.

### **2) ACTIVITIES OF THE RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF FOODSTUFF PROBLEMS**

The research committee held a regular meeting on February 7, which was to hear the lecture of Dr. Nnamai (Tsukuba Univ., ret.) on radiation-contaminated water and foodstuff.

His talk was to reveal the actual status of radiation contamination completely different from the governments’ reports. The Japanese government adopted the standards for radiation protection recommended by ICRP (International Commission on Radiological Protection), which underestimate the affection of internal exposure. In contrast it is important to reckon with  $\alpha$ -ray and  $\beta$ -ray and adopt the general limit for exposure 0.1mSv/y based on ECRR’s (European Committee on Radiation Risk) standards laying weight on long-term low-dose irradiation of internal exposure, he claimed. While the government only sees cesium contamination as a problem, the contamination of tritium and strontium 90 is also problematic considering runoff contaminated water. Dr. Namai secondly explained the actual situations of natural and artificial nuclides (K-40, Cs-137), especially artificial nuclide is larger in

shape than natural one, local amount of exposure increases in the case of internal exposure, and thus to make an easy comparison would be risky. He finally made a proposal to avert internal exposure through radiation-contaminated foodstuff: (a) strive for infinitely near to zero Becquerel, (b) guarantee rights of primary industry workers, (c) increase safe food production, (d) make a full investigation of pollution in the Japan sea and ensure the safety therein, (e) make a full and continuing investigation on water and sediments in rivers and lakes and disclose the results to the public, and (f) secure safe school-provided lunch foodstuffs and conduct a full radioactivity check for them.

### ***DISTRICTS' AND BRANCHES' ACTIVITIES***

***The JSA consists of 47 branches which are grouped into 9 districts, and they are independently and/or cooperatively carrying out their activities in addition to the headquarters' ones***

#### **1) SYMPOSIUM ON FINAL DISPOSAL SITE OF DESIGNATED WASTES INCLUDING RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES**

The symposium was held on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> (SUN) 2015 in Sendai city in cooperation with Miyagi prefectural branch of JSA (Miyagi JSA). Described on the advertising leaflet is “No other choice than calling off!” We (Miyagi JSA) have formerly issued declaration on the issue (Journal of Japanese Scientists Vol. 50, p108). The symposium was planned by residents groups of the three candidate locations of disposal site: Tashirodake, Kami-cho; Miyamadake, Kurihara city; Shimohara district, Yamato-cho, and organized by them.

##### **(i) The First Session; All Three Candidate Locations Are Not Suited**

Kenshiro Otsuki (professor emeritus, Tohoku Univ.) has reported on geological conditions and the past landslides of the three locations. He has pointed out that we cannot predict when the next landslides would happen and buildings be damaged.

Satoshi Ihara (executive board member of JSA, professor emeritus, Tohoku Univ.) has criticized central government and Ministry of the Environmental of trying to treat (disposition and storing) waste including radioactive substances in the same way as general waste in his report. They are not based on scientific grounds and the process is too fast, and the decision making should go through from basics and necessary multiple steps with consultation with stakeholders according to Ihara.

Masayoshi Aoki, layer living in the region, has pointed out the planned final disposal site of designated wastes including radioactive substances would infringe personal rights and the right to exist in a qualitatively different way. Aoki referred to proposals issued by Science Council of Japan and pointed out importance to take time for reviewing the plan.

##### **(ii) The Second Session; Think About Damage And Influence of Disposal Site**

Hearing results from farmers who still have rice straws contaminated with radio-active substances were introduced. An economist's speech, over video recording, on compensation issues of Fukushima nuclear accidents of Tokyo Electric was shown and attendants added comments including those from Shioya-cho/ Tochigi pref., Ichinoseki city/ Iwate pref., Obanazawa city/ Yamagata pref., and another from Chiba pref. They claimed that things dropped by Tokyo Electric have to be returned to them,

Act on Special Measures concerning the Handling of Pollution by Radioactive Materials should be repealed as its purpose is to reduce the burden of Tokyo Electric, and each prefectural government should control radio-active waste well. The 5 prefectures are all absolutely against the plan of the final disposal site and agreed to cooperate with each other.

There were nearly 400 participants and 18 booklets related to nuclear plants and radioactivity were sold.

## 2) “GENERATION STATUS OF AN ACCIDENT DURING AGRICULTURAL WORK AND ITS BACKGROUND AND IMPROVEMENT” HELD IN SHIGA

The Shiga branch held the above lecture meeting for citizens at Kusatsu City, Shiga, on February 21, inviting Dr. Tsujimura (industrial hygiene, Shiga Univ. Med. Sci.) as a lecturer. What he talked was as follows. Accidents during agricultural work recently occur frequently, we yet have insufficient information collection concerning the number of incidents and their details. Thus the Japanese Association of Rural Medicine and other societies have conducted nationwide accident investigation since 2011, in which the doctor has participated. Data indicate the death toll during agricultural work in 2012 was 13.9 people per 100,000 people, which is fairly higher compared with 7.3 in construction industry, and 5 in case of traffic accidents. Yearly toll of accidental death in other industries has decreased rapidly for decades, while that in agriculture has been constantly around 400 people. That is found to be an astonishing fact considering that farmers have been decreasing. As root causes of that fact we may specify as follows: (a) Unconsciousness of high accident rates; (b) Insufficient publicity of dangerous status; (c) Aging of farmers; (d) Design of agricultural machines not based on ergonomics; (e) No utilization of reported near misses. As actions to prevent an accident he proposed the following: (a) Training to know that agricultural work is dangerous and to boost awareness of safety; (b) Improvement of agricultural machines and use environments; (c) Prevention actions an individual is able to take. In order to realize safe work in agriculture, farmers, farmer’s cooperative, agricultural administration, makers, and researchers need to cooperate and put effort into realization.

## 3) THE 4<sup>TH</sup> KANTO AND KOSHINETSU DISTRICT SYMPOSIUM “THINKING ON LINAR CHYUO SHINKANSEN IN SHINSYU”

The symposium was at Iida city of Nagano Prefecture on March 8, 2015. All mayors in Nagano Prefecture advocate the construction of Linear Chuo Shinkansen and in particular a station is going to be built in Iida City and the government aims at the local activation by this. In spite of these situations 147 citizens attended the symposium.

Dr. Nagata (the representative of Tokyo branch and the research committee of Linear Chuo Shinkansen) performed the report entitled “The problems of Linear Chuo Shinkansen plan”. He introduced comprehensive Linear Chuo Shinkansen problems on the basis of the present conditions of the Yamanashi test site and explained a basic viewpoint of the JSA statement issued on July 15, 2014 for this problem.

Next Mr. Matushima (JSA Nagano branch) who researches the Southern Alps geology pointed out the dangerousness of Linear Chuo Shinkansen in his report “Linear Chuo Shinkansen as a nightmare,

from a geological viewpoint”. He said that since the Southern Alps are newest mountain area in the country, the tunnel will be destroyed by the movement of the stratum. In addition, it creates mud flood disasters to discard remaining soil of the construction near a ridge. Because a tunnel is made in the basement of the water source, a water shortage will happen in each place.

In the discussion participants asked JSA to contribute with the scientific specialized viewpoints and to enlighten a young generation on this problem.

#### 4) LECTURE MEETING AIMED AT NUCLEAR ZERO BY JSA

Kyoto branch of JSA held a lecture meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2015 at Ryukoku Univ. It was in a campaign to achieve nuclear-zero, commemorating 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 3.11. There were 42 participants and 7 lecturers addressed speech.

Toshizo Kato, “Severe accident of nuclear power plant and countermeasure by human: what we learn from Yoshida Testimony.” The reality was they could do nothing. There still remains suspect that damages by earthquake exist as well as those from tsunami.

Hiroyuki Suzuki, “Underestimation of active faults and seismic motion for nuclear power plants.” Experts, *retained* by electric power companies, take all measures to underestimate active faults and seismic motion.

Kimio Furugi, “Caldera eruption and nuclear power plant.” There are 39 volcanoes in Kyushu. If caldera eruption takes place, pyroclastic flows may attack Sendai nuclear power plant and volcanic ashes will drift on westerlies to cover the entire Japan archipelago.

Akito Ichikawa, “Refuge plan for nuclear accidents.” The designation of UPZ 30 km was made from manipulation of data. The current plan is not of refuge but a plan of radiation-exposure. The nuclear plants should go elsewhere.

Michio Tomita, “Reactor decommissioning issues.” Decommissioning should be done under responsibility of central government with national consensus. Storing facility for debris should be built in each nuclear plant and nuclear fossil should be carried.

Yoshio Kobayashi, “Radio-active waste in history of mankind.” It takes 100,000 years to store radio-active waste until it becomes safe level. Civilization depending on underground resources (coal, oil, uranium) has reached a limit.

Yoshihiro Sokawa, “Fukushima nuclear accidents and thyroid cancer in children.” Preliminary study reported 35 cases found in 100,000 persons. Full study results were 188 cases found in 100,000 persons. Internal exposure is suspected.

Discussion followed after the 7 lectures joined by audience. The discussion included Q&A on activities of JSA, root cause of Fukushima nuclear accidents, effectiveness of countermeasures, the amount of radioactive substance that went out of plant, etc.