

Report on the Special Lecture

“Concepts and Details about Japan’s Economy and Research”

By Prof. Takayoshi Kusago

2nd December, 2024, Conference Hall, Department of Mass Communication, University of North Bengal.

The Department of Mass Communication in collaboration with the Department of Economics, University of North Bengal organized a Special Lecture on “The concepts and details about Japan’s Economy and Research” by Prof. Takayoshi Kusago, Professor at Kansai University, Japan, on the 2nd of December, 2024, at the Tagore Freedom Hall in the Department of Mass Communication, University of North Bengal. The seminar was attended by the Registrar Dr. Nupur Das (Additional Charge), faculty members of the departments of Mass Communication and Economics, scholars, students and also the students and scholars from other departments of the University.

About the Speaker

Dr. Takayoshi Kusago is a Professor in Social System Design at the Faculty of Sociology, Kansai University, Osaka, Japan. After graduating from the Faculty of Economics at the University of Tokyo, he earned his Master's degree at Stanford University (USA) in Development Economics and his Ph.D. in Development Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA). His career has included positions at the World Bank, Meiji Gakuin University, Hokkaido University, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and Osaka University. From the perspective of human development and capabilities, he has explored how people can actively create a sustainable society that enhances well-being. He has presented his research papers at international conferences and published his work both in Japan and abroad. His fieldwork has taken him to communities in Bhutan, Nepal, Minamata, Niigata, Hyogo, Nagano, and Aichi, where he engages in research and offers practical support. He emphasizes the importance of listening to local voices, capturing insights that statistical data often miss, and understanding the perspectives of local people. In particular, he has focused on the role of dialogue in community development and improving well-being.

Event Highlights

Dr. Nupur Das, Registrar (Additional Charge), while addressing the gathering stated that it has been under her tutelage the University has started a Special Lecture Series where eminent Professors and Academicians are being invited to the University deliver lectures and special talks. She further stated that participants were being given lectures in order motivate them to increasingly participate in such intellectual discourses. .

Prof. Ranjita Chakraborty, Director of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), while addressing the gathering emphasized the importance of collaboration on the part of the various departments and among all the stakeholders of the University. She suggested that seminars conducted as part of such collaborative effort between the Department of Mass Communication and Department of Economics will be highly beneficial for the university.

Special Lecture by Prof. Takayoshi Kusago



During the seminar, Prof. Kusago gave a detailed presentation on Japan's economy, emphasizing its relevance to education. He also highlighted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and discussed various topics including Development Economics, Labour Economics, Japanese Economics, Social Development and Statistics. Additionally he spoke about Minamata Village, which was chosen as one of the first six environmental model cities by the central government of Japan in 2008. Prof. Kusago shared research on the Minamata community, including graphs that illustrated the trends in Japan's economy and birth rates.



Prof. Kusago





