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ABU ASIA-PACIFIC ROBOT CONTEST

ROBOCON
2017

PUNE - INDIA

2nd - 4th March 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

The technology today is developing at a rapid pace. In this era of globalization, the exchange of knowledge and skills has given a further fillip to the exponential growth in the field of technology. Such phenomenal advancements have revolutionized almost every sphere of human life today. The emerging disciplines like Robotics and Artificial Intelligence have brought in many possibilities and opportunities for us to explore the various ways in which technology can be developed and utilized for the well being of mankind. It is imperative for the developing countries like India to excel in these disciplines if they wish to reach the level of other developed nations. Events like Robocon play a crucial role in nurturing the youth and budding engineers, and foster their skills in Robotics. It gives them a platform to learn and explore this field and develop insights into the interdisciplinary approach to technology.

Robocon India started in 2002 with merely three participating teams. Later Doordarshan India, in collaboration with the MIT group of Institutions, notably the MIT Academy of Engineering (MITAOE) Alandi (D), Pune raised this number to beyond 100 in the National Robocon 2016. The national winner Vadodara Institute of Engineering, Vadodara represented India in the International ABU Robocon 2016, held in Bangkok, Thailand recently. Team India performed remarkably and won the "Best Design Award".

I am glad to announce that the next International Robocon 2017 will be hosted by the ABU at Tokyo. The theme for the same is '**The Landing Disc**'. The theme revolves around the word "asobi" (play), which is also a fundamental philosophy behind Robocon. In "asobi," playful, unique, original show of skills is often more important than winning or losing, as everyone – friend and foe alike – can applaud and enjoy them. So, in the "asobi" spirit: we encourage playful, unique, original robot designs and strategies!

To select the Indian participation, the National Robocon will be held from 2nd to 4th March 2017 at the Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Krida Sankul, Balewadi, Pune. Further details about the theme and game rules are available on www.roboconindia.com & <http://www.aburobocon.net>. The Winner of the National Robocon 2017 will represent India in the International Robocon 2017 to be held in Tokyo-Japan in August 2017.

The event is a great festival for exchange of technological know-how and sporting spirit. It has been our pleasure to watch students taking the initiative to participate with a high degree of improvisation each year. I cordially invite all the enthusiasts to participate with full vigor in this celebrated event which can give immense exposure and global opportunities to our youth.

Dr. Sunil Karad
Pune, India: 5th September 2016

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