

IEICE Global Plaza

—Monthly community plaza in English for students, faculties and engineers—

Hot Topics

APSITT2015 Successfully Held at Colombo, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka



*Hidetsugu Kobayashi,
General Manager, R&D Planning Dept., NTT,
Co-Chair, APSITT2015 Organizing Committee,
IEICE Communications Society*

The 10th Asia-Pacific Symposium on Information and Telecommunication Technologies (APSITT2015) was successfully held with the sponsorship of IEICE and technical sponsorship of IEEE Communications Society at Colombo, the largest exotic port city of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on August 4-7, 2015. The total number of participants counted 90. Technical papers were categorized into 25 selected papers and 28 regular papers, and presented as scheduled.

The conference venue, Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo hotel, is located in the center of Colombo city and facing to Beira Lake. In spite of sudden heavy rain showers on the first day, the participants mainly enjoyed the tropical dry weather during the conference days; meanwhile, Japan was hit by the scorching heat with its temperature higher than in Sri Lanka.

This conference was originally drawn up by Dr. Yuji Inoue (Toyota Info Technology Center, Japan), the former IEICE President. It was kicked off in 1993 and has been held every few years. The 10th conference was cooperatively organized by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) consisting of Sri Lankan members and the Organizing Committee at the initiatives of IEICE Technical Committees of Communication Systems (CS), Network Systems (NS) and Information Networks (IN).

In the opening session on the first day, opening remarks were given by Prof. Ajith Pasqual (University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, General Co-Chair / APSITT2015) and Prof. Tohru Asami (University of Tokyo, Japan, General Co-Chair / APSITT2015). In the session, Prof. Pasqual introduced Sri Lanka as a beautiful and mysterious island country with its long history. He also mentioned about rapidly developing mobile communication and engineering education environment in Sri Lanka. Prof. Asami provided a talk on the future perspective of resilient and green network technologies by referring to the progress of telecommunication technologies in the past.



Fig. 1 Opening Session of APSITT 2015 in Sri Lanka

The invited sessions were successively held in the same venue. The first guest speaker, Dr. Udana Bandara (Rakuten Inc., Japan) gave a speech of the perspectives on the key technologies and business model rapidly reshaping the current online and offline shopping. The second guest speaker, Dr. Danushka Bollegala (University of Liverpool, UK) told an interesting history of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and provided his profound insight of current AI bubble. After that, the third guest speaker, Prof. Fumiyouki Adachi (Tohoku University,

Japan) had a talk on the 5th generation mobile communications technology. As the fourth guest speaker, Dr. Manodha Gamage (Intelligent Solutions and Consultancy Ltd., Sri Lanka) proposed self-organizing mobile networks underpinned by his advanced experience in telecommunication area. Of the last two guest speakers from Japan, the first Dr. Tetsuya Yokotani (Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Japan, Technical Program Committee Co-Chair / APSITT2015) talked about the importance of international standardization activity for the open innovation in ICT area showing specific examples in his activities. The last guest speaker, Mr. Kenichiro Matsumoto (NTT, Japan) introduced a new network architecture concept called NetroSphere enhancing the flexibility and elasticity while it also would drastically reduce the costs for NTT's service. The opening day was wrapped up with the beautiful Sri Lankan ethnic dance in the banquet dinner.

Lastly, this conference could not be successfully ended, not least without the dedicated support by Sri Lanka's primal state universities - University of Moratuwa and University of Peradeniya. Prof. Pasqual and their students from University of Moratuwa gave us a lot of help to organize and operate this conference. The students set up a demonstration of their research outputs on site and had lively discussions with our participants. We also visited University of Peradeniya, located near the old Kingdom capital, Kandy, for our technical visit. Thanks to Prof. Janaka Ekanayake and all members of the university, we had great and heartwarming experiences. We all participators cordially wish this conference would contribute to closer relationship and further prosperities of Sri Lanka and Japan.



Fig. 2 Technical Visit to University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

Introduction of New Representatives of IEICE International Sections for the 2015/2016 IEICE Fiscal Year no. 3

IEICE International Affairs Committee

The former issues of IEICE Global Plaza have introduced the new Representatives of IEICE International Sections who were approved by the first 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Meeting of IEICE International Affairs Committee on June 17, 2015, in alphabetical order. The number of available IEICE International Sections has been increased since the set up in 2003, and reached to the current twelve Sections covering Asia and Europe. This article will continuously introduce the Representatives from the viewpoint of general readers of IEICE Global Plaza, especially the younger generation who have tried to contact their relevant International Sections for the regional academic activities promotion, but could not find them covering the region of interest. The article of each Representative will cover the current status and future perspectives with the introduction of their personality.

