



JDS Alumnus of the Sri Lanka Appointed as Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Rural Development, Probation and Child Care, Women Affairs, Housing

Mr. Kanda Uda Chandralal

In January 2025, Mr. Kanda Uda Chandralal, an alumnus of JDS Sri Lanka, was appointed as Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Rural Development, Probation and Child Care, Women Affairs, Housing. Mr. Chandralal visited Japan in 2011 as a second batch JDS fellow of JDS Sri Lanka and completed his master's degree in international relations at the International University of Japan (IUJ) in 2013.



After returning to the province, Mr. Chandralal served for two and half years in the Provincial Council of the Southern Province and then served as Director General of the Land Reforms Commission and Deputy Election Commissioner- Galle District of the Election Commission before being appointed Secretary to the Governor of the Southern Province in October 2022.

In addition to his duties as Secretary to the Governor of the Southern Province, Mr. Chandralal had represented the province at international conferences in the field of tourism, agriculture, etc., and had contributed to strengthening the relationship between the Provincial Government and other countries. In January of 2025, Mr. Chandralal was appointed to the position of Secretary of the Provincial Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Rural Development, Probation and Child Care, Women Affairs, Housing, further expanding his activities.

According to Mr. Chandralal, JDS project provided not only specialized knowledge in public management and policy analysis, but also practical skills such as problem-solving abilities to the participants. After he returned to Sri Lanka, the knowledge and experience gained from JDS are actively utilized to his works such as policy making and implementation.

Mr. Chandralal told us, "I would like to continue to encourage talented young public servants to study in Japan, and I would also like to value the relationships among those who have studied in Japan."

It is expected that Mr. Chandralal will further contribute to Sri Lanka's development with the knowledge and experience he gained from his studies in Japan.

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JDS The Project for
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Scholarship



JDS Alumnus of the Indonesia has been stationed at the Indonesian Embassy in Japan since March 2024

Dr. Amzul Rifin

Dr. Amzul, who studied at International University of Japan (IUJ) in 2003 as the first batch JDS fellow from Indonesia, has been stationed at the Indonesian Embassy in Japan since March 2024, serving as a bridge between the Japanese and Indonesian governments.

At IUJ, he studied the export taxation system of palm oil, which is an important export commodity in Indonesia, then entered the University of Tokyo to earn his PhD. Currently, Dr. Amzul is Head of the Education and Culture Section at the Indonesian Embassy in Japan, where actively organizing events in cooperation with Japanese educational institutions and managing the Tokyo School of the Republic of Indonesia.

Dr. Amzul gave us the following comments regarding JDS project:

I decided to study in Japan since JDS project was especially targeted for the government officials and I thought it was a very good opportunity to study abroad. Although JDS project in Indonesia ended in 2006, many JDS alumni are now working in management positions in Indonesia's central ministries and agencies. I highly appreciate the scholarship programs of the Japanese government, including JDS project.

After studying as a JDS fellow at IUJ, I entered the PhD program at the University of Tokyo in 2007 through the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Program. I studied agricultural economics and was able to obtain my doctorate in 2011. Without my study abroad experiences in Japan, I would not be able to build up my current career. Currently, I am working for the embassy in Tokyo after being transferred from my affiliated Bogor University. At my work, I have opportunities to contact with the professors who guided me during my study in Japan.

Traditionally, many Indonesian students wanted to study in English-speaking countries such as Australia and the U.S., however, in recent years, interests in Japan has been growing among the young generation due to the influence of Japanese animation etc, and many students are visiting Japan from Indonesia.

It is expected that Dr. Amzul will contribute to the strengthening of bilateral relations between Indonesia and Japan through his educational initiatives.



Data of JDS fellow 2024

JDS countries (from started year):

Uzbekistan, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Philippines, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Pakistan, Bhutan, Maldives, Kenya, Senegal, Ukraine.

Belonging Organizations:

President Office, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Central Bank, etc.



Greetings from editors

Konnichiwa from JICE JDS PR team in Tokyo. Hope this newsletter finds you well this early Spring. We cannot wait to see cherry blossoms or "Sakura" soon! As always, we would appreciate your continuous support for the JDS Project. Your comments are highly appreciated!

[Inquiry]

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The Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) is a project of JICA under the Japanese Grant Aid which supports human resource development by providing young leaders from target countries with full scholarships for graduate degrees in top Japanese Universities.