## Free Press (Indore), 21st February 2025, Page- 02

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## IIT Indore ponders on 'South Asia: Onsite Version'

## **Our Staff Reporter**

INDORE

In a significant step toward strengthening international academic ties, JP Narayan National Centre of Excellence in the Humanities (JPN Centre), School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS), and the International Office at IIT Indore are organising the International Academic Collaboration Workshop on Global Seminar South Asia: Onsite Version from February 17-23.

This initiative is part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU), Nishinomiya, Japan, and the IIT Indore, marking another milestone in their commitment to academic exchange and research collaboration.

The workshop will serve as a platform for cross-cul-



Participants of the workshop pose for a group photo at IIT Indore on Thursday

tural learning, bringing together faculty and students from both institutions to engage in intellectual discourse, research sharing, and experiential learning. Prof. Shiho Kei, a professor from KGU's School of International Studies, shared his university's vision of developing globally competent professionals who can contribute to an interconnected world. His insights underscored the significance of such collaborations in preparing students to navigate diverse academic and professional landscapes.

On behalf of IIT Indore, prof Pritee Sharma, the MoU coordinator, emphasised that this workshop offers Japanese students a deep dive into India's rapid economic growth, leadership in the IT sector, advancements in traditional and modern manufacturing systems, and initiatives in environmental conservation through a series of seminars and site visits. She said "Beyond the structured sessions, this initiative is expected to lay the foundation for long-term student and faculty exchange programs, joint research collaborations, cultural engagements, and language learning opportunities between the two universities. Moreover, it aspires to create a broader impact by extending these partnerships to other academic institutions in both India and Japan."

IIT Indore director Prof Suhas Joshi said "As the world grows increasingly interconnected, initiatives like these are vital in fostering mutual understanding, academic excellence and cross-border collaboration. Through this workshop, IIT Indore and KGU reaffirm their commitment to shaping globally aware scholars, equipped with the knowledge and cultural sensitivity to address the challenges of the future."

Adding another dimension to the discussion, prof. Nirmala Menon elaborated on the JPN Centre's mission of fostering global exchange in research, language studies, literature, and cultural exploration. Meanwhile, prof. Miharu Yui from KGU, a key figure in this collaboration, brings valuable expertise in India Studies, enriching the workshop with her insights on Indo-Japanese academic partnerships.