

Session 3: 19th May 2020

India: View from Internet by Prof. Jun Murai, Keio University

- Prof. Murai, more commonly known as the father of the internet in Japan, started off the session with his experience watching the concept of an interconnected web grow from just a few computers to something that has now become essential worldwide. The key pillars of internet, web and service platform were discussed to explain the modern infrastructure.
- Prof. Murai then talked about the internet as a global space with a multitude of cultures, languages, laws, police and nations and the opportunities and threats associated with each.
- The aspect of internet was also discussed in reference to the geo topology factors like arctic ocean ice, COVID-19, Brexit, Arctic etc.
- Consequently, India's role in the growth of the internet between the years 2000 and 2020 was discussed. With the huge population and mobile penetration, there is a huge potential for India to become a pioneer in the ever-growing internet.
- Referring to the current 40.6% penetration rate in 2020, India has a long way to go in providing access to the internet to all of its population.
- Prof. Murai also shared their experience of an Indo-Japan project in constructing an information network for natural disaster mitigation and recovery to showcase the unusual but critical role that the internet could play in various aspects of life.

