The National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan, Director: Mamoru Mohri, Address: Aomi, Koto-ku, Tokyo) will feature a special exhibition: “Science News ! from Asia ~Power of Asia, Power of Science " from June 2 (Sat) to September 2 (Sun).

Thanks to its different climate zones, Asia, the largest land area on Earth, is home to a wide range of species. Its existence is a lasting source of environmental balance for the globe, and it has a huge potential as a life resource. However, the rapid developments of recent years in economy and industry have caused serious environmental problems such as air and water pollution, and soil depletion. We need science and technology solutions for issues that are common all over Asia, as well as for issues in each region such as environment and energy problems, and natural disasters.

This exhibition consists of three zones. Zone 1 is a plaza offering a wealth of information on ten Asian countries. There will be also various workshops and events during weekends and the summer holiday season. An “Asian Week,” introducing Asian culture, with the cooperation of the Malaysia Tourism Promotion Bureau, the Hong Kong Government Tourism Board, the Korea Tourism Organization and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand, will be held. From August 20 (Mon) to 26 (Sun), a “Meet Scientists! Homework Festival,” will be held by academic experts, and with its leading-edge scientific workshops, it will be a timely event for summer holiday independent research. In Zone 2, where studies and science and technology based on the traditions and customs of each country are introduced, seven themes are presented as “Science News.” Besides an interactive exhibition that engages the visitor, the science and technology unique to Asia, such as specimen of Panda and precious films on various studies, can be experienced. In Zone 3, patterns of daily life in each Asian country are selected, a simulation game to predict the future exhibited, and international efforts are introduced, aimed at the economic development of Asia while preserving the environment.

Through Asian power in the field of science and the power of science in the Asian region, this exhibition will introduce a fresh perspective of cutting-edge science and technology.

[Event Outline]
Term : June 2 (Sat) – September 2 (Sun), 2007
Hours : 10:00-17:00 (Entry allowed until 30 minutes before closing time.)
*Exception: Open until 18:00 on Saturdays and Sundays during August and until 20:00 from August 13-August 17, last admission 30 minutes before closing time
Venue : National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) 1F Special Exhibition Zone a
Closed: Every Tuesday (except July 24-August 28)
Admission Fee: Adults: 900 yen; 18 years old and under: 350 yen
*admits entry to permanent exhibits / *Free admission for those in possession of a Disability Passbook and one accompanying person
Organizers : National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan), The Asahi Shimbun Company
Co-organizer : The Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding, People’s Republic of China
Planned and Produced by : National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan)
Event Collaborators: Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Tokyo, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Hong Kong Tourism Board, Korean Cultural Center, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, Korea Tourism Organization, Royal Thai Embassy, Tokyo, and Asian Network of Major Cities 21, Tokyo Metropolitan Government

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[Exhibition Outline]
Zone 1 “Asian Plaza”
In the plaza you can access from a huge diagram displayed on the floor to Asia’s latest information that you thought you knew but actually don’t.

Zone 2 “Asia of Today, Science of Today”

1. Diverse Ecosystem and Science
   “Stop the Extinction of Panda !?” (China), “Cures from Insects’ Fungi” (Thailand)
   In addition to China’s various kinds of research on the artificial breeding of pandas, their nurture, and genes, you can see the development of anti-malarial and anti-cancer medicine extracted from *cordyceps sinensis* saccardo (microorganism parasitic fungus) in Thailand, which has various kinds of biological resources.

2. Threatening Nature and Science
   “Challenges of the Country of Volcanoes” (Indonesia)
   There are a number of volcanoes and earthquakes in Indonesia, which suffers 60% of the world’s total death-toll in volcanic disaster. Therefore, Indonesia is advanced in volcanic-disaster prevention and is making efforts to create hazard maps.

3. Tradition and Science
   “Chinese Herbal Medicine Going Worldwide !” (China) “From Silk Road to Nanotechnology” (China)
   China is analyzing its traditional medication, including Chinese herbal medicine with contemporary science, and attempting to develop new medicines that are a fusion of tradition and modernity. China will also propose futuristic sensor fashion through the advancement of nanotechnology, by developing fabric made of fiber optics and multi-functioning fabric that can act as sensors to monitor vital functions such as body temperature, perspiration, and pulse.

4. Customs and Science
   “Science and Religious Creed” (Malaysia) “A New Start in the History of Acupuncture” (Vietnam)
   As a country with a large Muslim population, Malaysia will display an experiment to detect the presence of pork that has been put into “halal” food, and Vietnam introduces research into acupuncture treatment that uses a laser instead of traditional needles in a region with many AIDS sufferers.

5. Education and Science (Thailand)
   “National Happiness Campaign !” (Thailand), “Kids’ Laboratory, now on sale !” (Singapore)
   We are introducing a project led by the Kingdom of Thailand aiming at sustaining and improving the lives of people in the neighboring region with its farm and forest lands, and tools used in Singapore which were developed to learn bio-engineering and nanotechnology through interactive experiences.

6. Urban Cities and Science
   “Restoring Eyesight by Stimulating the Brain !” “Advent of the 2015 IT Future City” (Singapore), “A Doctor in My Mobile Phone” (South Korea)
   In Singapore, a world-first new type of eyesight-restoring program has been developed; it stimulates the visual area in the brain by using a computer to restore eyesight. Singapore also aims at becoming a network-oriented society in which people have access to information and receive various services any time, anywhere. In South Korea, the world’s top broadband user, shows a blood test system by mobile phone.

7. Consumption and Science
   “The Material of the Future from Garbage ?” (Malaysia), “My Garden is a Gas Plant” (India)
   In Malaysia, research has been conducted on transforming organic garbage such as rice husks into valuable materials such as well-insulated and super lightweight material “aerogel” used in the aerospace field. In India, a biogas-generator which can be set up with easy-to-get parts and can transform raw domestic garbage into gas, has been spreading in city areas.

Zone 3 “Grasping Current Issues and Predicting the Future”
Issues which seem to be regional matters can actually be problems common to the whole of Asia and the entire world. We are introducing international efforts aimed at environmental protection and the economic development of the whole of Asia, based on understanding of current issues and prediction of the future.

[Reference Image]
Related press releases and pictures can be downloaded from the Miraikan HP. URL: http://www.miraikan.jst.go.jp/e/press/index.html