ROBOCON
ABU Asia-Pacific Robot Contest 2014 Pune, INDIA

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Chief Convener, Robocon India

Dear Sir/Madam,

Today's global community is exchanging knowledge and technology at phenomenal speed and at much reduced costs. It has now become crucial that the developing countries like India should encourage their youth to participate in national as well as international scientific and technological events like the Robotic Contests for enriching their skills. Robocon is an event which encourages the budding engineers to take up assignments in the field of robotics and artificial intelligence.

Robocon India started in 2002 with merely three participating teams. Later the Doordarshan of India, in collaboration with the MIT group of Institutions, notably the Maharashtra Academy of Engineering (MAE) Alandi (D), Pune brought this number up to 75 in the National Robocon held at Shiv Chatrapati Krida Sankul, Balewadi, Pune in March 2013 where MIT Pune was adjudged the National Winner and their archrival Nirma Institute of Technology University (NITU), Ahmedabad was first Runner Up. MIT Pune represented India in the ABU Robocon international contest in August 2012 at Hong Kong and for the first time even beat the Chinese Team in a Game. They received a Coveted Mabuchi Motor Award. It was a grand show and those of us who attended it, realized how much we Indians need to work and coordinate our effort to be competitive on the global platform. MIT Pune even participated in the International Robocon at Da Nang Vietnam......

I am glad to announce that the next International Robocon will be held by Doordarshan - MIT AOE at Shiv Chatrapati Krida Sankul, Balewadi, Pune on Sunday 24th August 2014. To select Indian participation, the National Robocon will be held from 6th to 8th March 2014 at the Shiv Chatrapati Krida Sankul, Balewadi, Pune. The theme for this Contest is '**A Salute to Parenthood**' with the message that Parenthood is the greatest boon offered to mankind by Mother Nature. Further details about the Theme and Game rules are available on **www.roboconindia.com**. Being the host country, India will be allowed to field two teams for participation in the International contest. Therefore, both the Winner and first Runner-up of the National Robocon held in March 2014 will represent India in the International Robocon 2014 to be held in Pune on 24th August 2014 at Pune.

The event is a great festival for exchange of technological know-how and sporting spirit. It has been our pleasure to watch students taking the initiative to participate with a high degree of improvisation. They need to be encouraged so that they may bring India to the level she richly deserves. I cordially invite all the enthusiasts to participate with full vigor in this event which can present to our youth some global opportunities.

Dr. Sunil Karad
Da Nang, Vietnam: 18th August 2013