

## Seminars and Lectures

The Institute organizes lectures on current issues and topics of special interest. Since the lectures are basically open to the public, the audience is varied, including government officials, members of research organizations, the press, university professors, graduate students, and others. Approximately thirty lectures are held every year, among which eight or nine are organized in various regions of Japan with the collaboration of local economic and research organizations. The most popular themes for the last four or five years have been those regarding the Chinese economy. This vividly reflects the growing importance of China's economy to local business communities in Japan. India has not received as much attention so far. However, topics regarding the Indian economy and industries have been gaining popularity, especially among urban businesspeople in recent years.

Seminars on specific subjects were held for audiences with a particular interest in issues of development and/or developing areas. One of these dealt with "International Trade of Recyclable Resources in Asia."

In addition, Summer Seminars are held every year to disseminate information about development issues. In FY2005, six courses (18 subjects) were organized. The themes in FY2005 included "China as a Superpower: Its Foreign Policy, Economy, and International Trade," "BRICs: Challenges of the Four Emerging Economies," and "Latin American Business Groups: The Necessary Condition for their Survival."

