

**Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the Roundtable on
Semiconductor & AI
25 August 2026**

Respected Minister,
Distinguished representatives of Japanese companies,
Members of the Indian business delegation,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to welcome you all to what I would describe as one of the most anticipated and central roundtables of our programme.

Semiconductors and Artificial Intelligence are two areas that lie at the heart of the India–Japan Next Generation Partnership. They are also among the most promising sunrise sectors, offering tremendous opportunities for collaboration, innovation, investment and growth for businesses in both our countries.

India and Japan are deepening their cooperation in the semiconductor sector as an important component of our broader economic and economic-security partnership. This collaboration brings together India's growing semiconductor manufacturing capabilities, strong pool of design and engineering talent, and large and expanding electronics market with Japan's globally recognised strengths in semiconductor equipment, materials, manufacturing technologies, precision engineering and advanced industrial capabilities.

Artificial Intelligence is another major pillar of our engagement today. Building on the India–Japan AI Cooperation Initiative, our leaders have issued a Joint Statement on cooperation in the field of Artificial Intelligence. This reflects the strong convergence between our two countries in shaping the future of AI—a future centred on safe, secure and trustworthy AI that contributes to the security, prosperity and well-being of our societies.

Check Against Delivery

Sir,

At the Embassy, these two areas have been among our core focus areas. Over the past several months, we have had extensive engagement and outreach with industry, and we have had the opportunity to hear first-hand about the opportunities as well as the challenges faced by businesses seeking to deepen their engagement in these sectors.

The objective of convening this roundtable is therefore two-fold.

On the one hand, we wish to reaffirm the importance that the Government of India attaches to the semiconductor and AI sectors, and to highlight the significant opportunities for Japanese companies as these sectors expand in India.

At the same time, we want to provide our Japanese partners a direct platform to share their perspectives, ideas, concerns and suggestions with the Hon'ble Minister. Their insights will be extremely valuable in helping us identify practical ways to further promote, nurture and strengthen the India–Japan partnership in these strategic areas.

I am confident that today's discussion will be open, constructive and forward-looking, and, most importantly, that it will help us identify some concrete solutions and actionable ideas to take this partnership to the next level.

With these words, I once again warmly welcome the Hon'ble Minister and all our distinguished participants to this roundtable.

I look forward to a very productive and fruitful discussion.

Thank you.
