

**Embassy of India**

**Tokyo**

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**Remarks by Ambassador Sibi George at the Inauguration of India  
Trend Fair and Seminar on 'Textile Industry in India-Collaborative  
Opportunities',**

**January 11, 2023, Tokyo**

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**Mr. Suresh Thakur, Executive Director, Wool & Woolens Export  
Promotion Council**

**Mr. Yosuke Yanagase, Honorary Chairman, Japan India Industry  
Promotion Association**

**Mr Ken Ando, Senior Managing Director, Nissenken Quality  
Evaluation Center**

**Mr Manoj Mehtani, Director, Japan India Industry Promotion  
Association**

**Participants from India and Japan**

**Ladies and gentlemen**

Good morning.

I am delighted to be at the inauguration of the India Trend Fair and Seminar on 'Textile Industry in India-Collaborative Opportunities'. I congratulate Japan India Industry Promotion Association for organizing this event which promotes the very best of Indian textiles and home furnishings industry.

2. I extend a warm welcome to all the participants in this event, including the Indian exhibitors participating in India Trend Fair with the

support of Wool and Woolens Export Promotion Council, India and Powerloom Development & Export Promotion Council, India. It is a pleasure to see so many representatives from both the Indian and Japanese textile industries here today, all working towards the goal of furthering cooperation and partnership between our two countries.

3. This year is a special year for India-Japan relations, as we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. It is also a time of celebration in India, as we mark the 75th anniversary of our independence, known as Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Today's event is just one of the many that have been held as part of these celebrations, and I am confident that there will be many more opportunities for us to come together and strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between our two nations.

4. The India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership is a testament to the strong and enduring relationship that has developed between our two countries over the years. As India enters Amrit Kaal, a 25-year period in which we will strive to achieve developed country status, I am confident that the partnership between India and Japan will play a vital role in helping us to achieve this goal.

5. India is one of the leading players in the global textiles and apparel industry. Last year, we exported textile and apparel products worth over USD 44.4 billion, the highest ever recorded. Our rich cultural heritage, advanced technological capabilities, and skilled workforce have all contributed to the success of our exports in this sector. There is still great potential for further promoting the growth of textile exports from India to Japan, which imports textile products worth around USD 24 billion, with India's share currently standing at around 1%.

6. The two governments are actively working to facilitate cooperation in the textiles sector. We have an institutional mechanism in place to promote cooperation between our two countries in this area, and have already undertaken initiatives such as capacity building projects on 5S/Kaizen. In addition, the Nissenken Quality Evaluation Centre in Japan has signed an MoU with the Textiles Committee of the Ministry of Textiles

in India. This MoU aims to provide support to the Indian textile industry in ensuring quality according to the requirements of Japanese buyers, through testing, inspection, conformity assessment, training, capacity building, research and development, and consultancy.

7. There is also great potential for increasing investments from Japan in the Indian textiles sector. The Government of India launched a Production Linked Incentive Scheme in the textile sector to attract investments in this sector. Inspired by the 5F vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi – the 5F stands for Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign – India has launched a scheme to set up 7 Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks or PM MITRA Parks. These Parks will have world-class industrial infrastructure which would attract cutting age technology and boost FDI and local investment in the textiles sector. India also offers 12 Japan Industrial Townships exclusively for Japanese companies, and I invite our friends in the Japanese business community to take advantage of these opportunities and consider investing in India.

8. Our two countries have a long history of friendship and cooperation, and we are committed to building on this foundation to foster even greater economic and cultural ties. One main way we are doing this is through the promotion of "3 Ts". We want these three pillars to become the backbone of our economic relationship and offer great opportunities for both countries in the economic domain. Events such as India Trend Fair contribute to realizing this objective.

9. In conclusion, I would like to thank the organizers of this fair for their efforts in promoting the best of India's readymade garments, textiles, and home furnishings. I am confident that this event will further enhance our economic and commercial ties, and contribute to the deepening of our Special Strategic and Global Partnership.

Thank you.

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