

**Inaugural remarks by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the Punjab
Investment Road-Show
3 December 2025**

**Shri Bhagwant Mann, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab,
Shri Sanjeev Arora, Hon'ble Minister for Industries & Commerce and
Investment Promotion, Government of Punjab
Shri Kumar Anugrah Prasad Sinha, Chief Secretary, Government of Punjab
Mr Takashi Suzuki, Director General, JETRO India
Senior Officials and Delegation Members from the Government of Punjab,
Other members of the Delegation,
Representatives of Japanese Industry,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good morning and a warm welcome to all.

It gives me great pleasure to be here today to address this distinguished gathering at the Punjab Investment Roadshow in Tokyo.

Friends, India today stands among the world's fastest-growing large economies, consistently recording 7% plus growth. Riding on robust momentum in manufacturing, construction and services, India's Q2 GDP growth rate at 8.2% (July-Sept 2025) has exceeded even the forecasts.

This consistently high growth is rooted in structural reforms, rising domestic consumption, a young workforce, sustained digital adoption, and strong macroeconomic management.

Friends, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Japan in August 2025 reaffirmed momentum to our Special Strategic and Global Partnership. The 15th India–Japan Annual Summit produced a Joint Vision for the Next Decade, centered on eight pillars of partnership—from resilient supply chains and digital innovation to advanced mobility, clean energy, healthcare, skill development, and regional industrial partnerships.

Check Against Delivery

Japan also reiterated its commitment to scale investments in India, setting a new target of 10 trillion yen over the next decade—an unmistakable vote of confidence in India's growth trajectory.

Equally transformative is the Action Plan for Human Resource Exchange, which envisages the two-way movement of 500,000 people between our two countries, including the movement of 50,000 skilled and semi-skilled professionals, students, researchers, scientists and academics from India to Japan in the next 5 years.

Friends,

Today's roadshow is focused on investment opportunities in the state of Punjab and the Progressive Punjab Global Investor Summit that the state will host in 2026.

The state of Punjab, and India as a whole, is now ready for business as never before. With a young, skilled, and productive population—nearly 70 percent in the working-age group—Punjab offers industry a deep and high-quality talent base.

With strong Multi Modal connectivity complemented by a robust network of IT and Software Technology Parks, Textile and light-engineering clusters, Mega Food Parks, and dedicated logistics parks—Punjab provides a diversified, plug-and-play industrial base supporting manufacturing industry.

Japan's partnership with Punjab has been steadily expanding. Several leading Japanese companies—**Yanmar, Aichi Steels, Toppan, Kansai Nerolac, Mitsui & Co., Oji Holdings, and Nissan Chemicals**—have already established operations in Punjab.

Punjab is home to Ludhiana, the "Manchester of India," famous **for textiles, bicycles, and light engineering**. The MSMEs of Punjab possess a natural aptitude for precision engineering, much like the SMEs of Japan. This makes Punjab the perfect base for Japanese manufacturing looking for skilled partners.

Similarly, Japan is a global leader in food processing technology and cold chain infrastructure. Punjab is **India's food bowl**. There is immense potential for Japanese companies to introduce high-tech food processing, converting Punjab's abundant produce into value-added global products.

Check Against Delivery

Punjab stands ready to welcome greater Japanese participation across mobility solutions, clean technologies, agri-value systems, precision manufacturing, and next-generation IT & AI sectors.

Ladies and gentlemen, the land of Punjab is fertile not just for crops, but for business. I encourage all participants to look forward to the "Progressive Punjab Investors Summit," and to visit the state to experience its warmth firsthand.

Friends,

The next decade is going to be one of great opportunities in the India-Japan relationship where we take steps to implement the vision agreed by our leadership.

I once again want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Government of Punjab for their efforts in fostering economic and cultural ties between India and Japan.

I thank each one of you for becoming a part of this important event today. I look forward to our continued cooperation to create pathways for success in this next-generation partnership.

Thank you.
