

Speech by Ambassador Nagma M. Mallick at the Yamaguchi Business Seminar; 10 December 2025

**H.E. Mr. Tsugimasa Muraoka, Governor of Yamaguchi,
H.E. Mr. Shungaku Yanai, Speaker of the Yamaguchi Prefectural Assembly,
Distinguished business leaders, esteemed guests, ladies and gentlemen:**

It is an honour to address this distinguished gathering in Yamaguchi Prefecture. I extend my sincere appreciation to H.E Governor Muroaka and H.E Speaker Yanai and people of Yamaguchi for their warm hospitality and for convening this timely seminar.

The India–Japan partnership which is a relationship grounded in trust, democratic values, and a long-standing record of constructive engagement.

Yamaguchi Prefecture as I understand stands at the westernmost tip of Honshu open to the sea on three sides, shaped by the Chugoku mountain range, and known for its industrial achievements for over a century. As a hub FOR chemicals, machinery, metals, and advanced materials, the prefecture records the highest shipment value of manufactured goods per establishment in Japan. Its companies supply high-value-added materials worldwide, reflecting a culture of discipline, precision, and industrial excellence. I see much potential for synergy in these sectors between India and Yamaguchi in Japan.

I would like to recall the visit of our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Japan in August 2025 which injected new momentum into our bilateral cooperation. The Joint Vision for the Next Decade agreed during the Prime Minister’s visit charts a path for cooperation in resilient supply chains, next-generation mobility, deep-tech, clean energy, semiconductors, life sciences, and smart manufacturing. Japan’s renewed commitment to mobilising 10 trillion yen in investments over the next decade reflects confidence in India’s trajectory. The announcement of the Next-Generation India–Japan Partnership, including a framework for 500,000 exchanges and 50,000 highly skilled professionals, directly aligns with the needs of prefectures like Yamaguchi, where industry continues to seek technically skilled manpower. India’s strong human capital base stands ready to contribute to Japan’s industrial growth and technological renewal.

Check Against Delivery

Japan enters this partnership with unmatched strengths in precision engineering, robotics, advanced materials, and manufacturing excellence. India brings scale, talent, digital sophistication, and a rapidly expanding market. **For Yamaguchi**, these complementarities are clear and actionable. The prefecture's established clusters in chemicals, machinery, automotive components, and energy systems align naturally with India's priorities.

India remains one of the fastest-growing major economies, consistently recording growth above 7%. This strength is rooted in structural reforms, rising consumption, a young and ambitious workforce, and sweeping digital transformation. India's digital public infrastructure from UPI (Unified Payment Interface) and Aadhaar-enabled services to GST systems has reshaped the ease of doing business and accelerated innovation across sectors. Above all else, I believe our peoples are our greatest strengths, both for Japan and for India

I encourage Yamaguchi's business community to view India not only as a destination for investment but as a long-term partner for manufacturing, R&D, talent development, and global value-chain integration. The Government of India is committed to ensuring a stable, predictable, and welcoming environment for Japanese enterprises.

As we move toward the close of 2025, our partnership stands at a pivotal moment. With Yamaguchi's industrial strength and India's growth momentum, we can build a decade marked by innovation, resilience, and shared prosperity.

Thank you for your warm hospitality. I look forward to strengthening the economic and industrial partnership between India and Yamaguchi.
