

**Embassy of India
Tokyo**

Press Release

Date: 31st May 2018

On 29 May 2018, the Japan India Food Business Council was established and held its Foundation Meeting in Tokyo with the objective of boosting investment opportunities and joint ventures in the promising food processing sector in India.

2. The event was attended by Ambassador of India Mr. Sujan R. Chinoy, Chairman of the Japan India Food Business Council, Mr. Osamu Suzuki and 95 other participants. Senior officials from the Japanese Ministries and Organizations such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and representatives from the food processing industries also attended the Foundation Meeting. The new Council has about 95 Japanese companies as members.

3. Ambassador Chinoy addressed the Foundation Meeting of the Japan India Food Business Council and highlighted opportunities for Japanese companies to 'Make in India' in food processing sector including in cold chain, distribution and mega food parks in India. Chairman of the Japan India Food Business Council, Mr. Osamu Suzuki spoke about the vast Indian market and scope for Japanese companies to expand their business and investment in India.

4. Based on Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare in India (November 11, 2016) both countries are now working to elevate level of cooperation under the "Make in India" initiative to promote Japanese investment into India in the field of Agriculture and Food Processing. In March 2017, Mrs. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Minister of Food Processing Industries visited Japan to promote cooperation in this sector. During the visit of Japanese Prime Minister, Shinzo Abe to India (September 14, 2017) India and Japan agreed on the importance of strengthening cooperation in the field of Agricultural and Food related sectors. In November 2017, Japan participated as a partner country in World Food India 2017 in New Delhi, with top management of 55 Japanese companies and 150 members of business delegation. On this occasion ISE Foods launched its business venture with Suzuki Motors to produce eggs in India.
