

**Remarks of H.E. Ambassador Sibi George at -  
“India-Japan Pitching Series II Edition 4.0-Technology & Industry 4.0 ”  
Date: 01 August 2024  
Venue: Conference Room, Embassy of India**

Distinguished Investors, Esteemed Colleagues from Invest India, and Respected Entrepreneurs,

It is my pleasure to address this pitching session, where the brilliant minds from India will present their groundbreaking solutions to our esteemed investors from Japan. Today, we are not merely facilitating investment opportunities; we are nurturing a robust partnership that bridges cultures, technology, and aspirations.

India and Japan have a rich history of cooperation, grounded in mutual respect and shared values. Our collaboration spans various sectors, including technology, infrastructure, healthcare, and education. This partnership not only strengthens our economic ties but also deepens the special strategic and global partnership between our two nations. As we commemorate the tenth year of this significant milestone in 2024, we are reminded of the enduring bond that unites us.

India today boasts the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world, engaging nearly 1.2 million young individuals. India is home to more than 110 unicorns, and Indian startups have filed nearly 12,000 patents. A significant portion of these startups are less than a decade old, reflecting the rapid pace of innovation and transformation occurring in India.

To promote this entrepreneurial spirit, we at the Embassy have been diligently working to bridge the gap between startup founders in India and Japanese investors. In collaboration with our colleagues at Invest India, we have facilitated over 150 startups to present their ideas to Japanese investors over the last three editions of these events. Today, we are hosting the fourth series of such events, and I am delighted to note that this edition brings together startups across diverse domains at the forefront of Technology and Industry 4.0.

Innovation is the only way forward to meet the ambitious targets ahead of us. Startups are an excellent way to channel the youthful dynamism of India toward solving global problems. I am confident that Japanese investors, with their capital, technology, and expertise, will be ideal partners in this journey.

Today, I am hopeful that you will witness the dynamism and ingenuity of Indian entrepreneurs, who are eager to make a mark on the global stage. These startups represent the best of India's talent and entrepreneurial spirit, equipped with innovative solutions that have the potential to transform industries and improve lives.

Thank you, and I wish you all a very productive and successful session.

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