

Ambassador's Speech at Seminar on Opportunities in Indian Food Processing Industry

Date: 23 July 2024

Time: 1500-1600

Smt. Anita Praveen, Secretary, Ministry of Food processing Industries (MoFPI), Government of India

And other distinguished guests,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to today's gathering to explore the opportunities in the Indian Food processing sector with a specific focus on World Food India—an event meticulously designed to showcase the vibrant food processing sector of India.

India, a nation rich in culinary heritage and agricultural abundance, stands at the cusp of transformative growth in food processing. As we delve into this promising frontier, the role of international cooperation is pivotal. Today, I would like to underscore the robust economic partnership between India and Japan. The India Japan special strategic and global partnership, over the years, has flourished, encompassing a wide range of sectors including infrastructure, technology, defense, and energy. The consistent support from Japanese investments in India's growth highlights a shared vision for a sustainable and prosperous future.

As we look to further deepen this partnership to include upcoming areas of potential such as Semiconductors and emerging technology, Food processing remains an area where there is tremendous amount of untapped potential.

We are already seeing food becoming a medium for people-people connect between both our nations. I have travelled to 47 prefectures of Japan. Wherever I went, one common thing I pleasantly observed was the celebration of Indian food. In the same spirit, Japanese cuisine is gaining immense popularity in India. We want India to take advantage of the advanced technology Japan has achieved in its food processing sector.

Japan, world renowned for its technological know-how and stringent quality standards, could play an influential role in elevating India's food processing sector. We envision leveraging Japanese advancements in technology and their precision in processes to enhance our production efficiencies, waste management, and packaging innovations.

We are aiming to achieve this in some measure through the Food processing Working Group under India Japan Industrial Competitiveness Partnership. Under this working group, premier institutions in India and Japan are seeking to collaborate on cutting edge technologies in packaging and new product development.

Japan has been an important partner for World Food India in the past. I hope that a large delegation from Japan will travel to participate in this year's World Food India to be held between 19-22 September 2024. And I hope that through this participation and business exchanges, Japan will be able to experience the quality of the wide-ranging produce of India.

Thank you.
