

**Remarks for H.E Ambassador Sibi George at PM Gati Shakti Multi Modal
Logistic Park Event**

Date: 28 August 2024

Venue: Embassy of India, Tokyo

**Mr Gaku Yoda, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Economy, Trade and
Industry, Government of Japan**

Mr. Surendra Ahirwar, Joint Secretary, Logistics, DPIIT

**Mr. Mr. Prakash Gaur, Managing Director, National Highway Management
Logistics Limited**

Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor to address you today as we gather to discuss India's ambitious and transformative journey in infrastructure development through the India Japan co-operation on Multi Modal Logistic Parks. India's infrastructure is the bedrock upon which our nation's progress rests. In recent years, we have undertaken major initiatives to develop world-class highways, railways, ports, and airports, thereby fostering connectivity and economic growth. Infrastructure development is not just about building physical structures; it is about creating opportunities for trade, investment, and job creation, paving the way for a prosperous and inclusive future.

In this endeavor, Japan has been a steadfast partner to India. Collaboration in infrastructure development has been one of the cornerstones of the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership . Whether it is the Delhi Metro or the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor or the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High-Speed Rail project, Japan's cutting-edge technology and expertise have been instrumental in reshaping India's infrastructure landscape. This partnership exemplifies the strong bond between our two nations and the shared commitment to sustainable and innovative infrastructure solutions that will drive the future of our economies.

The PM Gati Shakti initiative is a bold and visionary approach by the Government of India to enhance logistics efficiency across the nation. India has seen a significant improvement in its Logistics Performance Index (LPI) ranking, rising from 54th in 2014 to 38th in 2023. The PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan aims to create a system of interconnected, multimodal transportation networks that

seamlessly integrate road, rail, air, and waterways. A total of 35 Multi Modal Logistics Parks (MMLPs) are planned across India, with an investment of around Rs. 46,000 crore, capable of handling 700 million metric tonnes of cargo.

Multi-Modal Logistics Parks shall serve as regional cargo aggregation and distribution hubs for various industrial and agricultural nodes, consumer hubs and EXIM gateways such as seaports with Multimodal connectivity. In certain cases, MMLPs are also to be developed in tandem with the Inland Waterway Terminals to further reduce the cost of inland cargo movement at a much larger scale as compared to conventional road-based movement.

To achieve this vision, India has ensured maximum support for private players to facilitate “Ease of Doing Business” for development of MMLPs. Japanese private companies have considerable experience in executing large scale infrastructure projects. We welcome and encourage their active participation in the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.

In recent years, India-Japan Competitiveness Partnership (IJICP) has emerged as an important pillar of our economic partnership. The IJICP comprises of 12 working groups that hold regular meetings and work on collaborations between India and Japan, across several important sectors cutting across domains such as Semiconductors, Agriculture, Capital Goods, Textiles and Logistics to state a few. The last meeting of IJICP was held on 28 June 2024 in New Delhi to review the progress of various working groups.

Under the Logistics Working Group, till date we have held 4 meetings and we are taking forward the co-operation between India and Japan under many different aspects including the promotion of Multi Modal Logistics Parks. We are also promoting **Joint Ventures (JVs)** between container manufacturing and operating companies of India and Japan in the logistics sector. The heads of Working Group from the Indian side and the Japanese side will further elaborate on the co-operation under this initiative during today’s event.

Today is the first event among a series of events we have planned to shed light on the important collaborations that India and Japan are undertaking under the IJICP. We look forward to your continued co-operation and participation.

Thank you.