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Mr.Tadaharu Ohashi, Vice-Chairman, Council for Global Promotion of
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Ladies and gentlemen

First of all, I would like to congratulate the inauguration of “Japan Railway Symposium 2016” that introduces Japanese railway technologies to India. I hope that this seminar will successfully share the knowledge and technologies by leading Japanese companies and research institutions with Indian railway industry. I also hope that this seminar will help participants to form a new network that connects the railway industries in Japan and India, contributing to “Make in India.”

Currently, Japan and India are working together in a number of railway projects, such as the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) project, the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC), and Metro projects in India. The Government of India emphasizes the importance of transfer of technology and “Make in India” for the development of the Indian Railway Industry. Japan and India are working together on how to realize this. India is aiming to become a manufacturing hub not only for growing domestic market but also for

overseas markets like North America, Europe, Middle East, Africa and ASEAN countries, and expects Japanese Companies' active investment in India.

The Railway industry in India has a great potential as Indian society and economy grow. Japanese technologies and knowledge on safety, efficiency, and comfort in the railway industry have been developed over a long time, and I believe that these technologies and knowledge would contribute to the development of the Indian railway industry, creating business opportunities for Japanese companies as well. I hope that candid discussions in "Japan Railway Symposium" among participants from the railway industries of Japan and India will facilitate development for the railway industries of both countries.