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## Rubber traders to leave for Japan

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After the visit of Japanese Prime Minister to India, the business to business engagements between the two countries has received a fillip.

A 14-member delegation of All-India Rubber Industries' Association will visit Japan from February 8-12 to explore trade and investment opportunities in the rubber sector. The delegation has been supported by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

The delegation is being led by Mohinder Gupta, President All-India Rubber Industries' Association (AIRIA) and Managing Director Vinko Auto Industries Ltd. The other members of the delegation are CEOs of AIRIA member companies representing the MSME industry.

"Japanese Rubber Technology is considered the best in the world and India looks forward to have technical tieups, joint ventures and joint collaborations with the Japanese in the rubber sector," said Mohinder Gupta.

He said the visit would contribute in building great

confidence and appreciation of each others' business interests.

In its five-day visit, the AIRIA delegation will have comprehensive interaction with Japan Rubber Manufactures' Association (JRMA), the Society of Rubber Science and Technology (SRST), Rubber Trade Association of Japan (RTAJ), Japan-India Industry Promotion Agency (JIIPA), Japan Automobile Tyre Manufacturers' Association (JATMA), Tokyo Chamber of Commerce (TCCI) and Machinery Manufacturers' Association of Japan.

Both India and Japan are among the world's largest producers of rubber and rubber products. Despite India and Japan having distinguished positions in the global rubber market, the bilateral trade on rubber and rubber products between our countries is comparatively small.

Currently export of nontyre rubber products to Japan from India are around US\$10 million per annum which AIRIA believes can be increased manifold if economic cooperation is enhanced.