



**Speech by the Ambassador on
'Business Opportunities with India'**

[Paramaribo, 11 November 2025]

**The Chairman of ASFA, representative from AKMOS and Kenniskring
Distinguished business leaders, esteemed guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Namaskar, Subh Sandhya and Good evening,**

It is a privilege to share my views with this august gathering at the juncture of an important milestone in Suriname's history; the 50th years of Independence of Suriname. Next year, we will celebrate 50th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relationship between of India and Suriname; a relationship rooted in shared heritage, mutual respect, and a vision for inclusive prosperity; which has been further consolidated through high level exchanges.

However, our progress in realm of economic relations is modest. Our bilateral trade is about 55-60 million US\$ which is not even 0.2% of Suriname's total trade of 4 bn US\$ (Import-6th and Export-8th destination). Investment is also insignificant. These figures show that there are enough scope and opportunity available for further cooperation and collaboration.

India today stands as one of the world's fastest-growing major economies. With a robust manufacturing base, a thriving digital ecosystem, and a commitment to sustainable development, India offers Suriname a trusted partner across sectors vital to national growth and community well-being.

India exports a wide range of agro and food processing machineries, including tractors, harvesters, irrigation systems, and other agricultural equipment, food processing machineries such as milling machines, packaging equipment, and refrigeration units. These machineries are known for their durability and efficiency, making them suitable for Suriname's agricultural sector.

India also offers expertise in food processing from spices and pulses to tropical fruits and dairy. Through joint ventures in packaging, cold chain logistics, and agro-industrial training, we can unlock new export markets and create value-added jobs in Suriname's agricultural sector. Suriname's focus on improving its agricultural and food processing sectors presents a significant market potential for Surinamese importer. Seeds and pesticides: India exports a wide range of seeds, including vegetable seeds, fruit seeds, and grain seeds.

These seeds are known for their high quality and adaptability to different climatic conditions. India produces a variety of pesticides including bio pesticide that are effective

in controlling pests and diseases in crops without harming the environment. These pesticides are essential for maintaining healthy and productive agricultural practices.

India is known throughout the world as the "pharmacy of the world," providing more than 200 nations with high-quality, reasonably priced medications. Our pharmaceutical sector provides a variety of generic medications, immunizations, and medical supplies that can help Suriname achieve its healthcare objectives. We encourage Surinamese importers and medical facilities to investigate direct sourcing and regulatory collaboration with Indian pharmaceutical firms.

India's manufacturing industry presents a varied range of white goods including refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, and kitchen appliances designed for warm climates and energy efficiency. These items merge cost-effectiveness with creativity and are ideal for Suriname's expanding market for consumer goods.

In textiles, India combines centuries of artistry with contemporary manufacturing. Indian textiles provide quality, variety, and competitive prices, ranging from cotton and synthetics to sustainable fabrics and pre-made clothing. Surinamese retailers and distributors are invited to connect with Indian producers for dealership contracts and large-scale imports.

The digital revolution in India has changed public services, education, money, and governance. Our proficiency in fintech, cyber security, software development and e-governance can help Suriname achieve its objectives for digital transformation.

We encourage cooperation in fields including online education, smart agriculture, and digital identification. Professionals from Suriname can collaborate to develop digital solutions that meet regional need by gaining access to India's knowledge ecosystem through ITEC programs and tech alliances.

India is addressing climate change risks by investing in technologies that boost resilience and promote sustainability. It offers scalable climate adaptation solutions, including solar pumps, biofertilizers, green building materials, and disaster early warning systems.

We urge Surinamese stakeholders to pursue collaborations in renewable energy, water management, and sustainable infrastructure—fields where India's expertise can assist Suriname's environmental objectives and community durability.

In my perspective, these are some areas which can be explored and viable business ventures can be built around. But you are the domain experts who can explore various opportunities and harness the prospects.

I encourage Surinamese entrepreneurs, investors, and policymakers to view India not merely as a supplier, but as a vital partner. United, we can foster wealth for our community.

Dhanyavaad. Dank u wel. Thank you.

Jai Hind. Jai Suriname.
