



PM's interaction with global CEOs of the Food Processing sector

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The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today interacted with CEOs representing the top companies engaged in the food processing and related sectors across the world. The interaction was part of the ongoing World Food India event.

Leading CEOs and officials from Amazon (India), Amway, Britannia Industries, Cargill Asia Pacific, Coca-Cola India, Danfoss, Future Group, GlaxoSmithKline, Ise Foods, ITC, Kikkoman, LuLu Group, McCain, Metro Cash & Carry, Mondelez International, Nestle, OSI Group, PepsiCo India, Sealed Air, Sharaf Group, Spar International, The Hain Celestial Group, The Hershey Company, Trent Ltd, and Walmart India were present at the meeting.

Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Minister for Food Processing Industries, Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti, Minister of State for Food Processing Industries, and senior officials from the Union Government were also present.

Various CEOs complimented the Prime Minister on the massive improvement in India's rank in the recent World Bank Doing Business Report. Many CEOs said that they were inspired by the Prime Minister's vision of doubling farm incomes, and the pace and progress of economic reforms over the last three years under his leadership. They especially appreciated the structural reforms and bold initiatives such as GST and the liberalization of the FDI regime.

The participants stressed that the food processing sector is vital for raising farm productivity, food and nutrition security, creating jobs, and adding value to agricultural produce. The CEOs presented an overview of their engagement and initiatives for inclusive growth in India's food processing, agriculture, logistics, and retail sectors. They showed keen interest in opportunities that exist, for strengthening the post-harvest infrastructure. They reaffirmed their commitment to be a part of India's growth story.

Thanking the CEOs for sharing their views, the Prime Minister said that their observations indicate tremendous enthusiasm, about India. The Prime Minister appreciated the focused suggestions made by the CEOs.

The Prime Minister welcomed the measures being taken by the participants in raising agricultural productivity and farmers' incomes. In particular, he said that India's rising middle class, and the policy-driven initiatives of the Government, are opening up several win-win opportunities for all stakeholders in the food processing ecosystem. The Prime Minister underlined the Union Government's resolve to reduce input costs for the farmer, and eliminate losses due to wastage of farm produce. He invited the global CEOs for a deeper and more productive engagement with India.

Earlier, Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal spoke briefly about Government policies to promote investments in the food processing sector.

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