

27<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Statement from Mr R C Bhargava, Chairman, Maruti Suzuki India Limited**  
**on passing of Mr Osamu Suzuki**

It is with the deepest personal sorrow that I have learnt of the passing of Osamu Suzuki San. Without his vision and foresight, his willingness to take a risk that no one else was willing to take, his deep and abiding love for India, and his immense capabilities as a teacher, I believe the Indian automobile industry could not have become the powerhouse that it has become. Millions of us in this country are living better lives because of Osamu San. He won and enjoyed the trust of several Prime Ministers. He had a very close understanding with the present Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Osamu San's contribution to the Indian economy, and for building bridges between India and Japan was acknowledged by the conferment of the Padma Bhushan on him. He will be missed by his innumerable admirers and beneficiaries in the country.

I have lost someone who was closer than a brother to me. He changed my life and showed how nationality is no barrier to people building unbreakable bonds of trust in each other. He was my teacher, mentor and a person who stood by me even in my darkest days. If I played a role in the success of Maruti, it was because I was his student and he had taught me how best to grow a company and make it competitive.

Osamu San came to Delhi at the end of July this year despite not being in good health. He came because he wanted to attend my 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was the most touching event in my life. Little did I know that this would be the last time I would see him.

Osamu San will no longer be there to guide us. His legacy and teachings will never be forgotten and he will be remembered every time Maruti reaches another milestone as a part of the progress of India.

May God give strength to his family to bear this irreparable loss.