



Defense News Conclave

Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership

Dialogues on “Deliverables to Deliveries”

Friday, January 05, 2024 | 1000 – 1530 hours (IST)

[Turquoise Hall, Hotel Courtyard Marriott, Hyderabad](#)

Background and Context

Under the [Defense News Conclave Project](#), supported by the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and the U.S. Department of State, CUTS International is organizing five workshops covering consular districts of the U.S. Consulate Generals. They aim to create a group of informed stakeholders in India for strengthening U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership by generating necessary awareness of diverse media professionals and other relevant stakeholders.

Each workshop will be over two sessions focusing on good practices of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership in general and its relevance for U.S.-India Strategic Partnership in the Indo-Pacific region in particular. Among others, they will look at the milestones set and achieved, and policies and gaps to be filled-in to secure a free, open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

Objectives

- Act as a capacity-building initiative for media professionals and other relevant stakeholders
- Facilitate meaningful dialogues between experts and participants for better understanding of relevance and nuances of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership for the ‘good’ of the world in general and the Indo-Pacific region in particular
- Develop a better understanding of good practices in joint development of advanced defense-related technologies for promoting a positive narrative on U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership, especially in the context of evolving geopolitical, including geo-strategic and geo-economic, developments in the Indo-Pacific region

Outcomes

- A sustained platform for free-flowing interaction on issues related to U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership
- More and better information about good practices on U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership - joint production possibilities of equipment and materials, opportunities and challenges for various sectors involved, and overall enhanced capacity to report and write on related issues

Agenda

Over the years, India's designation as a Major Defense Partner of the U.S., signing of foundational defense-related agreements, upswing in the U.S.-India tech cooperation and large number of joint military exercises in the Indo-Pacific region have taken the U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership to new heights. The shift in geopolitical attention to the Indo-Pacific region and associated geo-strategic and geo-economic developments such as the coming together of Australia, India, Japan and the U.S. into a Quad, the initiation of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity, has made this Partnership even more robust. This is underlined in the Joint Statement from the United States and India following the Official State Visit of the Indian Prime Minister to the U.S. in June, 2023.

Future status of this Partnership will be a deciding factor in shaping security dynamics in the world in general and the Indo-Pacific region in particular. Therefore, it is time to highlight that, among other deliverables, U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership is to secure a free, open, inclusive and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. This will ensure a better exposition of 'deliverables to deliveries' on U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership.

10:00-10:20 Registration and Networking with Tea/Coffee

10:25-10:35 Opening Remarks

- **Purushendra Singh**, *Assistant Director, CUTS International*

10:35-11:50 Welcome Remarks

- **Jennifer Larson**, *Consul General, U.S. Consulate, Hyderabad*

11:00-12:30 Session I: Innovation and Industrial Bridge: U.S.-India Partnership

- Assessing U.S.-India Partnership on defense supply chain, emerging technologies and Innovation
- Joint Exploration and Joint Opportunities in high-tech defense innovation, cyber and industrial collaboration and Security of Supply Agreement (SOSA)
- Underwater to Space warfare domain: U.S.-India Roadmap of co-production and co-development of weapons and preparedness. Responses to cyberattacks and supply chain disruptions
- Understanding the progress in risk mitigation strategies and defense information/intelligence sharing. Focus on Human-centric Defense Technology Partnership, significance of the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) and Innovations for Defense Excellence (IDEX).
- Outcomes and way forward for establishing a robust collaboration agenda to harness innovation, joint intelligence assessment of threat perceptions and regional trends.

Chair & Moderator: Stuti Banerjee, *Senior Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs*

Panelists:

- **Lt. Gen. Anil Kapoor (Retd.)**, *Board Member, Technology Innovation Hub Governing Body & Professor of Practice, IIT Tirupati*
- **Maj. Gen. Pawan Anand (Retd.)**, *Head, AtmaNirbhar Bharat Initiative, United Service Institution of India*
- **Capt. Sarabjeet Parmar, (Retd.)**, *Distinguished Fellow at the United Service Institution of India*
- **Praveen P A**, *Director, Aerospace & Defence, Government of Telangana*
- **Harinder Sekhon**, *former Intelligence and Strategic Analyst, National Security Council Secretariat, Government of India*

12:30-13:45 Networking with Lunch

13:45-15:15 Session II: Global Strategic Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific

- India's National Security Apparatus including Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean. The Strategic Defense Partnership in the Indo-Pacific Region including like-minded countries
- Assessing the Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA) AND Indo-Pacific Strategies. Understanding the increasing MDA and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) mechanisms developed in the Indian Ocean.
- Understanding the relevance of the small Indian Ocean island nations in the ongoing defense collaborations between India and the U.S.
- Interoperability between the Navies of India and USA in crucial geostrategic domains, safe guarding choke points, joint development in telecommunication, HADR and infrastructure.
- Understanding maritime defense and blue economy and potential collaborations between India and U.S. in the Indian Ocean. This refers to secure and safe marine governance (SAR Operations, maritime surveillance and the role of Marine Corps)

Chair & Moderator: Pooja Bhatt, *Independent Analyst and Maritime Governance Researcher*

Panelists:

- **Dinakar Peri**, *Senior Associate Editor, The Hindu*
- **Sanjay Pulipaka**, *Chairperson, Politeia Research Foundation*
- **Shrishti Pukhrem**, *Deputy Director, Academics & Research, India Foundation*
- **Swasti Rao**, *Associate Fellow, Europe and Eurasia Center, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

15:15-15:30 Closing Remarks

- **Arnab Ganguly**, *Associate Director, CUTS International*