

Defense News Conclave

Stories of U.S. - India Defense Partnership

INDIA-U.S. COLLABORATIONS IN DEFENSE INDUSTRY, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND TRADE

Workshop II | Thursday, June 30, 2022

Time: 1830 hours - 2000 hours (IST) / 0900 hours - 1030 hours (EST)

(Virtual)

[Registration](#) and [Joining link](#)

Background and Context

Under the [Defense News Conclave Project](#), CUTS International will be organizing a series of defense workshops for 100-120 journalists and diverse media professionals on defense-related issues. These workshops will cover the entire gamut of India-U.S. bilateral defense relations, particularly in the context of the maritime domain and the Indo-Pacific. This is the second in a series of workshops on this subject.

Objectives

- Act as a capacity-building initiative for media professionals
- Facilitate a meaningful dialogue to understand how the media stakeholders are thinking about defense-related issues

Expected Outcomes

- A platform for free-flowing interaction and discussions on defense-related issues between experts and participants at the workshops
- Participants have a more informed view of important defense and strategic matters, and an enhanced capacity to report and write on such issues

AGENDA

A bipartisan commitment to stronger defense cooperation has led to soaring India-U.S. defense relations in recent years. Convergence of strategic objectives has facilitated the attainment of various milestones such as India's designation as a Major Defense Partner with Strategic Trade Authorization (STA-1) status, and the conclusion of all four foundational agreements to facilitate sharing of high-end technologies and intelligence. These developments have been buttressed by a rapid increase in bilateral defense trade that touched US\$20 billion in 2020. The objective of this workshop is to discuss the path forward for intensifying and diversifying defense trade and collaboration beyond Foreign Military Sales and direct commercial sales.

Coverage

- India–U.S. collaboration in defense manufacturing through engagement with industry players including MSMEs, start-ups, and innovators. Evaluating the scope for export oriented joint R&D and co-production to “*Make for the Indo-Pacific*”
- India–U.S. cooperation in advancing critical and emerging defense technologies, especially through institutional frameworks such as the Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) and the Quad Critical and Emerging Technology Working Group
- Assessing the impact of India's Strategic Trade Authorisation-1 (STA-1) status and the signing of foundational agreements on defense industry collaboration
- Reconciling *Atmanirbhar Bharat* defense initiatives such as arms embargo schemes under Positive Indigenization Lists with the need for expanding international defense cooperation

Moderator

- **Sandhya Sharma**, *Editor, Technology Policy and Foreign Policy, ET Prime*

Speakers

- **Richard M. Rossow**, *Senior Adviser and Wadhwani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies, Center for Strategic & International Studies*
- **Colonel KV Kuber**, *Director, Aerospace and Defense, Ernst and Young LLP*
- **Subimal Bhattacharjee**, *Independent Consultant on Defense and Cyber Security and Former Country Head, General Dynamics*