

U.S.-India Forward News Articles Coverage

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'Free, Open, Inclusive and Prosperous Indo-Pacific Region': A Major Deliverable of the U.S.-India Defence and Security Partnership

Chennai, Feb 6: The U.S. Consulate General Chennai, the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, and CUTS International organized a day-long workshop in Chennai on Feb 6, 2024 entitled "Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defence and Security Partnership" to highlight the strength of the bilateral defense and security partnership between the United States and India, and the growing U.S.-India

countries have evolved as the most valued partners in today's geopolitical scenario. He mentioned that owing to the converging security and strategic interests, the partnership in the coming years is expected to promote a robust, data-based international relationship. Substantial progress has been made in the idealization of a "Comprehensive Strategic Partnership" between the two nations.

India-US poised for strategic partnership

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 5

Unprecedented public-private partnerships were clinched between India and the United States in several hi-tech domains like semiconductors, advanced telecommunications, quantum computing, civilian space technology, among others.

During a panel discussion on "Innovator and Industrial Partnership: U.S.-India Partnership" at the Defence News Conclave on Friday, Lt Gen. Anil Kapoor (retd), a board member of the technology governing body and a professor of practice at Tirupathi, emphasized the contemporary nature of the Indo-US playbook.

The strategic alliance between two countries, driven by mutual dependence and shared democratic values, addresses ongoing geopolitical challenges, particularly in the context of Cold War dynamics between the US and China," he said.

Highlighting the long-standing Indo-US collaboration, Lt Gen. Kapoor (retd) stressed on the importance of a joint technology



An expert speaks during a panel discussion on "Innovator and Industrial Partnership" at the Defence News Conclave.

strategy and industrial collaboration. He said the United States-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (ICET) as a collaborative framework is already in place, calling for integration with a focus on a design thinking approach. Maj. Gen. Pawan Anand, head of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Initiative at the United States Institute of India, underlined the significance of understanding joint intelligence assessments and laid stress on the need for cooperation, stating that intelligence without collaboration is merely information.

Capt. Sarabjeet Parmar (retd), a distinguished fellow at the United States Institute of India, highlighted the key factors for

quality in collaboration, suggesting the use of technology and India's expertise could yield remarkable results. Fraevana PA, director of Telangana Aerospace and Defence, highlighted India's potential to fill supply chain gaps, especially in the aerospace and defense sectors. He mentioned Hyderabad's resilient supply chain and the growth of MSMEs, indicating the city's capability in military-grade manufacturing and technological advancements like UAV and 3D printing. Harinder Sekhon, a former intelligence and strategic analyst at the National Security Council, emphasized the growing partnership between

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Hyderabad: The US military in association with the Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy will jointly conduct an naval exercise 'Tiger Triumph' in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam in March.

During the exercise, naval personnel will be trained in carrying out rescue and relief operations and humanitarian exercises in times of need like during earthquakes, tsunamis and floods.

"Over the last two decades, the US has become a significant partner of defence equipment and also because of military exercises," said US Consul General Jennifer Larson.

Hyderabad: The US military in association with the Eastern Naval Command of the Indian Navy will jointly conduct an naval exercise 'Tiger Triumph' in Andhra Pradesh's Visakhapatnam in March.



Defence News Conclave organised by CUTS International held in the city on Friday.

Naval personnel will be trained in rescue and relief operations in times of calamities during 'Tiger Triumph'.

Over the last two decades, the US has become a significant supplier of defence equipment to India and also became India's largest military exercise partner. We were close to zero in 2008 and it is about \$25 billion now at the end of 2023 - Jennifer Larson | Consul General, US Consulate, Hyderabad

Hyderabad as their destination for manufacturing in aerospace and defence.

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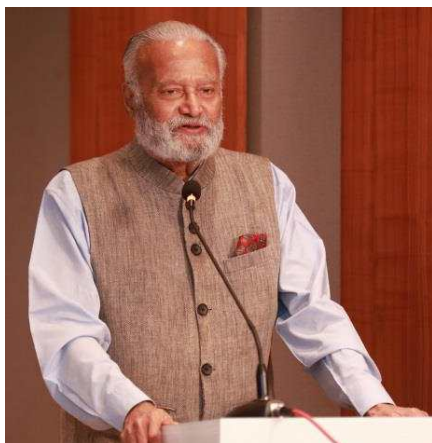
Hyderabad as their destination for manufacturing in aerospace and defence.



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U.S. Consulate General
Kolkata





U.S.-India Forward

News Articles Coverage



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About the Booklet

Welcome to our comprehensive booklet, on ‘Deliverables to Deliveries’, detailing the significant event, Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense Partnership held from September, 2021, to February, 2024 across length and breadth of India.

This booklet encapsulates a wide array of articles from various news media agencies across India, highlighting the robust and ever-growing defense and security relationship between the United States and India. A series of dialogues, organised by the U.S. Consulate General and CUTS International, provided a platform for over 300 representatives, including media professionals, defense experts, industry leaders, government officials and civil society members, to discuss and celebrate the milestones and future prospects of this significant bilateral partnership.

The collection of articles, which have been published and disseminated in multiple Indian languages, aims to offer a comprehensive view of the discussions and insights shared during the event, emphasising the shared vision of a free, open, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region. Through this booklet, we aim to bring to light the collaborative efforts and strategic dialogues that underscore the importance of U.S.-India defense ties in the contemporary global landscape.



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**NEWS COVERAGE ON
DIALOGUES ON
‘DELIVERABLES TO DELIVERIES’**

August 04, 2023, Kolkata

Historic Challenges Require Cooperation with Common Allies for a Free, Open Indo-Pacific

The Print, August 04, 2023

U.S. Army Attache in India, Colonel Douglas Hess while addressing the U.S.-India Defence conclave said that the historic challenges need unprecedented cooperation with common allies with an aspiration of free and open Indo-Pacific.

The U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and CUTS International organised a half-day workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” to create awareness that the bilateral defence relationship between the U.S. and India is strong and continues to grow, U.S. Consulate Kolkata said in a statement.

“Historic challenges require unprecedented cooperation with like-minded allies and partners who share in the vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific. In this endeavour, the U.S. is proud to work alongside India’s leadership in South Asia and the Indian Ocean, as a driving force of the Quad and other multinational fora, and as an engine for regional growth and development,” he said.

Hess further said that the last 12 months have certainly been a milestone for the U.S.-India relationship as both nations took important steps for strategic goals. The U.S. and India have never been more interconnected, whether through the information connection of the Internet or global supply chains.

“The past 12 months have been a watershed year for the relationship, as the U.S. and India took important steps to further our strategic goals,” he said. More than 100 representatives from the media think tanks, defence experts, defence industry leaders and civil society participated in the hybrid event hosted in Kolkata, to focus on the positive messages highlighted by President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the recent joint statement.

The joint statement highlighted that the U.S.-India partnership has evolved into a comprehensive global strategic relationship involving joint research, co-development and production of high-end defence equipment, and expanded cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, the statement added. He however, added that nations cannot wait until a crisis hits to build partnerships as we have seen in the 21st century. Such military cooperation efforts along with bilateral and multi-lateral initiatives in health, economics and climate prepare us to work together.

“As we have seen throughout the 21st century, we rarely know in advance when we are going to face a crisis, whether that is a health crisis, an environmental crisis, or a physical attack from a conventional or unconventional enemy. Nations cannot wait until a crisis arrives to build partnerships. One cannot surge trust, one has to build it early and deepen it every day. These military cooperation efforts, combined with bilateral and multi-lateral economic, health, and climate initiatives prepare us to be ready to work together when a crisis hits,” Hess said.

Moreover, Acting U.S. Consul General in Kolkata, Adrian Pratt who is also serving as the Public Affairs Officer and Director of the American Centre said India’s cooperation with the U.S. boosts our security, bolsters our prosperity and enriches our society.

“An enormous range of Americans have a stake in the U.S.-India relationship and expect further progress in achieving the full potential of U.S.-India defence ties as it spans the scope of human endeavour, from sea to space, from security to health, and from energy to education,” Pratt said.

Pratt further said that managing our defence and law enforcement activities keeps all our citizens—young and old—female, male, and non-binary regardless of religion or political party—safe from crime, reduces the risks of terrorism, and protects us from the threat of war.

<https://theprint.in/world/historic-challenges-require-cooperation-with-common-allies-for-free-open-indo-pacific-us-army-attache-in-india/1701280/>

U.S. Consulate-CUTS Hosts Defense News Conclave

United News of India, August 04, 2023

The U.S. Consulate General Kolkata & CUTS International organised a half-day workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” which highlighted that the bilateral defence relationship between the U.S. and India is strong and continues to grow.

More than 100 representatives from the media, think tanks, and defence experts, defence industry leaders and civil society participated in the hybrid event hosted in Kolkata, to focus on the positive messages highlighted by President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the recent joint statement which underscored that the U.S.-India partnership has evolved into a comprehensive global strategic relationship involving joint research, co-development and production of high-end defence equipment, and expanded cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

The workshop was spread across two sessions focused on disseminating good practices of the U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership in general and its relevance in the Indo-Pacific region, in particular.

Among others, it looked 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.

Delivering the keynote address, Colonel Douglas Hess, U.S. Army Attache, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi said, “It’s important to recognise that the U.S. and India have never been more interconnected, whether through the information connection of the Internet or global supply chains. One-click sets in motion the world.”

“Certainly, if we look at it from a people-to-people standpoint, we are certainly interconnected. I would wager virtually everyone in this room has friends or family residing in the U.S. And it is no secret that some of our biggest business leaders in the U.S. are Indian American, not to mention our Vice President,” Douglas Hess said.

“When I first got to India I would often see articles questioning why the U.S. and India should be partners, but the longer I’ve been here it seems to me the only real question is what type of partners will we be? Historic challenges require unprecedented cooperation with like-minded allies and partners who share in the vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific.

In this endeavour, the U.S. is proud to work alongside India's leadership in South Asia and the Indian Ocean, as a driving force of the Quad and other multinational fora, and as an engine for regional growth and development," Hess said.

"The past 12 months have been a watershed year for the relationship, as the U.S. and India took important steps to further our strategic goals. As we have seen throughout the 21st century, we rarely know in advance when we are going to face a crisis, whether that is a health crisis, an environmental crisis, or a physical attack from a conventional or unconventional enemy," Hess said.

"Nations cannot wait until a crisis arrives to build partnerships. One cannot surge trust, one has to build it early and deepen it every day. These military cooperation efforts, combined with bilateral and multi-lateral economic, health, and climate initiatives prepare us to be ready to work together when a crisis hits," the Colonel said.

Adrian Pratt, Acting Consul General, Public Affairs Officer and Director of the American Centre, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, mentioned that "Cooperation with India strengthens our security, bolsters our prosperity, and enriches our society."

He said an enormous range of Americans have a stake in the U.S.-India relationship and expect further progress in achieving the full potential of U.S.-India defense ties as it spans the scope of human endeavour, from sea to space, from security to health, and from energy to education.

"These are all positive stories, and through this project with our partner CUTS International, we want to tell these stories to the citizens of India and beyond," he said.

"We are kicking off the first of the series of these workshops in Kolkata and we will schedule workshops in Hyderabad, Mumbai, Chennai, and finally in New Delhi that will bring in defense experts, government officials, corporate leaders, defense companies, entrepreneurs, and researchers from the U.S. and India to interact with think tank leaders, journalists, and social media influencers across India," he said.

"We want to tell you that managing our defense and law enforcement activities keeps all our citizens—young and old—female, male, and non-binary—safe from crime, reduces the risks from terrorism, and protects us from the threat of war," he said.

Bipul Chattopadhyay, Executive Director, CUTS International, said: "One of the biggest deliveries of the India-U.S. Defense and Security Partnership has been the progression from 'Democracies can deliver' to 'Democracies have delivered'."

Delivering his opening remarks, Chattopadhyay added that the India-U.S. relationship is growing and is going to grow further in the coming years.

Highlighting the historical relationship between India and the U.S., Lieutenant General Subrata Saha, Former Member of the National Security Advisory Board and Deputy Chief of Army Staff, mentioned that the 2+2 Dialogues between India and the U.S. have been instrumental in bridging the gap and provided impetus to this relationship.

“This has helped to overcome the bureaucratic delays and accelerate the closeness among the top leadership of both the countries,” he said.

He said because of their closeness, both the nations are talking about undertaking initiatives in the area of critical and emerging technologies, which is a large area for wider cooperation.

Speaking about how the U.S.-India defense and security partnership has panned out in the Indo-Pacific, Chintamani Mahapatra, Founder and Honorary Chairman of Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies said without India, there would be no Indo-Pacific.

He added that it is important for U.S.-India to stand together for an open, free and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Pointing out that it is in the interest of U.S. to keep India on its side, Shekhar Dutt, Former Governor of Chhattisgarh and Defense Secretary of India, added, “One U.S. added to One India is 11 and together they should seize the opportunities of participating together in the global supply chain.”

Partha P. Roy Chowdhury, Commercial Lead, Lockheed Martin India, elucidated that the collaboration of Lockheed Martin India, has also created opportunities for MSMEs in India through forward and backward linkages in production and manufacturing.

Among other illustrious panellists, including Manu Pubby, Senior Editor, Economic Times; Arun Ramchandani, Executive Vice President L&T Defense; Indranil Banerjee, Senior Analyst and Freelance Journalist in their remarks, highlighted that there is a need to deepen trust building between both the countries and this will be the bedrock of this relationship.

Among the other distinguished speakers were Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha, Former Chief of Air Staff and President, CENERS-K, Col. Baljinder Singh (Retd.), Director, Aerospace and Defense, USISPF, India Office and Sucharita Bhattacharjee, Policy Analyst, CUTS International, who presented their succinct presentation on this timely issue.

<http://www.uniindia.com/news/east/us-conclave/3024332.html>

Cooperation with Allies Needed in Indo-Pacific: U.S. Army Attache in India

IndiaWest Journal, August 04, 2023

Colonel Douglas Hess, the U.S. Army Attache in India, addressed the U.S.-India Defense Conclave on July 4, stressing the need for historic challenges to be met with unprecedented cooperation among common allies. The aspiration of a free and open Indo-Pacific was at the heart of the discussion.

Organised by the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and CUTS International, the half-day workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership” aimed to raise awareness about the strong and evolving bilateral defense relationship between the U.S. and India.

Colonel Hess highlighted the importance of working alongside India’s leadership in South Asia and the Indian Ocean, particularly as a driving force of the Quad and other multinational fora. He acknowledged India’s role as an engine for regional growth and development and emphasised the significance of like-minded allies and partners coming together in the Indo-Pacific region.

Reflecting on the past year, Colonel Hess noted the milestone achieved in the U.S.-India relationship, with both nations taking important steps to further their strategic goals. He emphasised the increasing interconnectivity between the two countries through information connections like the Internet and global supply chains.

The conclave saw participation from over 100 representatives, including media, think tanks, defense experts, defense industry leaders, and civil society. The focus was on the positive messages conveyed by President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in their recent joint statement, underlining the evolution of the U.S.-India partnership into a comprehensive global strategic relationship.

Colonel Hess underscored the importance of building partnerships before crises arise, as events in the 21st century have shown the unpredictability of challenges faced by nations. He stressed the significance of military cooperation efforts along with bilateral and multi-lateral initiatives in various sectors, such as health, economics, and climate, to be prepared to work together effectively during crises.

Acting U.S. Consul General in Kolkata, Adrian Pratt highlighted the significance of India’s cooperation with the U.S. in enhancing security, prosperity, and societal enrichment. He emphasised the vast potential of U.S.-India defense ties, which span various aspects of human endeavours from sea to space, security to health, and energy to education.

Pratt also acknowledged the role of managing defense and law enforcement activities in ensuring the safety and protection of all citizens, irrespective of demographics, religion, or political affiliations. He emphasised how such measures reduce the risks of terrorism and protect against the threat of war.

<https://indiawest.com/cooperation-with-allies-needed-in-indo-pacific-us-army-attache-in-india/>

U.S. Defence Cooperation Created Opportunities for Indian MSMEs in Production and Manufacturing

India Education Diary, August 05, 2023

The U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and CUTS International organised a half-day workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” to inform the media that the bilateral defense relationship between the U.S. and India is strong and continues to grow.

More than 100 representatives from the media think tanks, and defense experts, defense industry leaders and civil society participated in the hybrid event hosted in Kolkata, to focus on the positive messages highlighted by President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the recent joint statement which underscores that the U.S.-India partnership has evolved into a comprehensive global strategic relationship involving joint research, co-development and production of high-end defense equipment, and expanded cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

The workshop was spread across two sessions focused on disseminating good practices of the U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership in general and its relevance in the Indo-Pacific region, in particular. Among others, it looked 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.

Delivering the keynote address, Colonel Douglas Hess, U.S. Army Attache, U.S. Embassy, New Delhi said, “It’s important to recognize that the U.S. and India have never been more interconnected, whether through the information connection of the Internet or through global supply chains. One click sets in motion the world.

Certainly, if we look at it from a people-to-people standpoint, we are certainly interconnected. I’d wager virtually everyone in this room has friends or family residing in the U.S. And it’s no secret that some of our biggest business leaders in the U.S. are Indian American, not to mention our Vice President.

When I first got to India would often see articles questioning why the U.S. and India should be partners, but the longer I’ve been here it seems to me the only real question is what type of partners will we be? Historic challenges require unprecedented cooperation with like-minded allies and partners who share in the vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific.

In this endeavour, the U.S. is proud to work alongside India’s leadership in South Asia and the Indian Ocean, as a driving force of the Quad and other multinational fora, and as an engine for regional growth and development. The past twelve months have been a watershed

year for the relationship, as the U.S. and India took important steps to further our strategic goals.

As we have seen throughout the 21st century, we rarely know in advance when we are going to face a crisis, whether that is a health crisis, an environmental crisis, or a physical attack from a conventional or unconventional enemy. Nations cannot wait until a crisis arrives to build partnerships. One cannot surge trust, one has to build it early and deepen it every day. These military cooperation efforts, combined with bilateral and multilateral economic, health, and climate initiatives prepare us to be ready to work together when a crisis hits.”

Adrian Pratt, Acting Consul General, Public Affairs Officer and Director of the American Center, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, mentioned that, “Cooperation with India strengthens our security, bolsters our prosperity, and enriches our society. An enormous range of Americans have a stake in the U.S.-India relationship and expect further progress in achieving the full potential of U.S.-India defense ties as it spans the scope of human endeavour, from sea to space, from security to health, and from energy to education.

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One of the biggest deliveries of the India-U.S. Defense and Security Partnership has been the progression from ‘Democracies can deliver’ to ‘Democracies have delivered’, said Bipul Chattopadhyay, Executive Director, CUTS International. Delivering his opening remarks, Chattopadhyay added that the India-U.S. relationship is growing and is going to grow further in the coming years.

Highlighting the historical relationship between India and the U.S., Lieutenant General Subrata Saha, Former Member of the National Security Advisory Board and Deputy Chief of Army Staff, mentioned that the 2+2 Dialogues between India and the U.S. have been instrumental in bridging the gap and provided impetus to this relationship. This has helped to overcome the bureaucratic delays and accelerate the closeness among the top leadership of both countries. He said because of their closeness, both nations are talking about undertaking initiatives in the area of critical and emerging technologies, which is a large area for wider cooperation.

Speaking about how the U.S.-India defense and security partnership has panned out in the Indo-Pacific, Chintamani Mahapatra, Founder and Honorary Chairman of Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies said without India, there would be no Indo-Pacific. He added that it is important for U.S.-India to stand together for an open, free and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Pointing out that it is in the interest of U.S. to keep India on its side, Shekhar Dutt, Former Governor of Chhattisgarh and Defense Secretary of India, added, “One U.S. added to One India is 11 and together they should seize the opportunities of participating together in the global supply chain.”

Partha P. Roy Chowdhury, Commercial Lead, Lockheed Martin India, elucidated that the collaboration of Lockheed Martin India has also created opportunities for MSMEs in India through forward and backward linkages in production and manufacturing.

Among other illustrious panellists, including Manu Pubby, Senior Editor, Economic Times; Arun Ramchandani, Executive Vice President L&T Defense; Indranil Banerjee, Senior Analyst and Freelance Journalist in their remarks, highlighted that there is a need to deepen trust building between both the countries and this will be the bedrock of this relationship.

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<https://indiaeducationdiary.in/indo-us-defence-cooperation-has-created-opportunities-for-indian-msmes-through-forward-and-backward-linkages-in-production-and-manufacturing-partha-p-roy-chowdhury-commercial-lead-lockheed-mart/>

America to Test India's Air Defense System

Anandabazar Patrika, August 05, 2023

ভারত ও আমেরিকা অংশীদার হবে কি না, সেটা কোনও প্রশ্নই নয় বলে মনে করেন দিল্লিতে নিযুক্ত আমেরিকান সেনা অ্যাটাশে ডগলাস হেস। তাঁর মতে, দু'দেশের মধ্যে কী ধরনের অংশীদারি থাকবে সেটাই হল প্রশ্ন। তাঁর কথায়, “ঐতিহাসিক চ্যালেঞ্জের মোকাবিলা করতে অভূতপূর্ব সহযোগিতা প্রয়োজন। দক্ষিণ এশিয়া ও ভারত মহাসাগরে কোয়াড ও অন্য বহুপাক্ষিক মঞ্চের অংশ হিসেবে ভারতের সঙ্গে কাজ করতে পেরে আমেরিকা গর্বিত।” কলকাতায় কার্যনির্বাহী কনসাল জেনারেল অ্যাড্রিয়ান প্র্যাটের মতে, “দু'দেশের প্রতিরক্ষা ক্ষেত্র ও আইনশৃঙ্খলা রক্ষাকারী সংস্থাগুলির মধ্যে সহযোগিতার ফলে জাতি-ধর্ম-লিঙ্গ-রাজনৈতিক মত নির্বিশেষে নাগরিকদের বিরুদ্ধে অপরাধের সম্ভাবনা কমে, জঙ্গি হামলার বিপদ কমে ও দু'দেশকেই যুদ্ধের সম্ভাবনা থেকে রক্ষা করে।”

এক সময়ে ভারতের আকাশ প্রতিরক্ষা ব্যবস্থা খতিয়ে দেখতে মহড়ায় সামিল হয়েছিল আমেরিকা। ‘শত্রু’ বিমানের মোকাবিলায় ভারতের প্রতিরক্ষা ব্যবস্থা ও বিমানচালকদের দক্ষতা দেখে বিস্মিত হয়েছিলেন আমেরিকান বিশেষজ্ঞেরা। তার পরে দ্বিপাক্ষিক সম্পর্কের জল অনেক গড়িয়েছে। যৌথ মহড়া থেকে আমেরিকান সংস্থার সঙ্গে হাত মিলিয়ে উৎপাদন, ভারত-আমেরিকা প্রতিরক্ষা সম্পর্ক অনেক দূর এগিয়েছে। শুক্রবার কলকাতায় আমেরিকান দূতাবাস, আমেরিকান কনসুলেট ও থিঙ্ক ট্যাঙ্ক ‘কাটস ইন্টারন্যাশনাল’ আয়োজিত অনুষ্ঠানে এ ভাবেই দ্বিপাক্ষিক সম্পর্কের স্মৃতিচারণ করলেন ভারতীয় বায়ুসেনার প্রাক্তন প্রধান অরুণ রাহা। আমেরিকার কাছ থেকে প্রিডেটর শ্রেণির ড্রোন কেনার সাম্প্রতিক সিদ্ধান্ত ভারতীয় বাহিনীর ক্ষমতা বাড়াবে বলে মত তাঁর।

ভারত-প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় এলাকায় নয়াদিল্লির সঙ্গে কৌশলগত সম্পর্কের ক্ষেত্রে আমেরিকা চিনের কথা ভাবতে বাধ্য বলে মত কৌশলগত বিশেষজ্ঞ চিন্তামণি মহাপাত্র ও ভারতীয় সেনার প্রাক্তন উপপ্রধান লেফটেন্যান্ট জেনারেল সুব্রত সাহার। সুব্রতের মতে, চিন কেবল সামরিক, আর্থিক দিক থেকে এগিয়েই নেই। প্রতিরক্ষা সরঞ্জাম উৎপাদনের ক্ষেত্রে অত্যন্ত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বেশ কিছু পদার্থের ভাণ্ডার রয়েছে চিন ও বেজিং-ঘনিষ্ঠ কয়েকটি দেশে। ফলে তা আন্তর্জাতিক কূটনীতির ক্ষেত্রে চিনকে সুবিধেজনক অবস্থানে থাকতে সাহায্য করে। মহাপাত্রের মতে, চিনের সঙ্গে আমেরিকার বিরোধ রয়েছে ঠিকই। কিন্তু বেজিংয়ের সঙ্গে বিরোধ মেটাতেও উদ্যোগী হয়েছে ওয়াশিংটন। ফলে সুচিন্তিত ভাবেই পদক্ষেপ করতে হয় নয়াদিল্লিকে। তাঁর মতে, কৌশলগত সম্পর্কের ক্ষেত্রে নমনীয়তা বজায় রাখাই বর্তমানে নীতি হওয়া উচিত।

Maintaining Peace and Security in The Indo-Pacific Centrality of the India-U.S. Defence Partnership

ETV Bharat, August 04, 2023

China's growing influence and aggression in the Indian and the Pacific oceans is a major factor that is driving the growing defence partnership between India and the U.S. in the context of the Indo-Pacific region, experts say.

"The centrality of the India-U.S. defence partnership is maintaining peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region," Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Subrata Saha, former Member of the National Security Advisory Board and Deputy Chief of Army Staff said at a workshop under the Defence News Conclave Project organised by the CUTS International think tank with the support of the U.S. Consulate in Kolkata. "What is driving this partnership is China's rise."

The Indo-Pacific is a region that stretches from the east coast of Japan to the west coast of Africa. In the 21st century, with the rising involvement of the U.S. in the new growth areas of Asia, the idea of the Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor (IPEC) emerged during the India-U.S. Strategic Dialogue in 2013. Then U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry referred to the potential of the Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor in transforming the prospects for development and investments as well as for trade and transit between the economies of South and Southeast Asia Indo-Pacific economic corridor.

India and the U.S. share a Global Strategic Partnership. Over the years, India's designation as a major defence Partner of the U.S., signing of a series of foundational defence-related agreements, and a large number of joint military exercises in the Indo-Pacific region have taken the India-U.S. Defence and Security Partnership to new heights.

Saha said that the growing concentration of power in Chinese President Xi Jinping, China's aggression in the South China Sea and towards the East Asian island nation of Taiwan, the economic coercion of Australia, and expansionism along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with India are among the reasons that are driving the defence ties between New Delhi and Washington.

Chintamani Mahapatra, Founder and Honorary Chairman of the Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies, said the U.S. today is the only superpower left in the world.

"Earlier, India had a non-aligned foreign policy which was by and large anti-American," Mahapatra said. "But India's economic opening up in June 1991, six months before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, sent an important message to the U.S. India was seen as a major destination for investments."

Pointing out that without India, there would be no Indo-Pacific, he said: “It is important for India and the U.S. to stand together for an open, free and prosperous Indo-Pacific.”

According to Mahapatra, because of the deep ties between all-weather friends Pakistan and China, India and the U.S. must stay together.

“Pakistan today is the most dangerous country in the world,” he said. “It is more dangerous than China. Fundamentalists, terrorists and the Pakistan Army have all come together. Fundamentalists have infiltrated the Pakistan Army to the colonel level. That is why, India and the U.S. should work together.”

According to Shekhar Dutt, former Defence Secretary and Governor of Chhattisgarh, there is a willingness on the parts of both India and the U.S. to engage in defence cooperation, especially to take on common adversary China.

“One India and one U.S. may be two countries. One India and one U.S. can also be 11,” Dutt said. “Both the countries should seize the opportunities and get many tasks done together.”

<https://www.etvbharat.com/english/state/delhi/maintaining-peace-and-security-in-indo-pacific-centrality-of-india-us-defence-partnership/na20230804180442296296914>

अमेरिकी वाणिज्य दूतावास कोलकाता और कट्स इंटरनेशनल ने एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया

A1 RAJ, September 21, 2023

अमेरिकी महावाणिज्य दूतावास कोलकाता और कट्स इंटरनेशनल ने मीडिया को यह सूचित करने के लिए कि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच द्विपक्षीय रक्षा संबंध मजबूत हैं और बढ़ता ही जा रहा है एक दिवसीय कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया जिसका शीर्षक था "डिफेंस न्यूज कॉन्क्लेव: यूएस-इंडिया डिफेंस एंड सिक्योरिटी पार्टनरशिप की कहानियां"।

मीडिया थिंक टैंक रक्षा विशेषज्ञों रक्षा उद्योग के नेताओं और नागरिक समाज के 100 से अधिक प्रतिनिधियों ने हाल ही में संयुक्त रूप से राष्ट्रपति जो बिडेन और प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा उजागर किए गए सकारात्मक संदेशों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के लिए जयपुर में आयोजित हाइब्रिड कार्यक्रम में भाग लिया। बयान जो रेखांकित करता है कि अमेरिका-भारत साझेदारी एक व्यापक वैश्विक रणनीतिक संबंध में विकसित हुई है जिसमें संयुक्त अनुसंधान सह-विकास और उच्च-स्तरीय रक्षा उपकरणों का उत्पादन और भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में विस्तारित सहयोग शामिल है।

कार्यशाला सामान्य रूप से अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा और सुरक्षा साझेदारी की अच्छी प्रथाओं और विशेष रूप से भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में इसकी प्रासंगिकता के प्रसार पर केंद्रित दो सत्रों में फैली हुई थी। अन्य बातों के अलावा इसमें एक स्वतंत्र खुले समावेशी और समृद्ध भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र को सुरक्षित करने के लिए निर्धारित और हासिल किए गए मील के पथर और नीतियों और कमियों को पूरा करने पर ध्यान दिया गया।

प्रारंभिक टिप्पणी में कट्स इंटरनेशनल के महासचिव प्रदीप एस मेहता ने कहा कि अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा संबंधों की पूरी क्षमता का उपयोग करने में अमेरिकियों की एक विशाल हिस्सेदारी है क्योंकि यह समुद्र से अंतरिक्ष तक सुरक्षा से स्वास्थ्य तक और ऊर्जा से शिक्षा तक मानव प्रयास का दायरा फैलाता है। 2047 तक भारत को एक विकसित देश बनाने के दृष्टिकोण में अमेरिका इसमें एक प्रमुख भूमिका निभाने जा रहा है।

कर्नल कूपर ने कहा अमेरिका और भारत दोनों स्वतंत्र और खुले जुड़े हुए समृद्ध सुरक्षित और लचीले इंडो-पैसिफिक के महत्व को समझते हैं और दोनों देश मानते हैं कि अकेले किसी एक देश के लिए इन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करना संभव नहीं है। अमेरिकी इंडो-पैसिफिक रणनीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण पहलू यह है कि क्षेत्र के लिए यह लक्ष्य अकेले एक देश द्वारा हासिल नहीं किया जा सकता है।

उन्होंने कहा इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि दुनिया के दो प्रमुख लोकतंत्रों अमेरिका और भारत को क्षेत्र के अन्य सहयोगियों के साथ मिलकर इन लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने की दिशा में काम करना चाहिए।

पहले सत्र के विषय अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा और सुरक्षा साझेदारी में द्विपक्षीय ढांचे और अभिसरण के बढ़ते क्षेत्रों का दायरा पर चर्चा करते हुए लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल सुब्रत साहा (सेवानिवृत्त) राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और सेना के उपप्रमुख ने कहा कि भारत और अमेरिका ने अपने मूल्यों और विश्वासों के आधार पर रणनीतिक साझेदारियों की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला बनाई है। दोनों देशों में लोकतांत्रिक नियमों आतंकवाद के खिलाफ लड़ाई और सामूहिक विनाश हथियारों के प्रसार के समान सिद्धांत हैं।

एकीकृत रक्षा स्टाफ (नीति योजना और बल विकास) के पूर्व उप प्रमुख और अमेरिकी-भारत रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकी और व्यापार पहल (डीटीटीआई) इंटर एजेंसी टास्क फोर्स के भारतीय सह-अध्यक्ष लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल अनिल कुमार आहूजा (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि क्रिटिकल एंड इमर्जिंग टेक्नोलॉजी पर अमेरिकी-भारत पहल देशों के बीच रणनीतिक प्रौद्योगिकी साझेदारी और रक्षा औद्योगिक सहयोग को बढ़ाने और विस्तारित करने के लिए तकनीकी अभिसरण प्राप्त करने के लिए मंच प्रदान करती है।

डिफेंस एंड सिक्योरिटी अलर्ट के प्रधान संपादक कर्नल मानवेंद्र सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि दो देशों- अमेरिका और भारत के बीच रणनीतिक संबंध दर्शन और नीतियों से आते हैं। यह केवल हार्ड-कोर सेलिंग पर निर्भर नहीं हो सकता इसे अंदर से आने की जरूरत है। कर्नल सिंह ने कहा मजबूत अमेरिका-भारत संबंध सुनिश्चित करने के लिए यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि दोनों देश उपकरणों के संयुक्त अनुसंधान और विकास की दिशा में काम करना शुरू करें और फिर संयुक्त उत्पादन और निर्यात की दिशा में काम करें।

तीव्र तकनीकी गति से प्रेरित पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में बदलाव के बारे में बोलते हुए भारतीय सेना के दक्षिण पश्चिमी कमान के पूर्व जनरल ऑफिसर कमांडिंग लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल अरुण साहनी (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि खुफिया निगरानी और टोही (आईएसआर) में क्रांतिकारी बदलाव हुए हैं। एल्गोरिथम युद्ध नैनो-प्रौद्योगिकी निचली कक्षा के उपग्रहों की प्रासंगिकता एकीकृत मारक श्रृंखला और हाइब्रिड मारक क्षमता युद्ध का नया युग है।

रेथियॉन इंडिया और दक्षिण एशिया के अध्यक्ष प्रबुद्ध शर्मा ने कहा कि भारत को कम लागत वाली जनशक्ति की उपलब्धता का लाभ मिलता है। यदि अमेरिका में एक इंजीनियर प्रति घंटे 300 अमेरिकी डॉलर शुल्क लेता है तो भारत में एक इंजीनियर संभवतः 30 अमेरिकी डॉलर प्रति घंटे का शुल्क लेगा। यह रक्षा विनिर्माण क्षेत्र को निवेशकों के लिए आकर्षक बनाता है।

अन्य प्रतिष्ठित वक्ताओं में मंजरी सिंह सहायक प्रोफेसर एमिटी इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंटरनेशनल स्टडीज एमिटी यूनिवर्सिटी नयनिमा बसु संपादक विदेशी मामले रणनीति और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा एबीपी लाइव (एबीपी नेटवर्क) रितु शर्मा वरिष्ठ संपादक द यूरोशियन टाइम्स मेजर जनरल सुधाकर जी (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस कमोडोर. मुकेश

भार्गव (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी राजनयिक संपादक द इकोनॉमिक टाइम्स शामिल थे।

जयपुर भारत में अपने मुख्यालय के साथ कट्स इंटरनेशनल के अकरा लुसाका और नैरोबी में क्षेत्रीय केंद्र हैं जो पश्चिम दक्षिणी और पूर्वी अफ्रीका को कवर करते हैं। उनके अलावा हनोई जिनेवा और वाशिंगटन डीसी में इसके केंद्र हैं। भारत में इसका कोलकाता में एक क्षेत्रीय केंद्र चित्तौड़गढ़ में एक ग्रामीण विकास केंद्र और नई दिल्ली में एक संपर्क कार्यालय है।

भारत में संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के दूतावास के एयर अताशे कर्नल आरोन जे. कूपर ने कहा कि अमेरिका और भारत कभी भी इतने आपस में जुड़े नहीं रहे हैं चाहे वह इंटरनेट के सूचना कनेक्शन के माध्यम से हो या वैश्विक आपूर्ति श्रृंखलाओं के माध्यम से।

India-U.S. Collaboration Necessary for Free, Open and Resilient Indo-Pacific

The PageOne Asia, September 22, 2023

The U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and CUTS International organised a day-long workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” in Jaipur to create awareness about various aspects of the growing India-U.S. defence partnership.

An enormous range of Americans have a stake in utilising the full potential of U.S.-India defence ties as it spans the scope of human endeavour from sea to space, from security to health, and from energy to education. In the vision of India being a developed country by 2047, the U.S. is going to play a major role in it, said Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International in his opening remarks.

At the workshop, Col. Aaron J. Cooper, Air Attaché, Embassy of the United States of America in India said the U.S. and India have never been more interconnected than they are now. Whether it be through the information connection of the internet or global supply chains and from a person-to-person standpoint the U.S. and India are unquestionably, like never before.

He further added to his remarks, “I would be surprised today if there is not one friend or family member or someone known from here, not attending school in the U.S. Some of the U.S. prominent business people are Indo-American, not to mention political leaders including our current U.S. Vice-President Kamala Harris”.

“In the modern world, there is no nation, whether designated by some as a developed or developing large country or superpower that can go alone or can securely stand by itself. Increasingly interconnected and globalised economy, our nations can only achieve security in multiple areas such as health, economic security, defense security by relying on India’s partners and allies. When we examine the new economic order, the Indo-Pacific is pivotal and is playing an increasingly pivotal role. It is clear for the future, that the Indo-Pacific’s prominence in global affairs is only going to intensify.”

Col. Cooper concluded his remarks by mentioning that an important aspect of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Strategy is that this goal for the region cannot be achieved by one country alone. Therefore, it is imperative that both the U.S. and India, the two major democracies in the world, along with other allies in the region, should work together towards achieving these goals.

While discussing the theme of the first session, ‘Scope of Bilateral Frameworks and Growing Areas of Convergence in U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership’, Lt. Gen. Subrata Saha (Retd.), former Member of the National Security Advisory Board and Deputy Chief of Army Staff said India and the U.S. created a wide range of strategic partnerships based on their values and beliefs. Both nations have similar principles of democratic rules, fighting against terrorism and the proliferation of mass destruction weapons.

During the session, Col. Manvendra Singh (Retd.) Editor-in-chief, Defence and Security Alert said the strategic relations between two countries- the U.S. and India come from philosophies and policies. It can’t just be dependent on hard-core selling. To ensure a stronger U.S.-India relationship, it is important that these two countries start working towards joint Research & Development of Equipment, and then work towards joint production and exports.

At the second session which focussed on disseminating good practices of the U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership in general and its relevance in the Indo-Pacific region, in particular. Among others, it looked 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.

Prabudh Sharma, President, Raytheon Technologies in India and South Asia said that India enjoys the advantage of the availability of low-cost manpower. He drew a comparison that if an engineer charges USD 300 per hour in the U.S., an engineer in India will probably charge about USD 30 per hour. This makes the defense manufacturing sector attractive to investors.

Speaking about the changing of the ecosystem induced by the rapid technological pace, Lt. Gen. Arun Sahni (Retd.), former General Officer Commanding in South Western Command Chief of the Indian Army said that there have been revolutionary changes in Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR). Algorithm warfare, Nano-technology, the relevance of lower orbit satellites, integrated kill chain, and hybrid firepower are the new era of warfare and technological upgradation is a must.

Lt. Gen. Anil Kumar Ahuja (Retd.), former Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence, Indian Co-chair of the U.S.-India Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) Inter Agency Task Force and a distinguished fellow at CUTS Washington DC Center said that the U.S.-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) has elevated and expanded the strategic technology partnership and defense industrial cooperation between these two countries. It provides a platform for achieving technological convergence.

For a comprehensive global and regional strategic partnership, the U.S. and India must form a joint task force to resolve the issue of U.S. sanctions on countries in and beyond the Indo-Pacific *vis-a-vis* India’s diplomatic, economic, and strategic position towards those countries, he added.

Among other distinguished speakers at Dialogues on “Deliverables to Deliveries”, were Manjari Singh, Assistant Professor, Amity Institute of International Studies, Amity University, Maj. Gen. Sudhakar Jee (Retd.), Former member of Board and Vice President, L&T Defence and Consultant/Advisor, Defense and Aerospace; Cmde. Mukesh Bhargava (Retd.) Former Member of Board and Vice President, L&T Defence and Consultant/Advisor, Defence and Aerospace.

With its headquarters in Jaipur, India, CUTS International has regional centres in Accra, Lusaka and Nairobi covering West, Southern and East Africa. Besides them, it has centres in Hanoi, Geneva and Washington DC. In India, it has a regional centre in Kolkata, a rural development centre in Chittorgarh and a liaison office in New Delhi.

<https://cuts-global.org/media-india-us-collaboration-necessary-for-free-open-and-resilient-indo-pacific.htm>

अमेरिकी वाणिज्य दूतावास कोलकाता और सीयूटीएस इंटरनेशनल ने "रक्षा समाचार कॉन्क्लेव" की मेजबानी की

NDNews24X7, September 21, 2023

जयपुर अमेरिकी महावाणिज्य दूतावास, कोलकाता और सीयूटीएस इंटरनेशनल (सीयूटीएस) ने मीडिया को यह सूचित करने के लिए कहा है कि संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका और भारत के बीच वाणिज्य रक्षा संबंध मजबूत हैं, और बहुत तेजी से बढ़ रहा है, एक दिव्य विद्यालय का आयोजन, जिसका शीर्षक था "डिफेंस न्यूज़ कॉन्फ्रेंस वॉल्युफ़: यूएस-इंडिया डिफेंस एंड रीडरशिप मैगज़ीन की कहानियाँ।"

मीडिया, थिंक टैंक, रक्षा विशेषज्ञ, रक्षा उद्योग के नेताओं और नागरिक समाज के 100 से अधिक संघों ने हाल ही में संयुक्त रूप से राष्ट्रपति जो बिडेन और प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के साथ मिलकर सकारात्मक विपक्ष पर ध्यान केंद्रित करने के लिए जयपुर में आयोजित किया। हाइब्रिड प्रोग्राम में भाग लिया। जो दावा करता है कि अमेरिका-भारत साझेदारी में एक व्यापक वैश्विक साझेदारी विकसित हुई है, जिसमें संयुक्त अनुसंधान शामिल है, सह-विकास और उच्च-स्तरीय रक्षा सामांय का उत्पादन और भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में अध्ययन सहयोग शामिल है। सामान्य रूप से अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा और सुरक्षा के अच्छे ढांचे और विशेष रूप से भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र में इसका प्रकाशन केंद्रीकृत दो सत्रों में हुआ था। अन्य बातों के अलावा, इसमें एक स्वतंत्र, खुले, समग्र और समृद्ध भारत-प्रशांत क्षेत्र को सुरक्षित करने के लिए मीलों के पथरों और समुदायों और कमियों को स्थापित और हासिल करने पर ध्यान दिया गया।

आरंभिक टिप्पणी में सीयूटीएस इंटरनेशनल (सीयूटीएस) के पीपीआई पी एस एस मेहता ने कहा कि अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा आपूर्ति की पूरी क्षमता का उपयोग करने में अमेरिकियों की एक विशाल श्रृंखला की सीमा है, क्योंकि यह समुद्र से अंतरिक्ष तक, सुरक्षा से स्वास्थ्य और ऊर्जा तक है। शिक्षा से लेकर मानव प्रयास तक का मूलाधार बिखरा हुआ है। 2047 तक भारत को एक विकसित देश बनाने के दृष्टिकोण में, अमेरिका में एक प्रमुख भूमिका निभाई जा रही है।

भारत में संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के दूतावास के एयर अताशे (अटैची), कर्नल एरॉन जे. कूपर ने कहा कि अमेरिका और भारत कभी-कभी श्रृंखला में शामिल नहीं होते हैं, वह इंटरनेट के सूचना कनेक्शन के माध्यम से हो या वैश्विक आपूर्ति के माध्यम से। कर्नल कूपर ने कहा, अमेरिका और भारत दोनों स्वतंत्र और खुले, जुड़े हुए, समृद्ध, सुरक्षित और स्थिर इंडो-पैसिफिक के महत्व के हैं और दोनों देश अकेले हैं, किसी एक देश के लिए इन लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करना संभव नहीं है। अमेरिकी इंडो-पैसिफिक रणनीति का एक महत्वपूर्ण सिद्धांत यह है कि इस क्षेत्र के लिए अकेले लक्ष्य को एक देश द्वारा हासिल नहीं किया जा सकता है। उन्होंने कहा, इसलिए, यह जरूरी है कि दुनिया के दो प्रमुख लोकतंत्रों अमेरिका और भारत को अपने क्षेत्र के अन्य सहयोगियों के साथ मिलकर लक्ष्य हासिल करने की दिशा में काम करना चाहिए।

पहले सत्र के विषय 'अमेरिका-भारत रक्षा और भागीदारी में परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्रों और अभिसरण के बढ़ते क्षेत्रों का मसला' पर चर्चा करते हुए लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल सुब्रत साहा (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा। राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार बोर्ड के पूर्व और सदस्य सेना के उपप्रमुख ने कहा कि भारत और अमेरिका ने अपने सिद्धांतों और विश्वासों के आधार पर साझीदारों की एक विस्तृत श्रृंखला बनाई है। दोनों देशों में लोकतांत्रिक संरचना, पुर्तगालियों के खिलाफ लड़ाई और सामूहिक विनाश के सिद्धांत समान सिद्धांत हैं।

औद्योगिक रक्षा स्टाफ (नीति योजना और बल विकास) के पूर्व उप प्रमुख और अमेरिकी-भारत रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकी और व्यापार पहल (डीटीआई) इंटर एजेंसी टास्क फोर्स के भारतीय सह-अध्यक्ष लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल अनिल कुमार आहूजा (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि क्रिटिकल एंड इमर्जिंग टेक्नोलॉजी (iCET) अमेरिकी-भारत पहल पर, देशों के बीच प्रतिष्ठित और रक्षा औद्योगिक सहयोग को बढ़ाने और प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करने के लिए तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करने के लिए मंच प्रदान करता है।

डिफेंस एंड इंस्टीट्यूट के प्रमुख कर्नल मानवेंद्र सिंह (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि दो देशों- अमेरिका और भारत के बीच संबंध दर्शन और समुदाय आते हैं। यह केवल हार्ड-कोर सेलिंग पर प्रतिबंध नहीं हो सकता है। इसे अंदर आने की जरूरत है। कर्नल सिंह ने कहा, मजबूत अमेरिका-भारत संबंध सुनिश्चित करने के लिए यह महत्वपूर्ण है कि दोनों देशों के संयुक्त अनुसंधान और विकास की दिशा में काम शुरू हो और फिर संयुक्त उत्पादन और संयुक्त उद्यम की दिशा में काम हो। तीव्र तकनीकी गति से प्रेरित प्रेरणा तंत्र में बदलाव के बारे में बताया गया।

भारतीय सेना के दक्षिण पश्चिमी कमान के पूर्व जनरल ऑफिसर कमांडिंग लेफ्टिनेंट जनरल अरुण साहनी (सेवानिवृत्त) ने कहा कि खुफिया, निगरानी और टोही में क्रांतिकारी बदलाव किए गए हैं। (आर एस एस). एल्गोरिथम वॉर, एथिक्स-प्रौद्योगिकी, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक क्लास के उपग्रहों की कमी, एकीकृत मार्क श्रृंखला और हाइब्रिड मार्क क्षमता युद्ध का नया युग है।

रेथियॉन इंडिया और दक्षिण एशिया के अध्यक्ष अमिताभ शर्मा ने कहा कि भारत को कम कीमत वाली जनशक्ति का लाभ मिलता है। यदि अमेरिका में एक इंजीनियर प्रति घंटा 300 अमेरिकी डॉलर शुल्क लेता है, तो भारत में एक इंजीनियर की संभावना 30 अमेरिकी डॉलर प्रति घंटे का शुल्क। यह रक्षा विनिर्माण क्षेत्र को उद्यमों के लिए बनाया गया है।

अन्य प्रतिष्ठित धारावाहिकों में मंजरी सिंह, सहायक प्रोफेसर, एमिटी इंस्टीट्यूट टाइम्स ऑफ इंटरनेशनल स्टडीज, एमिटी यूनिवर्सिटी, नयनिमा बसु, संपादक, विदेशी मामले, रणनीति और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा, एबीपी लाइव (एबीपी नेटवर्क), रितु शर्मा, वरिष्ठ शिक्षक, द यूरोशियन; मेजर जनरल सुधाकर जी (सेवानिवृत्त), बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस; कमोडोर मुकेश गर्ग (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी, संपादक, द रिपब्लिक टाइम्स शामिल थे। एमिटी इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंटरनेशनल स्टडीज, एमिटी यूनिवर्सिटी, नयनिमा बसु, संपादक, विदेशी मामले, रणनीति और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा, एबीपी लाइव (एबीपी नेटवर्क), रितु शर्मा, वरिष्ठ शिक्षक, यूरोशियन; मेजर जनरल सुधाकर जी (सेवानिवृत्त), बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और

सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस; कमोडोर मुकेश गर्ग (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी, संपादक, द रिपब्लिक टाइम्स शामिल थे। एमिटी इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ इंटरनेशनल स्टडीज, एमिटी यूनिवर्सिटी, नयनिमा बसु, संपादक, विदेशी मामले, रणनीति और राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा, एबीपी लाइव (एबीपी नेटवर्क), रितु शर्मा, वरिष्ठ शिक्षक, यूरेशियन; मेजर जनरल सुधाकर जी (सेवानिवृत्त), बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस; कमोडोर मुकेश गर्ग (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी, संपादक, द रिपब्लिक टाइम्स शामिल थे। रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस; कमोडोर मुकेश गर्ग (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी, संपादक, द रिपब्लिक टाइम्स शामिल थे। रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस; कमोडोर मुकेश गर्ग (सेवानिवृत्त) बोर्ड के पूर्व सदस्य और उपाध्यक्ष, एलएंडटी रक्षा और सलाहकार/सलाहकार, रक्षा और एयरोस्पेस और दीपांजन आर चौधरी, संपादक, द रिपब्लिक टाइम्स शामिल थे।

November 21, 2023, Mumbai

U.S.-India Defense Partnership is Now at An All-Time High

Real Voice of India, APN News and SmartGovernance, November 21, 2023

U.S.-India Defense Partnership is functioning at an all-time high said Rear Admiral Michael Baker, Senior Defense Official and Defense Attaché at the U.S. Embassy, New Delhi.

Rear Admiral was speaking at a day-long workshop titled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” organised by the U.S. Department of State through the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata and CUTS International.

Arguing that the U.S.-India defense partnership is important for establishing peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific Region, the U.S. Senior Defense Official further said that this partnership has various opportunities such as ammunition, aircraft, underwater awareness technology, and cyber security.

He added, that moving ahead, the U.S.-India strategic partnership is following a three-prong strategy viz. defense-industrial cooperation, contemporary operational partnership, and future emerging domain for investment and partnership.

Rear Admiral Baker, mentioned that in June 2023 Secretary of Defense Lloyd J Austin endorsed a new roadmap for defense Industrial cooperation between the two countries. The framework of the roadmap can be found online. The core of the plan is to partner together to accelerate and deepen integration between Defense Industrial sectors.

Vice Admiral Girish Luthra (Retd.), former Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command mentioned that the U.S.-India Defense Partnership is a broad-based, multisectoral, and multidomain partnership. He informed that there are three pillars of the U.S.-India comprehensive strategic partnership – working together on local and global issues in the Indo-Pacific; cooperation among armed forces of the two countries; and the defense technology, defense trade, and equipment systems.

Delivering the Opening Remarks, Greg Pardo, Spokesperson, U.S. Consulate General Mumbai said the U.S. considers India as a key partner in the Indo-Pacific and India and vice versa. Therefore, he underlined the need to take advantage of the momentum built on this

synergy and strengthen bilateral ties encompassing people-to-people ties, and industrial & academic collaborations.

The workshop was spread across two sessions viz—U.S.-India Cooperation in Next Level Warfare and the Significance of U.S.-India Naval Collaboration. It informed the participants that the bilateral defense relationship between the U.S. and India is robust and continues to grow.

The first session underlined the significance of the U.S.-India defense partnership for 21st-century modern warfare including understanding the dimensions of Hybrid warfare as a subset of statecraft that uses diplomacy, information, military, and economic elements (DIME).

Lt. Gen. Subrata Saha (Retd.), Former Deputy Chief of Army Staff said today we are moving into an era of manoeuvres of technology over manoeuvre of forces in future wars. Grey Zone warfare and non-contact warfare are witnessing an explosion of innovative exploitation of dual-use technologies.

Lt. Gen. Sanjay Verma (Retd.), Former Director General Weapons and Equipment, Ministry of Defense and Consultant, DRDO held that the Indian private industry is thriving now and we are shifting gears in innovation. India is driving force is software and this will help both (U.S. and India) to strengthen this cooperation.

Discussions in the second session highlighted India's National Security Apparatus including Maritime Security on the Eastern Coast of Africa, and the Arabian Sea, and the Strategic Defense Partnership in the Indo-Pacific Region.

KP Vijayalakshmi, Professor & Head, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Manipal University pointed out that interdependence and interconnectedness are the bedrock of U.S.-India naval collaboration. The naval collaboration between the U.S. and Indian navy is the best thing.

Cmde. Srikant B Kesnur (Retd.), Former Director of the Maritime Warfare Center in Mumbai said that there are some areas of greater maritime cooperation between India and the U.S. One is the agreement and exchanges, another one is operational interaction and this is the area where deliverables have become the deliveries.

Among other distinguished speakers at Dialogues on “Deliverables to Deliveries” were Cmde. Mukesh Bhargava (Retd.), Deputy Chairman, Defense & Aerospace Committee, FICCI Gujarat and Senior Advisor, Defense & Aerospace Committee, CM Madhya Pradesh; Capt. Nikunj Parashar (Retd.), Founder, Sagar Defense Engineering Pvt. Ltd; Shrikant

Paranjpe, Honorary Adjunct Professor, Department of Defense and Strategic Studies, Savitribai Phule Pune University; Alaric Diniz, Partner, Aerospace & Defense, Deloitte, India; Sandhya Sharma, Editor, Technology Policy and Foreign Policy, ET Prime and Rahesha Sehgal, Anchor, WION News.

More than 60 representatives from the media think tanks, defense experts, defense industry leaders and civil society participated in the hybrid event hosted in Mumbai.

With its headquarters in Jaipur, India, CUTS International has regional centres in Accra, Lusaka and Nairobi covering West, Southern and East Africa. Besides them, it has centres in Hanoi, Geneva and Washington DC. In India, it has a regional centre in Kolkata, a rural development centre in Chittorgarh and a liaison office in New Delhi.

<https://cuts-global.org/media-us-india-defense-partnership-is-now-at-an-all-time-high-november-21-2023.htm>

<https://www.smartgovernance.in/u-s-india-defence-partnership-at-an-all-time-high/>

https://www.divyabhaskar.co.in/national/news/us-india-defense-partnership-at-all-time-high-132174531.html?branch_match_id=1258333536738879445&utm_campaign=132174531&utm_medium=sharing&branch_referrer=H4sIAAAAAAAAAA8soKSkottLXT8ksq0zUTdLLzNMvNHHLqyiLqAh1TQIANp7rNx4AAAA%3D

हिंदुस्थान-अमेरिकासंरक्षण भागीदारीअधिक घट्ट; आतापर्यंतचीसर्वोच्चपातळीगाठल्याचावरिष्ठसंरक्षण अधिकाऱ्याचादावा

Saamna, November 22, 2023

हिंदुस्थान-अमेरिकासंरक्ष भागीदारीहीदोन्हीदेशांच्याआतापर्यंतच्याउच्चपातळीवर असल्याचादावावरिष्ठसंरक्षण अधिकारीआणिदिल्लीतील अमेरिकीदूतावासाशीजोडलेलेरियर अँडमिरल मायकेल बेकर यांनीकेलाआहे.

कोलकाताविभागातील अमेरिकाचावाणिज्यदूतावास आणिCUTS इंटरनॅशनल यांच्यामार्फत अमेरिकीराज्यविभागाने21 नोव्हेंबर 2023 रोजीआयोजित केलेल्या'डिफेन्सन्यूज कॉन्क्लेव्ह: स्टोरीज ऑफ यू.एस.-इंडियाडिफेन्सअँड सिक्युरिटीपार्टनरशिप' याएक दिवसीय कार्यशाळेत रिअर अँडमिरल बोलत होते. मुंबईतआयोजित केलेल्याहायब्रीड कार्यक्रमात मीडिया, थिंक टँक आणिसंरक्षण तज्ज्ञ, संरक्षण उद्योगातील नेतेआणिनागरीसमाजातील 60 हून अधिक प्रतिनिधींनीभाग घेतला.

इंडो-पॅसिफिक प्रदेशात शांतताआणिस्थैर्यप्रस्थापित करण्यासाठीअमेरिका-हिंदुस्थान संरक्षण भागीदारीमहत्वाचीआहे, असायुक्तिवाद करून, अमेरिकेचेवरिष्ठसंरक्षण अधिकारीपुढेम्हणालेकीयाभागीदारीमध्येदारूगोळा, विमाने, सागरीतळ आणिसीमाजागरूकतातंत्रज्ञान आणिसायबर सुरक्षायासारख्याविविध विभागांमध्येविकास साधण्याचीसंधीआहे.

तेपुढेम्हणालेकी, अमेरिका-हिंदुस्थान धोरणात्मक भागीदारीत्रिस्तरीय धोरणांवर काम करत आहे. संरक्षण- औद्योगिक सहकार्य, समकालीन परिचालन भागीदारीआणिभविष्यातील गुंतवणूक व भागीदारीसाठीउदयोन्मुख डोमेन.

नमूद केलंकीहिंदुस्थान-अमेरिकासंरक्षण भागीदारीहीव्यापक-आधारित, बहुक्षेत्रीय आणिबहु-डोमेन भागीदारीआहे. इंडो-पॅसिफिकमधील स्थानिक आणिजागतिक समस्यांवर एकत्रकाम करणे; दोन्हीदेशांच्यासशस्त्रदलांमध्येसहकार्य; आणिसंरक्षण तंत्रज्ञान, संरक्षण व्यापार आणिउपकरणेप्रणालीअशाहिंदुस्थान-अमेरिकासर्वसमावेशक धोरणात्मक भागीदारीचेतीन स्तंभ आहेत.

उद्घाटनाचेभाषण देताना, अमेरिकीकॉन्सुलेट जनरल मुंबईचेप्रवक्तेग्रेग पारडोम्हणालेकी, अमेरिकाहिंदुस्थानलाइंडो-पॅसिफिक आणिहिंदुस्थानातील प्रमुख भागीदार मानते. त्यामुळे, यासमन्वयावर निर्माण झालेल्यागतीचालाभ घेण्याचीआणिलोकांशीअसलेलेसंबंध आणिऔद्योगिक आणिशैक्षणिक सहकार्ययांचासमावेश असलेलेद्विपक्षीय संबंध मजबूत करण्याचीगरज त्यांनीअधोरेखित केली.

हीकार्यशाळादोन सत्रांमध्ये घेण्यात आली होती- नेक्स्टलेव्हल वॉरफेअरमध्ये यूएस-इंडिया कोऑपरेशन आणि यूएस-इंडियानेव्हल कोलॅबोरेशनचे महत्त्व. युनायटेड स्टेट्स आणि हिंदुस्थान यांच्यातील द्विपक्षीय संरक्षण संबंध मजबूत असून ते वाढतच चालले असल्याची माहिती त्यांनी सहभागींना दिली.

पहिल्या सत्रात 21 व्या शतकातील आधुनिक युद्धासाठी हिंदुस्थान-अमेरिका संरक्षण भागीदारीचे महत्त्व अधोरेखित करण्यात आले, ज्यामध्ये मुत्सद्देगिरी, माहिती, लष्करी आणि आर्थिक घटक (DIME) वापरणाऱ्या राज्यकन्याचा उपसंच म्हणून हायब्रिड युद्धाचे परिमाण समजून घेण्यासारख्या विषयांवर पॅनल मधील सहभागी निमंत्रितांनी महत्त्वाचे मुद्दे मांडले.

लेफ्टनंट जनरल सुब्रत साहा (निवृत्त), माजी लष्करप्रमुख म्हणाले की, आज आपण भविष्यातील युद्धांमध्ये सैन्याच्या वापरापेक्षा तंत्रज्ञानाच्या युक्तींचा वापर होत असलेल्या युगाकडे वाटचाल करत आहोत. ग्रेझोन युद्ध आणि संपर्काशिवायचे युद्ध असे नाविन्यपूर्ण युद्ध आता पाहायला मिळत आहे. ज्यासाठी तयार राहणं, सतर्कता बाळगणं अगदी आवश्यक असल्याची ही ते म्हणाले.

लेफ्टनंट जनरल संजय वर्मा (निवृत्त), माजी महासंचालक शस्त्रे आणि उपकरणे, संरक्षण मंत्रालय आणि सल्लागार, डीआरडीओ यांनी असंसांगित लंकी हिंदुस्थानात खासगी उद्योगांची आता भरभराट होत आहे आणि नवीकल्पना येत आहेत. हिंदुस्थान हे सॉफ्टवेअर क्षेत्रात अग्रेसर आणि प्रेरक काम करत आहे आणि हे सहकार्य मजबूत करण्यासाठी दोन्ही देश (अमेरिका आणि हिंदुस्थान) मदत करतील.

मुंबईतील सागरी युद्ध केंद्राचे माजी संचालक श्रीकांत बीकेसनूर (निवृत्त) म्हणाले की, हिंदुस्थान आणि अमेरिका यांच्यात सागरी सहकार्याची काही क्षेत्रे आहेत, एक म्हणजे करार आणि देवाणघेवाण, दुसरे म्हणजे ऑपरेशनल संवाद.

‘डिलिव्हरी टू डिलिव्हरी’ या विषयावरील संवादातील इतर मान्यवर वक्त्यांमध्ये मुकेश भार्गव (निवृत्त), उपाध्यक्ष, संरक्षण आणि एरोस्पेस समिती, FICCI गुजरात आणि वरिष्ठ सल्लागार, संरक्षण आणि एरोस्पेस समिती, सीएम मध्य प्रदेश; कॅप्टन निकुंज पराशर (निवृत्त), संस्थापक, सागर डिफेन्स इंजिनिअरिंग प्रा. लिमिटेड; श्रीकांत परांजपे, मानद सहायक प्राध्यापक, डिपार्टमेंट ऑफ डिफेन्स अँड स्ट्रॅटेजिक स्टडीज, सावित्रीबाई फुले पुणे विद्यापीठ; ॲलॅरिक डिनीज, एरोस्पेस आणि डिफेन्स डिलोइट; संध्याशर्मा, संपादक, तंत्रज्ञान धोरण आणि परराष्ट्र धोरण, ईटीप्राइम आणि रेशा सहगल, ॲकर, वीऑन न्यूज यांनी सहभाग नोंदवला.

India's Security Wake-Up Call: Critical Imperatives in The Face of Non-Contact Warfare

Raksha Anirveda, November 24, 2023

Warren Buffett, the renowned investor, made a thought-provoking observation during the 2008 financial crisis. He noted that the term “weapons of mass destruction” isn’t limited solely to nuclear weapons; it extends to encompass various other realms, including financial instruments.

In the ever-evolving landscape of warfare, technological advancements have ushered in a new era of strategic possibilities. The integration of long-range missiles, precision-guided smart weapons, unmanned systems, robots, and satellites has given military strategists a transformative edge. This paradigm shift in warfare, driven predominantly by cutting-edge technology, is aptly coined as “Non-Contact” or “Non-Contact Warfare.”

In essence, this form of warfare leverages a comprehensive utilisation of national capabilities in a seamlessly integrated fashion. Its primary objective is to achieve swift and decisive victories by remotely disrupting, denying, and destroying the enemy’s war-waging potential. This is executed through the precise delivery of destructive kinetic energy and the strategic application of soft power, facilitated by relentless information operations.

The overarching goal is to dismantle the enemy’s command and control systems and war infrastructure. This comprehensive approach encompasses information warfare and operations, missile warfare, remote warfare through drone attacks, and the strategic integration of robotics. All of this unfolds within an environment characterised by battlefield transparency and facilitated by cutting-edge Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition, and Reconnaissance (C4ISTAR) systems.

Former Army chief General Bipin Rawat emphasised the imperative role of the Army in embracing technological advancements, stressing the significance of non-contact warfare as a pivotal strategy for gaining an edge over adversaries in the future.

General Rawat, in remarks made a few years ago, highlighted the growing relevance of non-contact warfare in the landscape of upcoming conflicts. He clarified that this shift towards non-contact warfare does not diminish the importance of the infantry—the soldiers on the ground armed with rifles—whose relevance will persist across ages.

The General underscored that non-contact warfare is poised to provide a crucial advantage in future conflicts. He emphasised the necessity of comprehending the specific context that demands a strategic move in this direction. In essence, General Bipin Rawat’s perspective echoed the conviction that leveraging technological innovations and embracing non-contact

warfare is essential for maintaining a strategic advantage in the evolving dynamics of modern warfare.

Implications and world at large

When it comes to modern warfare, cyber warfare has become an indispensable component, seamlessly integrated into military strategies. The U.S. Department of Defence defines cyber operations as the integrated employment of Electronic Warfare (EW), Computer Net Operations, Military Deception, Psychological Operations, and Operational Security. This orchestrated approach aims to influence, disrupt, correct, or undermine the adversary's decision-making processes while safeguarding one's own interests.

In the realm of artillery, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) take centre stage, directing fire assaults and conducting Post Strike Damage Assessment (PSDA) for any firepower engagement. The utilisation of satellites, UAVs, and on-the-ground agents in enemy territory plays a pivotal role in target acquisition for Missiles and Precision Guided Munitions (PGMs), aligning with the broader strategy of Non-Contact Warfare.

Artificial intelligence, notably in the form of robotics, emerges as a significant player in this paradigm. Robots equipped for multifaceted soldiering tasks, coupled with Unmanned Ground Vehicles (UGVs) and Unmanned Surface Vehicles (USVs), revolutionise operations in both land and sea theatres.

Delving into the specifics of Non-Contact Warfare, envisioning its application in an advanced armed forces scenario unfolds a strategic sequence. The initiation involves targeting communication and reconnaissance satellites in outer space. Subsequent stages encompass Information Operations, designed to disorient and confuse the enemy by manipulating power grids and disseminating false information. The culmination of this orchestrated assault involves a barrage of artillery and missiles. Finally, the deployment of robots via unmanned helicopters takes the forefront in ground combat, seizing objectives and paving the way for the subsequent entry of ground troops to secure the area through strategic link-ups.

Wars of the 21st Century and India's Need of the hour

During a recent workshop organised by CUTS International on 'Deliverables to Deliveries', Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership, Lt Gen Subrata Saha (retd), Former Deputy Chief of Army Staff posed a critical question during his address at an event, prompting a profound examination of the evolving nature of threats. He asked, "Given the kind of threats that are evolving, do we have the luxury anymore to be as deliberate as we have been in the past?"

This thought-provoking question catalyses discussions on the concept of future warfare. Lt Gen Saha goes on to assert that the nation is already embroiled in a state of grey zone war with China, constituting a significant threat. He draws attention to the intricate web of

geopolitical complexities, including a nexus between China and Pakistan, the establishment of submarine bases in Bangladesh and Myanmar, and a new government in the Maldives that has expressed the desire for the withdrawal of Indian military forces in its initial interactions with an Indian minister. Lt Gen Saha suggests that behind these developments, discernible forces are at play.

Considering this geopolitical landscape, Lt Gen Saha contends that the nation is standing on the precipice of non-contact warfare, a future paradigm where traditional military strategies may no longer be as effective.

What India should be prepared for?

Lt Gen Subrata Saha's insights underscore the imperative for India to prepare for potential threats in various domains. In the realm of space, he emphasises the need for India to anticipate and mitigate threats to its space assets. The effects of such threats could be far-reaching, impacting communications, command and control systems, intelligence gathering, surveillance capabilities, and the utilisation of sensors and weapon systems.

In the context of cyber threats, it is essential to point to the experiences of the previous year, highlighting the clear and present danger posed by cyber adversaries. The nature of these threats, whether in the public domain or undisclosed, represents a significant challenge that requires comprehensive cybersecurity measures.

Additionally, the reference to the cutting of subsea cables off the coast of Taiwan serves as a reminder of the vulnerabilities associated with undersea communication infrastructure. Given India's extensive network of subsea cables that connect it with the rest of the world, addressing potential threats to this vital connectivity becomes a critical consideration. The collaborative nature of addressing such challenges, emphasises that no single country, including India or the U.S., can effectively deal with these threats alone. The necessity for like-minded nations to join forces in confronting emerging threats in this century becomes paramount for collective security and resilience.

Incoming Autonomous Threats

The importance of acknowledging and addressing the autonomous systems being developed, particularly by the People's Republic of China stands unavoidable. The advancement and public display of such autonomous technologies present a strategic consideration for India, highlighting the need to stay abreast of technological developments that could impact national security.

Looking beyond traditional warfare, the multifaceted nature of future conflicts should be sketched out with gravity. Information warfare, psychological warfare, propaganda, influence operations, and electoral manipulation are identified as key elements in the arsenal of contemporary warfare. And pointing to instances, such as the alleged manipulation of

Canadian elections by China, as indicative of the evolving strategies employed by state actors to achieve their objectives.

Recognizing the interconnected and global nature of these challenges, the inadequacy of individual countries dealing with such threats alone gets naturally highlighted. A collaborative approach, stressing the importance of like-minded nations coming together to address the complexities of modern warfare should not go unseen. This collective effort becomes essential to confront the diverse array of challenges that exploit social, cultural, and political fault lines, requiring a united response to safeguard shared interests.

The Bottom Line

The emerging era indeed emphasises the strategic significance of technology and its role in shaping the battlefield. In light of this transformative shift, the call for much deeper, stronger, and comprehensive partnerships with like-minded nations becomes imperative. Collaborative efforts enable the pooling of resources, the sharing of technological expertise, and the development of joint strategies to effectively navigate the challenges presented by the evolving nature of warfare.

These partnerships extend beyond traditional military alliances and encompass collaborative initiatives in areas such as intelligence sharing, cybersecurity, technological innovation, and diplomatic efforts. Recognizing shared values and interests, like-minded nations can forge alliances that enhance their collective capabilities, resilience, and ability to respond to multifaceted threats.

<https://raksha-anirveda.com/indias-security-alert-imperatives-in-non-contact-warfare/#:~:text=The%20overarching%20goal%20is%20to,the%20strategic%20integration%20of%20robotics.>

January 05, 2024, Hyderabad

Leveraging Big Data and Regulatory Frameworks to Strengthen Indo-U.S. AI Ties

The News Hashtag, January 06, 2024

In the context of evolving U.S.-China relations, experts emphasize the pivotal role of big data tailored for artificial intelligence (AI) and the establishment of a robust regulatory framework in deepening Indo-U.S. AI relations. This was discussed during a workshop on “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership,” jointly organised by CUTS International, U.S. Consulate Hyderabad, and the U.S. Consulate Kolkata.

Defense experts highlighted the current AI landscape in India and underscored the imperative for collaborative efforts in this sector. Lt. Gen. (Retd) Anil Kapoor, Board Member of Technology Innovation Hub Governing Body, emphasised, “When considering AI from a defense perspective, there must be clarity on trust in data, the volume of data, and the typical characteristics of big data. India is still consolidating big data. Despite having a substantial digital public infrastructure, more data needs to be generated for AI in defense.”

He added, “The data we currently possess is oriented towards business and augmented intelligence. For defense, joint efforts between India and the U.S. are essential to creating a singular source of truth.” The ongoing ‘U.S.-India Artificial Intelligence (USIAI) initiative serves as a platform for bilateral cooperation on AI and R&D between the two nations.

Major General (Retd) Pawan Anand, Head of AtmaNirbhar Bharat Initiative at the United Service Institution of India, underscored the necessity of using data conditioned specifically for AI. “Synthetic data fed to AI is likely to yield inaccurate results. Therefore, it is crucial to use data conditioned for AI, an area where India currently lacks and requires support from the U.S. While substantial dialogues on AI are already underway, the focus should now shift to establishing regulatory framework mechanisms for AI,” he remarked.

Defense stands as a linchpin in Indo-U.S. relations, with bilateral defense trade reaching US\$5 billion, according to U.S. Consul General Jennifer Larson.

<https://thenewshashtag.com/leveraging-big-data-and-regulatory-frameworks-to-strengthen-indo-us-ai-ties/>

For a Free, Open, Inclusive and Prosperous Indo-Pacific Region

HANS INDIA, January 06, 2024

To facilitate dialogue between experts and participants for the relevance of the U.S.-India Defence and Security Partnership, the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, the U.S. Department of State, and CUTS International (a leading public body) organised a day-long workshop titled ‘Dialogues on “Deliverables to Deliveries”’ in the city on Friday.

The workshop was spread across two sessions that focused on disseminating a better understanding of good practices between the U.S.A and India in the joint development of advanced defence-related technologies, especially in the context of evolving geopolitical, including geo-strategic and geo-economic developments in the Indo-Pacific region.

In her opening remarks during the day-long session, Jennifer Larson, Consul General, U.S. Consulate, Hyderabad, said, “A few areas of U.S.-India relations have seen as much recent progress as the defence relationship. Over the last two decades, the U.S. has become a significant supplier of defence equipment to India and has become India’s largest military exercise partner.”

She added that “the bilateral defence trade with India has grown exponentially year-over-year. We were at essentially zero in 2008, and that number has grown to reach almost US \$25 billion by the end of 2023.”

Consul General Larson stated that several U.S. aerospace companies have established partnerships with Indian counterparts, facilitating technology transfer and enhancing indigenous defence production capabilities in India, including several taking place in Hyderabad. “Together, both nations have taken steps to improve inter-operability and coordination and signed technical agreements to further expand India’s access to high-end American defence technology.”

Addressing distinguished panellists and workshop participants, the Consul General also discussed the increase in joint U.S.-India military exercises and cooperation, “including those involving the U.S. and Indian Navies held at Visakhapatnam, the headquarters of the Indian Navy’s Eastern Command. Joint service exercises like Tiger Triumph are important as they help our navies work effectively, side-by-side, in providing disaster relief for communities devastated by tsunamis, earthquakes, and floods across the region.”

The day-long workshop also focused on the joint exploration and opportunities in high-tech defence innovation, cyber and industrial collaboration, the Security of Supply Agreement (SOSA), the assessment of threat perceptions, and regional trends. As the Indo-Pacific region

will be a deciding factor in this relationship, the workshop dwelt upon the global strategic cooperation and interoperability between the navies of India and the USA in crucial geostrategic domains and the potential collaboration between them in the Indian Ocean.

<https://www.thehansindia.com/telangana/hyderabad-for-a-free-open-inclusive-and-prosperous-indo-pacific-region-849434>

February 06, 2024, Chennai

U.S. Consulate and CUTS International Organise Workshop on Defense News in Chennai

Chennai Vision, February 07, 2024

The U.S. Consulate General Chennai, the U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, and CUTS International organised a day-long workshop in Chennai today entitled “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership” to highlight the strength of the bilateral defense and security partnership between the U.S. and India and the growing U.S.-India strategic relationship in the Indo-Pacific region.

In the Welcome remarks, Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International, began by highlighting the dynamic U.S.-India cooperation, where the two countries have evolved as the most valued partners in today’s geopolitical scenario.

He mentioned that owing to the converging security and strategic interests, embedded in the commitment to promoting a resilient, rules-based international order, substantial bilateral progress has been witnessed through the ideation and execution of a “Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.”

With the backdrop of the 5th Annual India-U.S. 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue (November 2023), the countries have been focused on interoperability and maximisation of shared benefits of agreements.

Mehta suggested that this development must be substantiated in the future with endeavours like the transition into a 3+3 dialogue encompassing trade, intrinsically linked to both foreign policy and defense policy.

In his keynote address, U.S. Consul General in Chennai Christopher Hodges said, “The U.S. and India share a convergence of interests and values and are enjoying a real moment in the bilateral relationship. It’s up to us to take advantage of that momentum and draw from the power and dynamism of our diverse populations to drive research and innovation across the business, education, culture and defense. We must bring all of our talents on both sides to the table to help drive this relationship forward.”

On these lines, the tone was set for the keynote address of S. Christopher, Former Chairman, of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), mentioning the India-U.S. relationship was going through a dynamic transition.

He said that the relationship has been strengthened through a parallel progression of connecting people of both nations, creating newer avenues and also partnerships. In the present scenario, India is on its way to having the maximum number of youth population, looking forward to connecting with the rest of the world and creating further opportunities. Power and partnership model is the new key to connectivity between the two countries.

Another aspect is the establishment of startups, with knowledge in IT and AI. Joint projects are encouraged with possibilities of academicians joining in the industries in the U.S. In addition, there is a costly process of engagement for entering the U.S. market, limiting the projects.

This must be addressed to have a more homogeneous connectivity. DRDO and DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) can look at combining and producing joint equipments, which will not just be cost effective but technologically supreme.

While discussing the theme of the first session, “U.S.-India Industrial and Strategic Collaboration,” Wg Cdr P. Madhusoodanan (Retd.), Vice President, Aerospace and Defense, Tamil Nadu, Chennai, spoke about the co-production and co-development in aerospace and defense, not restricted to the military alone, but holding a much larger domain- aviation, space, and defense.

This creates an opportunity beyond the boundaries. The manufacturing part holds the attention of the MSMEs. Lt. Gen Anil Ahuja (Retd.), Indian Co-Chair of the U.S.-India Defence Technology and Trade, pointed out that DTII had provided a cushion for adjusting the change between Obama and Trump regimes.

Similarly, iCET will give a smooth transition between the Biden administration and its successors. In this regard, G. Balachandran, former Consultant, Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA) mentioned that India’s technological presence is vital for its future.

Air Marshall M. Matheswaran (Retd.) Founder Chairman and President, The Peninsula Foundation, spoke about the need to intensify cooperation including the sectors of technology transfer.

The second session, on “Security Cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region,” Harinder Sekhon, Former Intelligence and Strategic Analyst with the National Security Council Secretariat, Government of India, mentioned that India is reiterating closer cooperations globally to address challenges in the Indian Ocean Region, especially in sectors of technology and security.

With this perspective, India’s role in the Quad has come to the forefront, as mentioned by V. Adm M.P. Muralidharan (Retd.), who substantially put forth the notion that the joint capabilities of the four countries of the Quad can send a deterrent message to any country which poses a security threat to this group.

This year's upcoming Quad summit will inevitably be a chance for India to work with other countries with mutual interests in the region, to further stabilise its position and collaboratively check any challenges.

Nikhil K. Rao, Managing Director and Chief Engineer for the Boeing India Engineering, Tamil Nadu, mentioned that India is likely to become the largest economy by 2027 and the U.S., the second largest economy by then and this would define the dynamics of the period, drawing attention to partners like the Boeing, which would take a major lead.

As a valuable and reliable friend, such a company has access to holistic weapons from sea bed to outer space and can enhance further outreach of the Indian Navy, in areas of autonomous weapons.

Among other distinguished speakers at the “Defense News Conclave: Stories of U.S.-India Defense and Security Partnership” are Lt. General Anil Ahuja (Retd.), Indian Co-Chair of the U.S. India Defence Technology and Trade; T. Suvarna Raju, Former Chairman and Managing Director, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL); Vijay Sakhuja, Former Director, National Maritime Foundation; Snehesh Alex Philip, Senior Executive Editor, The Print; Cmde. S. Vasan (Retd.), Director General, Chennai Centre for China Studies and Regional Director, National Maritime Foundation, Tamil Nadu.

https://chennaivision.com/u-s-consulate-and-cuts-international-organise-workshop-on-defense-news-in-chennai/#google_vignette

MISCELLANEOUS

India's Defence Offset Policy: Challenges & Opportunities

Economic Times, December 17, 2022

“We need to diversify offsets to non-defence sectors for overall economic benefits,” said Pradeep S. Mehta, Secretary General of CUTS International. “To ensure that, our offset credits are used, we need to move the Defence Offset Facilitation Agency (DOFA) which currently functions under the MoD, to be moved out of MoD to the Ministry of Commerce & Industry or Department of Economic Affairs, as practiced in many countries. Because, being under the Defence Ministry, there are internal blockages which lead to lapses. For example, US\$2.24bn has lapsed last year according to the Defence Ministry in a statement in the parliament.”

Mehta was speaking at a webinar organised by CUTS International under the Defense News Conclave Project, which is being implemented with the support of the U.S. Consulate Kolkata.

Speaking at the event, Kris Osborn, President and Editor-in-Chief, Warrior Maven, said, “It is inspirational to look at what the Pentagon is doing in a technical sense to enhance multi-domain connectivity and the third offset policy” Pentagon is working extensively on collaboration with allies – sharing information and enhancing multi-domain capabilities.

Maven added that new technologies drive the need for new tactics, new implementation and regulatory framework, in this respect U.S. and India may join together for joint technology production.

Air Marshall M Matheswaran (Retd.), Chairman and President, The Peninsula foundation, Chennai, who has been a committee member during the defence offset policy formulation spoke about the importance of technology and India being late to the party to reap the benefits. suggested that India should catch up and apart from indigenous research, a lot of investment in indigenous processes is required.

He further noted that, “offsets are one of the mechanisms through which India should leverage technological capabilities through its large purchases and fill-in the gaps as much as possible for its critical technology requirements”.

He also observed, “There is a need to bring in a holistic approach, bringing in direct and indirect offsets and there is a requirement of National Offset Policy (NOP), as it is an effective tool!”. In the age of upgrades, platforms maybe old and hence they require revamping and holistic outlook.

Sanjay Pulipaka, former Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group, stated that “Offset Policy is not a silver bullet, but it is one among the many policies needed to improve domestic manufacturing in India”. As an independent researcher, he felt the need for a robust professional organisation that deals solely with offsets.

He further spoke about various multipliers introduced in Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020, which includes Transfer of Technology (ToT) as an important element. Since the inception of Defence Offset Policy in 2005, it has met with various challenges but the silver lining is that, the course can be corrected and challenges can be turned into opportunities in times to come.

Kriti Upadhyaya, Vice President, Strategic Advisory, C2Ci Innovations Americas, elaborated that in countries like the U.S., a lot of investment is coming from the private sector and there is an open approach towards governmental policies.

Upadhyaya observed that “there is no need to mandate the offset policy, rather, incentivise it and companies who take up offset policy (voluntarily) should be given tax credits and other benefits and this would further broaden the investments”

Lt. Gen. Anil Kapoor (Retd.), Chairman, National Advisory Committee, Asset Management Society, India, discussed about some of the best practices followed by countries around the globe.

Defence offsets came up from the need to develop capability, the crux of defence offsets is capability development”, adding, we should take long term view as it takes time to develop capabilities.

Partha P Roy Chowdhury, Commercial Lead India for Lockheed Martin, mentioned that, “The aim of policies in India has always been to achieve macro objectives but no one is bothered with micro objectives”, citing an example of Ashok Leyland and Lockheed Martin combining to produce 100% make in India, Light Bullet Proof Vehicle (LBPF).

Amit Cowshish, former Financial Adviser (Acquisition), Ministry of Defence, has been a close watcher of the evolution of this policy. He said that the objectives of India’s defence offset policy is unclear and “for the first 7 years, the DPP (Defence Procurement Procedure) 2005 did not even specify what the objective of the offset policy was”.

There should be an offset contract that enables the vendor the freedom to achieve the objectives. He noted that the text of the policy and guidelines should be clear and training to people who are supposed to manage the offset contract should be looked into.

Workshop on India-U.S. Geo-Political Relations: Past, Present and Future

NE India Broadcast, September 26, 2022

In the context of the India-U.S. bilateral relationship, “There is a need to minimise differences and maximise opportunities” said Lt. Gen (Retd.) D S Hooda, former General Officer Commanding- in-Chief, Indian Army’s Northern Command. He was speaking at a virtual workshop, titled

“India-U.S. Geopolitical Relations: Past, Present and Future” which saw distinguished panellists addressing thematic issues relating to the bilateral partnership, with a special focus on defence ties.”

The workshop was organised by CUTS International under the Defense News Conclave Project, being implemented with the support of the U.S. State Department (U.S. Consulate Kolkata). This project aims at creating awareness about the importance of India-U.S. defense relations, particularly in the context of contemporary developments in the Indo-Pacific region.

Raymond Vickery, Senior Adviser, Albright Stonebridge Group, stated that 1991 was a crucial year for the India-U.S. strategic relationship, being the year the Soviet Union collapsed and India opened up its economy – therefore creating a window for India and the U.S. to cooperate across the board.

While the period from 1947-1991 saw relations fluctuating, including many ups and downs, the trajectory of the relationship since 1991 is noteworthy. He pointed to the period from 2005-2008 being a great breakthrough, when the Civil Nuclear deal was put in place, which was in essence more about the strategic relationship than about civil nuclear cooperation.

Vickery opined that there was a tension between India’s foreign policy and strategic posture. He emphasised that the “strategic values of defending democracy, having non-aggression, building

peace and stability, rule of law, is a very strong factor”, and that the strategic convergence between India and the U.S. should not be restricted to views on border and territorial concerns, but also be on the broader question of values.

Anit Mukherjee, Associate Professor, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, stated, on the other hand, that as opposed to values, the issues which bring India and the U.S. together are interests alone. While the interests don’t align perfectly, Mukherjee observed that “*best friendships are shaped by the*

interests that bind them”, and for India and the U.S., the interests align mainly because of shared concerns of a rising China.

On bilateral defence ties, he noted that the military-military and defense relationship has been growing from strength to strength, across areas of defence trade and joint military exercises.

Mukherjee also stated that at the government-to government level, there is a fair degree of open speak and engagement in the India-U.S. relationship, where they are talking honestly about the things that both divide and unite them.

Swasti Rao, Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA, discussed the evolving multilateralism in the Indo-Pacific region, noting that the various coalitions in the Indo-Pacific address both threat perceptions as well as larger normative goals (climate change, resilient supply chains, green energy, COVID-19 vaccines etc.). In her view, the Transatlantic and the Indo-Pacific security architectures are merging, driven by geopolitical changes. Rao also spoke at length on the role of Europe in the evolving landscape.

Overall, she emphasised the need to “declutter the crowded, complex space of initiatives in the Indo-Pacific.” Pointing out that no two countries can have an identical foreign policy and a complete convergence of interests, she stressed on the imperative of mapping conferences.

Delivering the vote of thanks, Bipul Chatterjee, Executive Director, CUTS International thanked the speakers and audience for their enthusiastic participation. Giving an overview of the workshop series and the roadmap for further activities under this project, he also spoke on the future of the India-U.S. relationship. He highlighted that in the coming decades, the way forward would be for the two great democracies of the world to work together, and show that democracies not just can, but will deliver.

The virtual session saw enthusiastic participation, with over forty participants joining to hear experts deliberate on these issues. This was the final virtual workshop under this series, which have been conceptualised as capacity-building sessions for media professionals, so that they can have a more informed view of defense and strategic matters.

With its headquarters in Jaipur, India, CUTS International has regional centres in Accra, Lusaka and Nairobi covering West, Southern and East Africa. Besides them, it has centres in Hanoi, Geneva and Washington DC. In India, it has a regional centre in Kolkata, a rural development centre in Chittorgarh and a liaison office in New Delhi.

Indo-U.S. Bilateral Ties to Be Built on Greater Understanding and Trust

Sahara Samay, September 26, 2022

In the context of the India-U.S. bilateral relationship, “There is a need to minimise differences and maximise opportunities” said Lt. Gen (Retd.) D S Hooda, former General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Indian Army's Northern Command. He was speaking at a virtual workshop, titled “India-U.S. Geopolitical Relations: Past, Present and Future” which saw distinguished panellists addressing thematic issues relating to the bilateral partnership, with a special focus on defence ties.

The workshop was organised by CUTS International under the Defense News Conclave Project, being implemented with the support of the U.S. State Department.

Gen. Hooda spoke about recent geopolitical events and accompanying strategic realignments, and their consequences in terms of the challenges and opportunities for the India-U.S. relationship. He noted that the India-U.S. partnership is strong today, driven by a recognition of the need to work together to handle geopolitical challenges in the Indo-Pacific region and a rising China.

He pointed out three geopolitical challenges that the relationship will have to navigate:

- (1) the differences over positions on the Russia-Ukraine war, driven by India's strategic autonomy.
- (2) the U.S.' withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Taliban takeover, which has the potential to destabilise the region.
- (3) India-China relations, which have deteriorated over the past two years.

Raymond Vickery, Senior Adviser, Albright Stonebridge Group, stated that 1991 was a crucial year for the India-U.S. strategic relationship, being the year the Soviet Union collapsed and India opened up its economy – therefore creating a window for India and the U.S. to cooperate across the board.

While the period from 1947-1991 saw relations fluctuating, including many ups and downs, the trajectory of the relationship since 1991 is noteworthy. He pointed to the period from 2005-2008 being a great breakthrough, when the Civil Nuclear deal was put in place, which was in essence more about the strategic relationship than about civil nuclear cooperation. Vickery opined that there was a tension between India's foreign policy and strategic posture.

He emphasised that the “strategic values of defending democracy, having non-aggression, building peace and stability, rule of law, is a very strong factor”, and that the strategic convergence between India and the U.S. should not be restricted to views on border and territorial concerns, but also be on the broader question of values.

Anit Mukherjee, Associate Professor, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, stated, on the other hand, that as opposed to values, the issues which bring India and the U.S. together are interests alone. While the interests don’t align perfectly, Mukherjee observed that “best friendships are shaped by the interests that bind them”, and for India and the U.S., the interests align mainly because of shared concerns of a rising China.

On bilateral defence ties, he noted that the military-military and defence relationship has been growing from strength to strength, across areas of defence trade and joint military exercises.

Swasti Rao, Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA, discussed the evolving multilateralism in the Indo-Pacific region, noting that the various coalitions in the Indo-Pacific address both threat perceptions as well as larger normative goals (climate change, resilient supply chains, green energy, COVID-19 vaccines etc.). In her view, the Transatlantic and the Indo-Pacific security architectures are merging, driven by geopolitical changes. Rao also spoke at length on the role of Europe in the evolving landscape.

Overall, she emphasised the need to “declutter the crowded, complex space of initiatives in the Indo-Pacific.” Pointing out that no two countries can have an identical foreign policy and a complete convergence of interests, she stressed on the imperative of mapping convergences.

Expert Pitches for a National Security Strategy for 21st-Century Warfare

Smart Governance, July 31, 2022

Submarine Veteran Commodore Anil Jai Singh has opined that a National Security Strategy is essential for 21st-century warfare. There was no real foundation for India's structural military reforms in the absence of such strategic guidance.

Speaking at a workshop titled "Defense Modernisation in India: Policies, Commands, and Capabilities," he also warned India against copying other countries' security strategies, emphasising the importance of developing its own model that takes into account the multi-dimensional kinetic and non-kinetic challenges.

Commodore Singh observed the difficulties associated with procuring defence equipment using standard competitive bidding models. He cited the example of equipment purchased from various Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), which caused operational, maintenance, and training issues.

He also stressed the importance of India making early decisions on nuclear-powered attack submarine collaborations in order to achieve its goal of becoming the pre-eminent blue-water power in the Indian Ocean.

This would be consistent with major powers such as the U.S. recognising India as a preferred security partner in the Indo-Pacific region.

The workshop was organised by CUTS International as part of the Defense News Conclave Project, which is being carried out with the assistance of the U.S. State Department (U.S. Consulate Kolkata).

This project aims to raise awareness about the significance of India-U.S. defence relations, particularly in light of recent developments in the region.

Maroof Raza, a media commentator on military and security issues who moderated the workshop, stated that there are many interconnected areas in the field of defence, so you can't operate in watertight compartments.

Amit Cowshish, Partner at Dua Associates and former Financial Advisor (Acquisition) at the Ministry of Defence, observed that it was time to focus more on the outcomes of India's defence budgets rather than just the allocation and utilisation.

In order to match aspirations with execution, he believes that Indian defence budgets should be restructured to be more result-oriented. He identified important innovations, such as a system for managing committed liabilities, as important areas for defence finance reform.

Cowshish also noted that there was “no cut-and-dry policy on Atmanirbharta,” and the stated goal of self-reliance in defence was based on a patchwork of policies.

He noted that while there had been many calls for deeper integration between Services Headquarters and the Ministry of Defence, there was little clarity on the modalities of such integration.

Manvendra Singh, former Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Rajasthan Soldier Welfare Advisory Committee, emphasised the importance of India having a coherent National Security Strategy.

He emphasised the need for a bottom-up approach to jointness and integration of military commands, beginning with joint planning of the services. He proposed establishing a Joint Logistics Command as the first step toward greater coordination before moving on to joint operational commands.

Mr Singh also stated that setting benchmarks for defence spending was impractical due to the constantly evolving nature of security challenges.

He noted the need for more two-way dialogue between the armed forces, Parliament, and the defence bureaucracy concerning civilian-military relations.

Mr Singh also mentioned non-traditional security challenges, such as climate change, to which the armed forces must respond dynamically.

Anubha Rathaur discussed her experiences as a forward field commander during the Kargil conflict. She discussed the difficulties that female officers face in such field assignments.

Rathaur emphasised the role of limited indigenous defence production during that time period, citing shortages of spares, ammunition, armour, and even mosquito nets experienced by their units.

Concerning women’s representation in the armed forces, she observed that logistical challenges were always cited as reasons for not appointing female officers to forward positions.

This needed to change, and all logistical issues should have been addressed before the announcement of expanded induction of female officers into the armed forces.

The virtual session was well-attended, with over fifty people tuning in to hear experts debate these issues. This was the third in a series of such workshops conceived as capacity-building sessions for media professionals to gain a better understanding of defence and strategic issues.

<https://www.smartgovernance.in/expert-pitches-for-a-national-security-strategy-for-21st-century-warfare/>

Militaries Tend to be Conservative in Adaptation to Change

Ne Now News, July 30, 2022

“In the field of defence, there are a lot of inter-related areas, so you cannot operate in watertight compartments” said Maroof Raza, media commentator on military and security issues.

He was moderating a workshop, titled “Defense Modernisation in India: Policies, Commands and Capabilities”, which saw distinguished panellists addressing thematic issues relating to defence modernisation in India.

The workshop was organised by CUTS International under the Defence News Conclave Project, being implemented with the support of the U.S. State Department (U.S. Consulate Kolkata).

This project aims at creating awareness about the importance of India-U.S. defence relations, particularly in the context of contemporary developments in the Indo-Pacific region.

Amit Cowshish, partner, Dua Associates and former financial advisor (acquisition), ministry of defence, observed that it was time to focus more on the outcomes of defence budgets in India, rather than looking at them only through the prism of allocation and utilisation.

In his opinion, there is a need to restructure Indian defence budgets to make them more result-oriented, in order to match aspirations with execution. Innovations like a system for managing committed liabilities were important areas for defence finance reform which he flagged.

Cowshish also noted that there was “no cut-and-dried policy on Atmanirbharta”, and the stated aspiration of self-reliance in defence relied more on a series of disjointed policies put together.

On greater cooperation between Services Headquarters and the Ministry of Defence, he noted that while there had been many calls for deeper integration between the two, there was not much clarity on the modalities of such integration.

Manvendra Singh, former Member of Parliament and Chairman, Soldier Welfare Advisory Committee, Rajasthan, emphasised the need for India to have a coherent National Security Strategy.

On jointness and integration of military commands, he noted the need to adopt a bottom-up approach, starting with joint planning by the services.

He suggested the creation of a Joint Logistics Command as a first step towards greater synergy, before moving to joint operational commands.

Singh also said that given the continuously evolving nature of security challenges, it was not pragmatic to set benchmarks for defence spending. On civilian-military relations, he observed the need for greater two-way conversations between the armed forces, the Parliament, and the defense bureaucracy.

Singh also touched upon non-traditional security challenges, including climate change, which the armed forces would have to respond to dynamically.

Capt Anubha Rathaur spoke about her experiences in a forward field posting during the Kargil conflict.

She shared the challenges that are generally faced by women officers in such field postings. Rathaur noted the role of limited indigenous defence production during that period, highlighting the shortages of spares, ammunition, armour, and even mosquito nets, which their units encountered.

She accordingly recognised the immense potential of defence indigenisation in contributing to India's overall defence preparedness.

On the representation of women in the armed forces, she observed that logistical challenges were always cited as grounds against appointing women officers to forward posts.

This needed to change, and all such logistical challenges should have been addressed before the expanded induction of women officers into the armed forces was announced.

Cmde. Anil Jai Singh also stated that a National Security Strategy is an imperative for warfare in the 21st century.

In the absence of such strategic guidance, there was no real basis on which India was undertaking structural reforms in the military.

He also cautioned India against aping other countries' security strategies, and emphasised the need to craft our own model, taking into account the multi-dimensional kinetic and non-kinetic challenges.

Jai Singh observed the challenges that accompanied procuring defence equipment following standard competitive bidding models.

He highlighted the example of equipment purchased from different Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), which led to operational, maintenance and training challenges.

He also laid out the importance of India making early decisions on its collaborations for nuclear-powered attack submarines, in order to meet its goal of being a pre-eminent blue water power in the Indian Ocean.

This would align with India being recognised as a preferred security partner in the Indo-Pacific region by major powers like the U.S.

The virtual session saw enthusiastic participation, with over fifty participants joining to hear experts deliberate on these issues.

This was the third of a series of such workshops, which have been conceptualised as capacity-building sessions for media professionals, so that they can have a more informed view of defense and strategic matters.

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Besides them, it has centres in Hanoi, Geneva and Washington DC. In India, it has a regional centre in Kolkata, a rural development centre in Chittorgarh and a liaison office in New Delhi.

<https://nenow.in/world/militaries-conservative-adaptation-change-experts.html>

India-U.S. Defense Relationship Evolved from Mistrust to Deep Trust

PAGE ONEASIA, July 03, 2022

The second in a series of workshops under the Defense News Conclave Project, titled “India-U.S. Collaborations in Defense Industry, Technology, Innovation and Trade”, saw distinguished panelists addressing diverse themes relating to India-U.S. cooperation on these issues.

This Project is being implemented by CUTS International with the support of the U.S. State Department (U.S. Consulate Kolkata), said a statement.

This workshop series aims at creating awareness about the importance of India-U.S. defense relations, particularly in the context of contemporary developments in the Indo-Pacific region.

The session was moderated by Sandhya Sharma, Editor, Technology Policy and Foreign Policy, ET Prime.

Richard M. Rossow, Senior Adviser and Wadhwani Chair in U.S.-India Policy Studies, Center for Strategic & International Studies, observed that India wants to move beyond a buyer-seller relationship in defense, and it wants access to the technologies underpinning defense sales.

He noted that while a lot of equipment sales from the U.S. to India were on the cards, getting U.S. firms to build locally in India remained a challenge.

Rossow stated that the Defense Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) is an ambitious and unique framework between the two sides, which needs to move faster to ensure the viability of more projects.

He also cautioned about the disastrous effects of potential CAATSA sanctions on India, while advising both sides to have “frank conversations” on areas of disagreement.

He said that the India-U.S. defense relationship was not entirely transactional – while U.S. companies may lose sales due to India’s indigenisation drive, which was not the sole driving force for bilateral ties, which had attained a strategic status.

Colonel K.V Kuber, Director, Aerospace and Defense, Ernst and Young remarked that the India-U.S. defense relationship was driven by “mutual interest in commercial and geopolitical areas, which was the basis of trust”.

He mentioned the 2+2 dialogue between the two countries and the DTTI as the cornerstone of this relationship. Noting that the DTTI aims to “transform and transmigrate the buyer-seller relationship into a co-production and co-development relationship”, he pointed to the Air Launched Small Unmanned Systems and intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition, and reconnaissance (ISTAR) projects as successful examples.

He noted that the DTTI could not be about only trade, nor only technology and that the U.S. needed to loosen its International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

To move forward, India and the U.S. need to focus discussions on specifics, rather than overall frameworks. Kuber cited the instance of the lease of Predator drones to India as an important development in the right direction.

He noted that the U.S. approach to defense trade needed to shift from being anti-Russia to being pro-industry. Observing that almost 11 Indian states already have an aerospace and defense policy, Kuber stated that India’s defense self-reliance programme was driven by an “Atmanirbharta with Vasudaiva Kutumbakam” approach, driven by the “combined power of the hardware, software, firmware and brainware”.

Subimal Bhattacharjee, Independent Consultant on Defense and Cyber Security and Former Country Head, General Dynamics observed that the India-U.S. defense relationship is a “dynamic and evolving one – from a place of mistrust to a place of deep trust”.

He noted that while R&D cooperation under the DTTI had not been very successful so far, a relook could set the ball rolling. Importantly, Subimal observed that by signing the foundational agreements with the U.S., India itself went through an evolutionary process, since accepting these agreements involved tweaking government policies on defense.

He pointed to the scope of cooperation on Artificial Intelligence (AI), both bilaterally as well as within groups like the Quad, which could focus on building trusted systems networks.

In his view, India and the U.S. should collaborate on technology design, development and use, and pursue dialogues on critical technology supply chains, including a commonly evolved supply chain monitoring mechanism.

Subimal also suggested the hybrid Foreign Military Sales (FMS) route as an effective way forward in bilateral defense trade. He also emphasised that India’s policy of Atmanirbharta in defense did not mean eliminating all other players– there remained many gaps that could be filled by American technologies.

<https://cuts-global.org/media-india-us-defence-relationship-has-evolved-from-mistrust-to-deep-trust-experts.htm>

<https://pageoneasia.com/asia/militaries-tend-to-be-conservative-in-adaptation-to-change-experts>

Indo-U.S. Defense Relations Should Be a Major Pillar for Success of Indo-Pacific Construct

India Education Diary, May 30, 2022

“The India-U.S. relationship can be a pillar of stability in an increasingly unsteady and uncertain world,” said Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International. He was delivering Welcome Remarks at a workshop organised by CUTS International under the Defense News Conclave Project, being implemented with the support of the U.S. State Department (U.S. Consulate Kolkata) and knowledge support from the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC).

Pushan Das, India Head, Aerospace & Defense, USIBC gave brief introductory remarks and said he looked forward to further programmes being organised under this initiative.

This workshop series aims at creating awareness about the importance of India-U.S. defense relations, particularly in the context of contemporary developments in the Indo-Pacific region.

The first workshop, titled “The Relevance of India-U.S. Defense Relations in the Indo-Pacific,” saw distinguished panellists addressing thematic issues relating to Indo-Pacific geopolitics and geoeconomics, naval cooperation and maritime governance in the Indo-Pacific region.

Jyoti Malhotra, Senior Consulting Editor, ThePrint and event moderator, noted that the defense partnership underpins the India-U.S. relationship.

Sanjaya Baru, Distinguished Fellow, United Service Institution of India and Member, Management Board, CUTS International Washington DC Center, traced the historical arc of India-U.S. defense relations. He observed that the strategic relationship with the U.S. has always been intertwined with transactional and commercial aspects involving arms transfers and the sale of defense equipment. He cited the circumstances surrounding the 123 Agreement and India-U.S. cooperation on civilian nuclear energy in this context.

Commodore Sujeet Samaddar, Founding Member, Society for Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Studies (SAMDeS) highlighted the prospects for greater India-U.S. cooperation in defense services, including by establishing ship refurbishment and maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facilities, which can benefit all Quad Indranil Banerjee, Analyst, Foreign Policy and National Security Issues, emphasised on the need for the Quad to deliver practical outcomes. In this context, the panellists discussed how the recently unveiled Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness initiative by the Quad is a step in the right direction.

The experts also cautioned that unless there is a greater degree of technology transfer between the two countries, the full potential of the partnership in areas like joint research and development cannot be tapped.

This also needs to be accompanied by hardware exchanges between the armed forces of the two sides to facilitate greater levels of interoperability.

With India's approach to defense preparedness increasingly focusing on greater self-reliance and indigenisation along with technology transfers, the panellists discussed strategies and areas where greater American investments can be sought in ramping up India's domestic defense manufacturing capacity.

This becomes important since the U.S. increasingly sees India playing the role of a net security provider in the Indo-Pacific region, as was mentioned by Adrian Pratt, Public Affairs Officer, U.S. Consulate General Kolkata, in his remarks.

The panel acknowledged that the entry of Chinese forces into the Indian Ocean region had altered the strategic calculus. The capacity gaps between the navies in the Indo-Pacific and the People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) are significant, and concerted efforts towards greater naval cooperation will be required to maintain a deterring maritime presence in the region.

The discussion also touched upon other relevant thematic areas – including the need for greater cooperation between India and the U.S. on aircraft carriers, nuclear-powered submarines and in the space domain, as well as the threat posed by climate change in the Indo-Pacific region, among others.

The virtual session saw enthusiastic participation, with over fifty participants joining to hear experts deliberate on these issues. This was the first of a series of such workshops, which have been conceptualised as capacity-building sessions for media professionals so that they can have a more informed view of defense and strategic matters.

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<https://cuts-global.org/media-indo-u-s-defense-relations-should-be-a-major-pillar-for-the-success-of-the-indo-pacific-construct-experts.htm>



About the Project

Under the Defense News Conclave Project, supported by the U.S. Department of State through the U.S. Consulate General, Kolkata, CUTS International organised a series on virtual and in-person workshops. The project deliverables aimed to create a circuit of informed stakeholders in India for strengthening the U.S.-India defense and security partnership by generating necessary awareness among diverse media professionals and other relevant stakeholders.

The project covered sessions focusing on good practices of the U.S.-India defense and security partnership in general and its relevance for the U.S.-India strategic partnership in the Indo-Pacific region, in particular. Among others, the conclave looked at the milestones set and achieved, policies, and gaps to be filled to secure a free, open, inclusive, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

In light of the above, CUTS International, through this project, organised a series of in-person and virtual workshops to train 120-150 informed journalists, storytellers, media professionals, social media influencers, and community leaders from India on the subject. Defense experts, government officials, corporate leaders, defense companies, entrepreneurs, and researchers from the U.S and India were chosen to impart the training.

<https://cuts-global.org/defense-news-conclave.htm>



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