

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

‘हर काम देश के नाम’

New Delhi, Ashadha 1, 1945
Thursday, June 22, 2023

**India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X)
launched in Washington DC, U.S.**

India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) was launched at an event in Washington DC, U.S. on 21 June 2023. The event was co-organised by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and US Department of Defence (DoD) and hosted by US-India Business Council (USIBC).

Shri Anurag Bajpai, Joint Secretary (DIP), Department of Defence Production, MoD, led the Indian delegation in the two-day INDUS X event on 20-21 June 2023. A reception dinner for select Indian and US government representatives, defence start-ups, think tanks, incubators, investors, industries and other stakeholders was organised on 20 June 2023. Amb. Eric Garcetti, the US Ambassador to India, gave the keynote address.

Mr. Frank Kendall, US Secretary of the Air Force, gave the opening keynote address at the event. In his remarks, he compared the growth of India-US relationship to a hockey stick, which is at the cusp of taking off exponentially. He emphasised that there is enormous potential for start-ups of both nations to collaborate in deep-tech innovations, especially in Space and AI domain.

Shri Anurag Bajpai, in his welcome remarks on “Investing in the Future of US-Indian Defence relations”, hailed the development of iCET as a landmark event in India-US relationship. He said that this was an opportune moment for this event, as the leaders of the world’s largest and oldest democracies meet in Washington. He emphasized on the co-development and

co-production of advanced technologies by Indian and US start-ups for the world.

The Joint Secretary further asked the participants to develop mechanisms for future collaboration across industries, academia, and investors. He also gave an overview of the Make in India scheme, focussing on Aatma-nirbhar Bharat and the philosophy of “Make in India, for the world”.

The event also saw a first-of-its-kind joint showcasing by Indian and US start-ups. 15 Indian start-ups and 10 US start-ups, from multiple domains of maritime, AI, autonomous systems, and space, showcased their technologies to Indian and US stakeholders. The exhibition was visited by multiple senior officials, including Congressman Ro Khanna, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans.

Two panel discussions and two roundtables were held, focussing on deepening collaborations across various domains, including government, academia, and industry especially start-ups. Discussion on export control regulations were also held.

ABB/Anand