

iCET dialogue

February 3, 2023

In news- National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and his US counterpart Jake Sullivan formally launched the US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) in Washington.

About iCET dialogue-

- Announced during US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bilateral talks in Tokyo in May 2022, the iCET is spearheaded by the National Security Councils of both countries.
- **It focuses on strengthening the US-India partnership on the technologies** that will drive global growth, bolster both countries' economic competitiveness, and protect shared national security interests.
- iCET will accelerate the US' strategic technology partnership with India and advance the two countries' shared democratic values.
- **The inaugural meeting under Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) was hosted by the US-India Business Council** with US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, and Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, and other senior US and Indian officials.
- As part of this, a **task force will be formed between the US Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) in partnership with the India Electronics Semiconductor Association (IESA)** with participation from the Government of India Semiconductor Mission to develop a "readiness assessment" to identify near-term industry opportunities and facilitate the longer-term strategic development of complementary semiconductor ecosystems.
- This **task force will make recommendations to the Department of Commerce and the India Semiconductor**

Mission on opportunities and challenges to overcome in order to further strengthen India's role within the global semiconductor value chain, and will also provide input to the US-India Commercial Dialogue.

- The task force will also identify and facilitate workforce development, R&D, advanced packaging, and exchange opportunities to benefit both countries.
- **In addition, the two nations are signing a new Implementation Arrangement for a Research Agency Partnership between the National Science Foundation and Indian science agencies** to expand international collaboration in various areas. This includes artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and advanced wireless.
- They are also establishing a **joint Indo-US Quantum Coordination Mechanism** with participation from industry, academia, and government to facilitate research and industry collaboration.
- In addition, they are also promoting **collaboration on High Performance Computing (HPC)**, including by working with Congress to lower barriers to U.S. exports to India of HPC technology and source code.
- India and the US are also developing a **new bilateral Defense Industrial Cooperation Roadmap** to accelerate technological cooperation between both countries for joint development and production, with an initial focus on exploring projects related to jet engines, munition-related technologies, and other systems.