

Indo – US 2+2 Dialogue

July 10, 2020

Second 2+2 Indo-US Ministerial dialogue was held in Washington. The first 2+2 was held in New Delhi September last year after the mechanism was approved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump.

What are Indo-US 2+2 dialogues?

The 2+2 dialogue is the highest-level (Ministerial) institutional mechanism between India and the USA that brings together the perspectives of the two countries **on foreign policy, defence and strategic issues.**

- India also holds such dialogue with Japan as well
- India also holds 2+2 dialogue with Australia at the foreign secretary and defence secretary level

Key highlights of second 2+2 dialogue

- **During this meet, both India and the US have agreed to deepen their bilateral cooperation in areas of defence, counter-terrorism and trade, and to work with like-minded countries for a free and open Indo-Pacific region.**
- At the dialogue, both sides also committed to further **deepen military-to-military cooperation, including between the Indian Navy and the US Navy Fleets under US Indo-Pacific Command, Central Command, and Africa Command** and intend to expand similar cooperation between their respective Armies and Air Forces.
- The two sides **concluded the Industrial Security Annex during the visit.**
- Priority initiatives have been identified for **execution under the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) programme.**
- The Ministers committed to a **common vision for the**

India-U.S. Major Defense Partnership (MDP) that recognizes their countries' shared desire to build a comprehensive, enduring, and mutually-beneficial defence partnership and to expand all aspects of their security and defence cooperation.

- The two sides also **applauded the establishment of the new tri-service, amphibious exercise – TIGER TRIUMPH** – as a tangible demonstration of the growing scope and complexity of military cooperation. The Ministers **decided to hold TIGER TRIUMPH annually, in formats to be decided mutually**
- The **USA welcomed India's invitation to join the 2020 MILAN multilateral naval exercise** and plans to participate.
- They also decided to continue the discussion on the **Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA)** in 2020 to enable greater geospatial information-sharing.
- The Ministers noted their intent to explore collaboration on testing and certification in defence and aerospace sectors and **establishment of Maintenance Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facilities in India.**

Industrial Security Annex

- The Industrial Security Annex (ISA), signed between India and the U.S. at the second 2+2 dialogue in Washington, will open the door for U.S. defence companies to partner with the Indian private sector for several multi-billion dollar deals in the pipeline, especially the deal for 114 fighter jets.
- It will enable the release of more advanced technology and information to India and help make it part of the global supply chain in the defence sector