

India, US to soon hold trade policy forum meet

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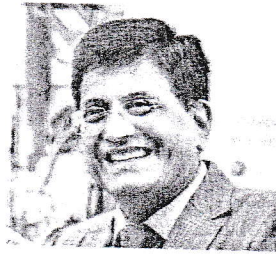
India and the US will "very soon" hold the next ministerial-level meeting of the Trade Policy Forum (TPF) in America to discuss ways for promoting trade and investment between the countries.

India and the US held the 12th TPF in New Delhi on November 23 last year.

The forum is an inter-agency collaboration led by the US Trade Representative.

Focus groups

It is the principal trade dialogue between the two countries. It has five focus groups: Agriculture, Investment, Innovation and Creativity (intellectual property rights),



Piyush Goyal

Services, and Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers. "We will be having the next trade policy forum very soon in the US and in the TPF we are hoping to add further deliverables and newer areas of engagement being discussed, for which both teams have been tasked to start engaging with each other," Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of

Commerce and Industry, told reporters here. The minister held a bilateral meeting here with USTR Katherine Tai and US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo.

When asked about restoring the trade benefits under GSP (Generalised System of Preferences) programme of the US, Goyal said: "I don't think that's an issue anymore. None of our exports have been affected by the GSP. So I think that's not an issue; that we have even discussed in recent times, including today".

Talking about other meetings, the minister said he discussed ways to increase trade and economic relations with his counterparts from Vietnam and Japan.