

MAIDEN TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL MEETING

India, EU Discuss Strategic Tech Cooperation

Both sides agree to work on critical areas such as connectivity, green technologies and resilient supply chains

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New Delhi: India and the EU on Tuesday held the maiden meeting of their newly formed Trade and Technology Council (TTC) in Brussels amid efforts by Europe to diversify its investments from China and de-risk its businesses from China. The maiden meeting of the TTC was co-chaired on the EU side by Executive Vice-Presidents Margrethe Vestager and Valdis Dombrovskis, and on the Indian side by S Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Rajeev Chandrashekar, MoS Electronics and Information Technology.

The TTC meet focussed on strategic technologies, digital governan-



S Jaishankar, Piyush Goyal and Rajeev Chandrasekhar during a meeting with the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen a day before the India-EU Trade and Technology Council meeting in Brussels on Tuesday – PTI

ce & digital connectivity, Green & clean energy technologies and trade, investment and resilient value chains.

The TTC provided the political steer and the necessary structure

to coordinate approaches and advance technical work. To lay the groundwork, both sides have agreed to work on critical areas such as connectivity, green technologies and resilient supply chains, offici-

als informed.

The EU-India Trade and Technology Council is the second such bilateral forum for the EU with the first being the USA. Ahead of Brussels Jaishankar could visit

Sweden, which holds the current EU Presidency, and is expected to participate in the Indo-Pacific ministerial forum on May 13. There are three working groups under TTC – Strategic technologies, digital governance and digital connectivity, Green & clean energy technologies and trade, investment and resilient value chains.

The group on Strategic Technologies will work jointly on areas of mutual interest such as digital connectivity, Artificial Intelligence, 5G/6G, high performance and quantum computing, semiconductors, cloud systems, cybersecurity, digital skills and digital platforms, officials said. The group on trade, investment and resilient value chains will work on the resilience of supply chains and access to critical components, energy, and raw materials.