

# Seas to stars: Tech seals India-US ties

'Technology' mentioned 44 times in the joint statement, up from five in 2020

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY  
New Delhi, 23 June

The joint statement issued on Friday morning after a bilateral meeting — that stretched much beyond its initially allotted time — between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joe Biden stressed that no corner of human enterprise had been left untouched by the partnership between the two nations. From the seas to the stars, this partnership will now be deepened by the defining role of technology, the statement said.

From expanding bilateral technology partnership with a focus on tech-sharing and co-production to creating first of its kind platforms on financing renewables and closer industry tie-ups on space, the strategic global tie-ups are aimed at keeping India and the US "as the closest partners in the world".

The two countries are committed to the key Indian demand of greater technology sharing, while also ensuring co-development, and co-production opportunities, the statement said.

In fact, the term "technology" was mentioned as many as 44 times in the document. It had found just five mentions the last time both nations released a joint statement, back in February 2020.

"President Biden also reiterated his government's commitment to work with the US Congress to lower barriers to US exports to India of HPC technology and source code," it added.

It also announced a new implementation arrangement on artificial intelligence, advanced wireless, and quantum technologies.

The cooperation extended to outer space where the leaders welcomed India's Space Policy — 2023, and called for enhanced commercial collaboration between the US and Indian private sectors in the entire value chain of the space economy.

The statement also included "addressing current export controls and facilitating technology transfer".

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## ALL TIED UP

Strategic partnership across sectors:

### TECHNOLOGY

- ▶ The Indo-US Quantum Coordination Mechanism
- ▶ A \$2-million grant programme for joint development of AI
- ▶ Jointly funded research projects on cybersecurity

### DEFENCE

- ▶ Adoption of the Defense Industrial Cooperation Roadmap
- ▶ A defence acceleration platform for joint tech innovation

### ENERGY TRANSITION

- ▶ An India-US multibillion-dollar investment fund for green tech
- ▶ India to co-lead multilateral Hydrogen Breakthrough Agenda to boost availability of low-carbon hydrogen globally

### TRADE

- ▶ Mutual resolution of six WTO trade disputes
- ▶ India now part of the Minerals Security Partnership

### SPACE

- ▶ Nasa, Isro to develop strategic framework for human spaceflight by the end of 2023

### IMMIGRATION

- ▶ New US consulates in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad; an Indian consulate in Seattle

### AVIATION

- ▶ Boeing to invest \$100 mn to train 31,000 pilots in India in 20 years

## India, US to end 6 WTO disputes

In what could give a boost to bilateral trade ties between India and the United States (US), the two countries have decided to close half a dozen outstanding disputes at the World Trade Organization (WTO), including the retaliatory tariffs India imposed on imports of some farm products from the US. ▶



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a joint meeting of US Congress in Washington DC. US Vice President Kamala Harris, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy and other members give Modi a standing ovation

PHOTO: TWITTER/ @NARENDRAMODI

“ IN THE PAST FEW YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ADVANCES IN AI — ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE MOMENTOUS DEVELOPMENTS IN ANOTHER AI — AMERICA AND INDIA ”  
**Narendra Modi**, Prime Minister, in his address to the US Congress

DETAILED REPORT ON PAGE 4

## 'Expect 2-6 high-quality proposals on semiconductors in 12 months'

After the India-US joint statement and the announcement of big projects by US companies, **ASHWINI VAISHNAW**, Union minister for communications, electronics & IT, in conversation with **Surajeet Das Gupta** in New Delhi, explains how they will give a big push to India's ambitious semiconductor plans. Edited excerpts:

**What does the series of deals with Micron, Applied Materials, and Lam Research mean for India's semiconductor vision?**

The focus of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to create a semiconductor ecosystem. The announcements are a reflection of that. First we got Micron, which is among the leading global players in semiconductors. Then we signed up the largest semiconductor equipment manufacturer in the world in applied materials and roped in Lam

Research to train our 60,000-odd engineers in the country, with the first training in collaboration with IISC Bangalore.

In parallel, each and every company in the fields of gas and chemicals globally in semi-conductors has been documented and we have met them. Full detailing has been done and shared with the industry. About 250 chemicals

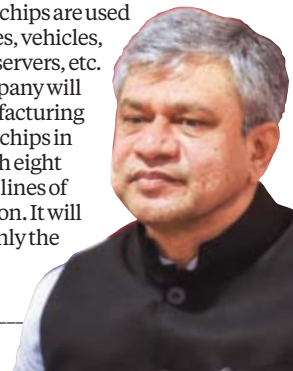
and gases go into making semiconductors. So we have done our homework. We are meeting on Friday the

founder of Synopsys, which makes the most advanced tools for the silicon chip design. This firm too will come to India.

**What is the scope of the Micron deal?**

Memory chips are used in mobiles, vehicles, laptops, servers, etc. The company will be manufacturing memory chips in India with eight different lines of production. It will import only the wafer.

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**ASHWINI VAISHNAW**

Union electronics & IT minister

## India-US...

In the energy space, both nations announced the setting up of a multi-billion-dollar investment platform for green energy aimed at providing catalytic capital and de-risking support. Another platform aimed at accelerating cooperation in green hydrogen, offshore and onshore wind, and other emerging technologies was also announced.

### Securing supply chains

Securing of supply chains has figured significantly during the Prime Minister's visit with both nations reiterating the partnerships and commitments focused on establishing a reliable flow of critical products and technology.

Launch of two joint task forces on advanced telecommunications, focused on Open Radio Access Network (O-RAN) and research and development in 5G/6G technologies, also figured prominently in the statement. O-RAN field trials and rollouts, including scaled deployments, in both countries with operators and vendors of both markets, will be backed by US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) financing.

According to the statement, India has joined the global Mineral Security Partnership (MSP). Launched in June last year by the United States, the European Union and other G7 partners, it aims to contain

Chinese influence over mining and shipping of critical minerals such as lithium and cobalt, across the world.

Both nations noted the opportunity for deeper collaboration to secure supply chains in defence procurement and pharmaceuticals. "The Indian Ministry of Defence and the US Department of Defence will commence negotiations for a Security of Supply arrangement and initiate discussions about Reciprocal Defence Procurement agreement," the statement said.

As part of the Defence Industrial Roadmap, both countries have agreed to work together for the creation of logistic, repair, and maintenance infrastructure for aircraft and vessels in India. The statement also announced the launch of the India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), a network of universities, startups, industry and think tanks, with the goal of facilitating joint defence technology innovation.

### Greater trade, easier movement

In a significant move, the US and India have decided to mutually resolve six of the seven outstanding bilateral trade disputes at the World Trade Organisation (WTO). "The leaders welcomed the resolution of six outstanding WTO disputes between the two countries through mutually agreed solutions as well as their understandings on market access related to certain products of significance to the bilateral trade relationship," the statement read.

Also, Boeing will invest \$100 million on infrastructure and programmes to train pilots in India, supporting the country's need for 31,000 new pilots over the next 20 years. The leaders welcomed Boeing's announcement of its completion of a C-17 aftermarket support facility for MRO and a new parts logistics center in India.

Pointing to the US decision to allow domestic renewal of I-B and L category temporary work visas by next year for Indian nationals, the statement said both sides will open new consulates too. The US will open new facilities in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad, and India in Seattle and two other US cities.

The leaders directed officials to identify additional mechanisms to facilitate travel, the statement said.

## Adani...

Following the report, an Adani group spokesperson, in a statement, said: "We strongly reject any suggestion that the Adani group and its businesses have not acted as per the regulations and accounting standards of the jurisdictions in which they operate."

"We are not aware of any such subpoena to investors. Our various issuers groups remain confident that the disclosures are full and complete as disclosed in the relevant issuer offering circulars," the spokesperson further said.

Shares of flagship Adani Enterprises fell 6.8 per cent, extending its month-to-date fall to 10.5 per cent. Eight other

