

## Fifth India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue Strengthens Defence and Strategic Ties



The fifth India-US 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue was successfully conducted in New Delhi, reaffirming the robust partnership between the two nations. The dialogue aimed at addressing a spectrum of cross-cutting issues, including defence, strategic and security ties, technology collaboration, and people-to-people exchanges. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar led the Indian delegation, while their American counterparts, Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin and Secretary of State Antony Blinken, represented the United States. One of the key outcomes of the meeting was a substantial focus on strengthening defence industrial cooperation, with the two sides exploring collaborative avenues for co-developing and co-producing defence systems, aiming to fortify ties in the defence technology domain. Discussions also delved into the progress of the India-US Defence Industrial Ecosystem, INDUS-X, launched earlier this year. Secretary Austin welcomed India's decision to achieve full membership in the Combined Maritime Forces, headquartered in Bahrain, underlining a shared commitment to regional maritime security. Sharing insights into the agenda of the meeting, Minister of External Affairs, Dr. S Jaishankar, stated that the talks were comprehensive and that the two sides exchanged perspectives on key regional issues such as the Indo-Pacific, South Asia, West Asia, and the conflict in Ukraine. The bilateral meeting concluded with the ministers drawing up a comprehensive agenda for future joint work, underscoring the commitment to further strengthen the multifaceted India-US partnership.