

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5375**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018

**FTA WITH US**

5375. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the US Government is planning a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India in an effort to boost two-way trade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof?
- (c) whether both sides are planning to enhance military exchanges and greater defence deals under the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI); and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V.K.SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) There is no proposal currently under discussion with the US Government for a comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the US.

(c) & (d) Government of India and Government of United States of America have established the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI) for co-development and co-production of unique and exceptional technologies of mutual interest. DTTI is chaired by Secretary of Defence Production from the Indian side and Under Secretary for Acquisition and Technology and Logistics in Department of Defence from the US side. The last meeting of DTTI was held in Washington DC from 15-16 September 2017.

On 26 September 2017, during the visit of Mr. James Mattis, Secretary of Defence of the United States, both side agreed to refocus and re-energize the DTTI as a mechanism to promote technology sharing as well as co-development and co-production efforts.

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