

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.102
ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025

INDIA'S POSITION AMONGST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETITORS

*102. SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Government's view on the potential reshaping of global technological leadership as a result of emphasis on competition with US and China, particularly in the field of Artificial Intelligence, robotics, and defense technology;
- (b) the manner in which India is positioning itself to capitalize on its strengths in the technology sector to remain competitive in light of increasing competition from both the US and China; and
- (c) whether Government intends to foster closer technological collaboration with the US in areas where India holds an advantage, such as software development, cybersecurity and AI innovation, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 102 FOR REPLY ON 13.02.2025 REGARDING INDIA'S POSITION AMONGST GLOBAL TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETITORS, ASKED BY SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA

(a to c) The Government of India views the competitive global technological landscape as an opportunity to establish itself as a key player in emerging domains such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and defense technology. Our focus is on self-reliance, innovation, and strategic collaborations to build a strong technological ecosystem that advances both economic progress and national security.

India aims to remain competitive in the technology sector by leveraging its strengths particularly in software development, digital infrastructure, artificial intelligence and its thriving startup ecosystem. Our quest for technological leadership is multidimensional, encompassing innovation, policy frameworks, human capital, and international collaboration. Accordingly, the respective line Ministries have launched several National Missions such as India AI Mission, National Supercomputing Mission, National Quantum Mission, Green Hydrogen Mission, India Semicon Program, National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems etc.

The Government has also made concerted efforts to strengthen international partnerships in critical and emerging technologies, both bilaterally and plurilaterally. In recent years, the India-US technology partnership has strengthened across multiple domains under the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (*iCET*), bringing together government, academia and industry. The key focus areas under these partnerships include co-development and co-production of products related to critical and emerging technologies, enabling technology transfer and addressing regulatory restrictions and talent mobility issues in priority sectors such as semiconductors, quantum technologies, artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, advanced telecommunications and critical minerals. The India-US Cyber Security Dialogue has been instrumental in fostering cooperation on cyber resilience, intelligence sharing, and capacity building.

Other key international technology partnerships include the Technology and Security Initiative (*TSI*) with the United Kingdom, and the Trade and Technology Council with the European Union. India also participates in multilateral initiatives for governance of artificial intelligence, security of access to critical minerals etc. Such international collaborations supplement our domestic policy measures to develop internal capacities in critical and emerging technologies.
