Raksha Mantri meets US Secretary of War on the sidelines of ADMM-Plus in Philippines

Both nations review the progress of 10-year India-US Defence Framework; Explore new avenues to enhance operational readiness, technology sharing & defence industrial integration

India and US reiterate joint commitment to eliminate terrorism

Shri Rajnath Singh calls for zero tolerance towards nations supporting terrorist organisations; Mr Pete Hegseth reaffirms US support to India against cross-border terrorism

India-US partnership continues to be a cornerstone for a free, open & secure Indo-Pacific: RM

Posted On: 28 OCT 2026 2:44PM by PIB Delhi

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh held a meeting with US Secretary of War Mr Pete Hegseth on the sidelines of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) in Cebu, Philippines on October 28, 2026. The meeting marked a vital opportunity to review the progress under the India-US Major Defence Partnership. Reflecting on the ongoing collaboration, both sides noted the robust progression of their foundational security agreements and explored fresh pathways to accelerate operational readiness, technology sharing and defence industrial integration.



A key highlight of the dialogue was the review of regional security, during which both nations strongly emphasised their joint resolve to eliminate the global menace of terrorism. Raksha Mantri stressed that the global community must maintain an uncompromising, zero-tolerance approach towards nations that support, train, or fund terrorist organisations. Secretary Hegseth reaffirmed the United States' unwavering solidarity and full support to India in its fight against cross-border terrorism. Raksha Mantri expressed India's deep appreciation for the consistent and strong support extended by the US.

Both leaders also reviewed the progress of the 10-year India-US Defence Framework and concluded by reaffirming their shared commitment to further elevate the India-US defence relationship to strategic convergence. The discussions touched upon advancing military-to-military exchanges, augmenting maritime security collaboration, and integrating robust defence supply chains to further deepen and expand ongoing defence industry collaboration.

In a post on X after the meeting, Raksha Mantri termed the robust partnership between India and US as a cornerstone for a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific.

> Had an excellent meeting with US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on the sidelines of the 13th ADMM-Plus. We reviewed the progress of our 10-year India-US Defence Framework, driving strategic convergence across military technology, information sharing, and co-production. Our robust partnership continues to be a cornerstone for a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific. @SecWar
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> — Rajnath Singh (@rajnathsingh) October 28, 2026

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