

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:713  
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006  
INDO- US DEFENCE COOPERATION  
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Defence officials of India and United States (US) have held extensive consultations in line with the long term Defence framework agreement;
- (b) if so, whether the two sides also focused on the importance of service to service ties and took note of the successful joint exercises held by the Armed Forces of the two countries;
- (c) if so, whether the Defence Policy Group (DPG) has reviewed reports of the four sub- groups; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken to implement the DPG's recommendations?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) India and the United States have held extensive consultations during the 7th India- US Defence Policy Group (DPG) meeting held in Washington DC from November 21-23, 2005. The 7th DPG meeting follows the signing of the 'New Framework on US-India Defence Relationship' in June 28, 2005.
- (b) The two sides took note of the wide ranging service to service ties, including holding of a large number of joint exercises. Both sides acknowledged that defence cooperation should be more broad based.
- (c) the DPG reviewed the reports of the four sub-groups, viz., Military Cooperation Group, Joint Technical Group, Senior Technology Security Group and Defence Procurement and Production Group.
- (d) The DPG's recommendations are followed up by the sub-groups under it. The process for implementation of DPG's recommendations are ongoing and is monitored by the Defence Organisations of the two countries.