

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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October 20, 2016

The Honorable John Kerry
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Kerry,

On July 6th, 2016, I sent you a letter requesting the Department of State provide a briefing on current U.S. policy governing the export of U.S. commercial satellites for launch on Indian launch vehicles, provide documentation associated with this policy, and answer a number of questions (see attached).

Despite promises from Department of State in official correspondence dated August 3rd, 2016, to provide this briefing “as soon as possible,” the Department of State has failed to provide a briefing as requested, provide any documentation, or answer any of the requested questions (see attached). This is unacceptable. This briefing should be simple to provide since the “policy” is already being implemented.¹ This information is needed to assist the Committee in its oversight responsibilities, under House Rule X(1)(p), X(2)(b)(1)(A), and X(3)(k).

Immediately upon receipt of this letter, please schedule a briefing to House Science, Space, and Technology Committee staff on these issues. As appropriate, House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology members and staff are available to receive a classified briefing on this issue. Additionally, please provide the previously requested records, as they are currently overdue by several months.

If you have any questions related to this inquiry, please contact Dr. Michael Mineiro, Counsel, Subcommittee on Space, at 202-226-0354.

¹ See DDTC web notice regarding India Launch (August 5th, 2009). Retrieved at https://www.pmdtc.state.gov/licensing/documents/WebNotice_IndiaLaunch-updated.pdf (Last Accessed June 24th, 2016).

Sincerely,



Lamar Smith
Chairman



Brian Babin
Chairman
Subcommittee on Space

cc:

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Ranking Member

Donna Edwards
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Space

The Honorable Penny Pritzker
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce

The Honorable John Holdren
Director
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Ambassador Michael Froman
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative