

'Pakistan not to compromise on nuclear program'

Dawn, 14 November 2009

Prime Minister Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani has said that Pakistan will not compromise on its nuclear program and that the country's assets were safe under the Nuclear Command and Control Authority. Talking to reporters at the Multan airport he said there was no threat to the country's nuclear program which was completely safe and secure. 'We will not compromise on our nuclear program,' Prime Minister Gilani categorically said. He was responding to reports in the Western media about threats of extremists taking over the country's nuclear assets. About US drone attacks on targets inside Pakistani territory Gilani said Pakistan was trying to convince the United States about their negative impact.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/pakistan/13+pakistan+not+to+compromise+on+nuclear+program-za-01>

Canadian PM hopes India, Canada sign nuclear pact soon

Hindustan Times, 17 November 2009

On his first visit to India, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper said that he hoped the two countries would soon sign the bilateral nuclear co-operation agreement to help India's growing need for clean sources of energy. His three-day trip symbolises Canada's approach to "deepen and nourish the existing business relationship". Addressing Canadian and Indian businessmen at the Trident Hotel, he condemned the 26/11 attacks, recalling Air India's Kanishka bombing in 1985 and said, "Canada strongly condemns the despicable and cowardly attacks on Mumbai." Harper also visited Nariman House and paid homage to the victims of 26/11.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai/Canadian-PM-hopes-India-nbsp-Canada-sign-nuclear-pact-soon/477588/H1-Article1-477194.aspx>

Nuclear installations safe: Manmohan

The Hindu, 18 November 2009

A day after nuclear installations were put on high alert following inputs that terrorists might target them, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh allayed fears about their safety. "We will do everything in our power to ensure the safety and security of nuclear installations," Dr. Singh said on Tuesday in response to a question on the threat to nuclear plants and India's quest to step up the civil nuclear energy component in its energy mix. At a joint press conference with Dr. Singh here, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper described India as a safe and reliable country and Canada had no reservations in negotiating a civilian nuclear deal with it. Both leaders revealed that they had discussed the case of Canadian born Lashkar-e-Taiba operative Tahawwur Rana and resolved to step up exchange of information on terrorism.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/18/stories/2009111859661000.htm>

France not for India-like nuclear pact with Pakistan

The Hindu, 21 November 2009

Much as Pakistan has been trying to project in recent months that France's initiative for a "strategic relationship" with it was on the same lines as that with India, a top

French government official made it categorically clear that in no case would it include a civil nuclear cooperation deal. In response to a query as to whether Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi's claim that Paris had decided to initiate a civil nuclear cooperation agreement with Islamabad, the official dismissed it outright saying there was no truth in that statement. Talking to The Hindu here, he said: "I can say that nothing like it is on the table. We [France] would like to ensure safety of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal but there is no question of getting into an India-like civil nuclear pact with them. Nothing like it is happening."

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article52171.ece>

[India seeks Obama's reaffirmation of nuclear deal: Manmohan Singh](#)

Hindustan Times, 22 November 2009

At his Tuesday summit with President Barack Obama, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh would seek "a positive reaffirmation" of his administration to carry forward their landmark civil nuclear deal forged during the previous Bush administration. India had no worries about the US honouring the consent agreement under their "landmark and watershed" nuclear deal, "but we would like a positive reaffirmation of this administration to carry forward that process", Manmohan Singh said in an interview with Newsweek ahead of his state visit starting Sunday. "First of all, we had a watershed and a landmark agreement with the US on nuclear cooperation. We would like to operationalise it and ensure that the objectives for the nuclear deal are realised in full merit," Manmohan Singh said talking of his objectives during the visit.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/americas/India-seeks-US-s-reaffirmation-of-N-deal-Manmohan-Singh/479422/H1-Article1-479091.aspx>

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<http://www.hindustantimes.com/americas/India-seeks-US-s-reaffirmation-of-N-deal-Manmohan-Singh/479422/H1-Article1-479091.aspx>

[Night launch for N-capable Agni-II today](#)

The Times of India, 23 November 2009

India is all set to test its 2,000-km-plus Agni-II missile from the Wheeler Island off Orissa coast again on Monday. Significantly, the nuclear-capable missile will be launched for the first time during night in a major step towards making it fully operational in the Strategic Forces Command (SFC). Defence officials said Agni-II's 'user training trial' was likely to be conducted around 8pm on Monday to give the necessary confidence to the armed forces that the two-stage, solid-fuelled missile can be fired whenever required. Incidentally, DRDO is also working on MIRV (multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles) technology for the Agni series

of ballistic missiles.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Night-launch-for-N-capable-Agni-II-today-/articleshow/5258841.cms>

[**Agni-II missile fails to clear night trial**](#)

The Times of India, 24 November 2009

India's nuclear-capable intermediate range Agni-II missile, test-fired for the first time after sunset on Monday, reportedly failed to get the desired results. The Army test-fired the surface-to-surface Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) from Wheeler's Island, Bhadrak district, around 7.50pm. "The liftoff and the first stage separation was smooth. But it faltered just before the second stage separation and behaved erratically, deviating from its coordinated path. Further analysis is on to ascertain the cause," said a source. The entire trajectory of Monday's trial was tracked by a battery of sophisticated radars, telemetry observation stations, electro-optic instruments and a naval ship.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Agni-II-missile-fails-to-clear-night-trial/articleshow/5262395.cms>

[**Antony warns of n-weapons falling into wrong hands**](#)

The Indian Express, 24 November 2009

Even as terrorists continue to strike close to crucial nuclear installations in Pakistan, Defence Minister A K Antony has said that there is a real threat of nuclear weapons falling into wrong hands, consequences of which would be 'unimaginable'. The minister said the threat of non state actors getting nuclear weapons is a matter of concern. "The threat of nuclear weapons falling into wrong hands remains an area of serious concern. The consequences of such a situation are unimaginable," Antony said in his keynote address at a global seminar on "The Changing Nature of Conflict" organised by the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS).

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/Antony-warns-of-n-weapons-falling-into-wrong-hands/545483>

[**Iran completes 1st stage of drills to protect nuclear facilities**](#)

RIA Novosti, 24 November 2009

Iran's armed forces have completed the first stage of a large-scale air defense exercise to protect the country's nuclear facilities, the ISNA news agency quoted the air force and air defense staff as saying. The five-day exercise, dubbed Asemane Velayat 2, started Sunday and comprises three stages. It covers a vast area in the northwest, west, south and southwest of the country. The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and Iran's regular armed forces are involved in the exercise. "In line with the exercise plan, the second stage starts immediately upon the completion of the first stage," the staff said. Iran frequently holds military drills and shows off modern weaponry in an effort to demonstrate its readiness to thwart any attack against its nuclear facilities.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20091124/156959497.html>

[**U.S. "Fully" Committed to Indian Nuclear Deal, Obama Says**](#)

Global Security Newswire, 24 November 2009

U.S. President Barack Obama said today he intends to enact his predecessor's

nuclear trade agreement with India, Reuters reported. Obama spoke at a press conference at the White House with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. "I reaffirmed to the prime minister my administration's commitment to fully implement the U.S.-India civil nuclear agreement, which will increase American exports and create jobs in both countries," Obama said. Singh and then-U.S. President George W. Bush in 2005 signed the agreement that would give New Delhi access to U.S. nuclear materials and technology in exchange for opening its civilian nuclear sector to international monitoring. It would give U.S. companies access to the potential \$150 billion Indian nuclear energy market, Reuters.

http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20091124_2116.php

[Manmohan to travel to US for nuclear summit next year](#)

Hindustan Times, 25 November 2009

Looking beyond differences in approach, India and the US on Tuesday agreed to partner each other in global non-proliferation efforts which will be in focus when Prime Minister Manmohan Singh goes to Washington for a nuclear security summit next year. After his wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, US President Barack Obama on Tuesday welcomed India's support for his non-proliferation and disarmament agenda and said he looked forward to New Delhi's participation in the nuclear security summit next year. "I welcomed prime minister's support for the non-proliferation agenda that I laid out in Prague," Obama said while assuring India about his commitment for an early and full implementation of the path-breaking nuclear deal.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Manmohan-to-travel-to-US-for-nuclear-summit-next-year/H1-Article3-479977.aspx>

[RAPS' fifth nuclear reactor attains criticality](#)

The Hindu, 25 November 2009

The fifth nuclear reactor of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS-5) at Rawatbhatta, with a capacity of 220 MWe, reached criticality at 12.51 p.m. on Tuesday. This is the 18th nuclear power reactor to be commissioned in the country. With its commissioning, the total nuclear power-generation capacity now stands at 4,340 MWe. "The operation was very smooth. Everything went off perfectly," Chairman and Managing Director of the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) Hindu from the control room of RAPS-5. Although RAPS-5 is an S.K. Jain told The indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR), built by the NPCIL, it uses natural uranium fuel imported from Russia. Hence it will come under the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) safeguards as per the Separation Plan, under which India has agreed to put a total of 14 reactors under the safeguards.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/25/stories/2009112561161400.htm>

[Agni's failure raises eyebrows](#)

The Times of India, 25 November 2009

The recurring failures of the Agni series, considered one of the most trusted missiles in the Indian arsenal, have raised serious concerns not only among scientists but across the nation as well. In the past 20 years, since the beginning of Agni's developmental trails, it has failed four times to meet many of the mission parameters, which has left the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) scientists worried. More importantly, nuclear capable 2000 km plus range Agni-II missile has failed to deliver desired results, consecutively twice in the past six

months during the "trainer user trials". Unfortunately, the debacle happened at the deployment stage, five years after the induction of the missile in the armed forces.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/Agnis-failure-raises-eyebrows/articleshow/5269110.cms>

[Problems over nuclear deal minor, says Manmohan](#)

The Hindu, 26 November 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said on Wednesday that problems with the United States on the civil nuclear deal were "minor" and could be resolved in a couple of weeks. "We have had a very good discussion at the highest levels. I have been assured by the U.S. leadership that the U.S. remains committed to the early implementation of the civil nuclear agreement. "There are minor problems with regard to the reprocessing [of the spent] fuel under the 123 agreement. I think there are no insurmountable problems. I am confident that in the next couple of weeks we can sort out issues," Dr. Singh told a press conference, a day before he wraps up his visit.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/26/stories/2009112658670100.htm>

[Last mile in the nuclear deal \(Editorial\)](#)

The Hindu, 26 November 2009

There can be little question that the failure to reach agreement on the arrangements and procedures for reprocessing spent American fuel on Indian soil during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to the United States is a let-down. The official Indian claim may be that the problems in settling the issue of reprocessing spent fuel under the 123 agreement are "minor" and of little practical significance since the U.S. and India have until February 2010 to settle matters. But the fact that the two sides were looking at the agreement as a major deliverable from the visit suggests the bilateral relationship is living on past credit rather than current commitments. The Obama administration has said and done enough in the past six months to raise doubts about its intention of sticking to the letter and spirit of the U.S. obligation to facilitate full civil nuclear cooperation with India.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/opinion/editorial/article55383.ece>

[U.N. nuclear agency head laments 'dead end' over Iran](#)

Los Angeles Times, 27 November 2009

Reporting from Vienna and Beirut - In unusually direct language, the outgoing chief of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog agency on Thursday took Tehran to task for failing to resolve unanswered questions about its nuclear program and lamented a "dead end" in resolving the standoff between the Islamic Republic and world powers. Mohamed ElBaradei, director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said world powers had made no progress over the last year in settling concerns about Iran's nuclear program, which the West worries is meant to ultimately produce weapons but Tehran insists is for civilian purposes only. "There has been no movement on remaining issues of concern which need to be clarified for the agency to verify the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program," he told the agency's board of governors, which is pondering several resolutions condemning Tehran.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-iran-nuclear27-2009nov27,0,6199620.story>

[N-plant radiation leak in Karnataka leaves 45 staffers sick](#)

The Times of India, 29 November 2009

In a nuclear accident that is bound to raise key safety concerns ahead of India's ambitious atomic expansion programme, about 45 employees of the Kaiga atomic power plant suffered radiation poisoning when radioactive heavy water from the plant contaminated the drinking water. Kaiga is one of India's newer nuclear reactors. There was no official word from the usually secretive nuclear establishment. Sources said the employees were in hospital because they experienced a mildly higher level of radiation than permissible on Friday after drinking from a water cooler near an open area in one of the reactors. Though a tiny amount of radiation is normal, scientists said the contamination was unusual because the affected employees do not go into the actual reactor area but work around it.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/N-plant-radiation-leak-in-Karnataka-leaves-45-staffers-sick/articleshow/5280518.cms>

[Pakistani PM takes charge of nuclear weapons](#)

Reuters, 29 November 2009

Pakistan's president has transferred authority over the nation's nuclear weapons to the prime ministership, as the unpopular leader tries to deflect growing criticism he has too much power. President Asif Ali Zardari, beset by corruption allegations, has been under pressure to give up sweeping powers that his predecessor Pervez Musharraf accumulated for the presidency. The transfer of the chairmanship of the National Command Authority (NCA), which oversees Pakistan's nuclear arsenal, came as Zardari could face pressure after the lapse of an amnesty opened several of his top aides to prosecution on graft charges. That amnesty, and growing criticism that Zardari has too much power, may herald more political instability in Pakistan, worrying the United States and its allies as the government also gets increasingly embroiled in a war against Islamist militants.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/asiaCrisis/idUSSP366087>

[India, Canada clinch civil nuclear deal](#)

The Hindu, 30 November 2009

India and Canada have reached a landmark agreement on civil nuclear cooperation after months of hectic negotiations, paving the way for supply of Canadian atomic technology, equipment and uranium to India after a gap of 34 years. The negotiations on the deal were concluded at a meeting between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and his Canadian counterpart Stephen Harper here on the margins of Commonwealth summit, with the two leaders describing the development as a "milestone" opening up "tremendous opportunity" for their countries. "The civil nuclear agreement is a very important step forward, a milestone for the development of our relationship," Dr. Singh said.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/30/stories/2009113055371000.htm>

[Reprocessing pact likely in 10-12 days: M.K. Narayanan](#)

The Hindu, 30 November 2009

On Board PM's Special Aircraft: India and the United States are expected to finalise a crucial agreement on reprocessing under the civil nuclear deal in 10-12 days, with all but one issue being resolved and negotiations centring around finalising a mutually

acceptable legal text. "We have arrived into the last stage of negotiations...only one issue remains, that of finalising the legal text," National Security Adviser M.K. Narayanan told journalists accompanying the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on his return home from a two-nation tour of the U.S. and Trinidad and Tobago. The two sides were racing against time to conclude the agreement for setting up of dedicated reprocessing facility in India before the meeting between Dr. Singh and U.S. President Barack Obama in Washington on Tuesday but could not do so.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/30/stories/2009113057220100.htm>

[Pakistan must have proper control over nuclear assets: Army Chief](#)
The Hindu, 30 November 2009

Chief of Army staff General Deepak Kapoor on Sunday said it was important to ensure that the control of Pakistan's nuclear weapons command did not go to "wrong hands." Reacting to media reports that the National Command Authority, which controls the nuclear button, has been handed over to Premier Yusuf Raza Gilani, General Kapoor said: "It is more important to have proper control over nuclear weapons and ensure that it does not go to wrong hands."

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/11/30/stories/2009113050160100.htm>

[No leak at Kaiga nuclear plant, nothing to worry: PM Manmohan Singh](#)
The Times of India, 30 November 2009

Amid apprehensions about radiation contamination at the Kaiga nuclear plant in Karnataka, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has denied any radiation leak and said there was "nothing to worry about". "I have been briefed about it, it is a small matter of contamination and is not linked to any leak," Manmohan Singh told reporters accompanying him on return from Trinidad and Tobago on Sunday night. "There is nothing to worry. All our systems are intact and under control. An inquiry has been ordered," he said. Initial investigation into radiation contamination at the Kaiga atomic power plant has disclosed that it was possibly an act of mischief and not a leak or security breach.

[Singh's nuke gamble II \(KP Nayar\)](#)
The Telegraph, 30 November 2009

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's talks in Port of Spain last week may eventually lead to an initiative to amend the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) to include India, along with the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, as a nuclear weapons state. The Prime Minister is understood to have broached the idea of India's de jure recognition as a nuclear weapons state with two of the five legal nuclear weapons states. The five such states are China, France, Russia, the UK and the US. India is already a de facto nuclear weapons state, but under the NPT, it has not been recognised as one and will, therefore, be denied the rights of the big five under the treaty for ever unless there is an amendment to the pact.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1091201/jsp/frontpage/story_11806763.jsp