

### **[PM signals readiness to redraft N-liability bill](#)**

**The Times of India, 1 April 2010**

The civil nuclear liability bill will be rewritten, following Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's statement that the government was ready to discuss deficiencies in the legislation that could not be introduced in Parliament because of the Opposition's protests. Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the Padma awards ceremony, the PM stressed the government had an open mind on the issue, signalling the desire to accommodate concerns about the bill. "It should go to the standing committee where all possible divergence of opinion can be resolved," he said. The PM's remarks tied in with strong indications that the government has veered around to appreciate the necessity to "fix" the bill seen as full of ambiguities.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/PM-signals-readiness-to-redraft-N-liability-bill/articleshow/5748579.cms>

### **[India and U.S. likely to clash over nuclear liability bill](#)**

**The Hindu, 1 April 2010**

Pilloried in India for crafting a nuclear liability bill that his critics say is aimed at pleasing American companies, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh is now facing criticism from an unlikely source: the U.S. nuclear industry. The debate in India is over the liability limits the bill will establish in the event of a nuclear accident: Rs. 500 crore for the operator of a nuclear facility out of a total of approximately Rs. 2,100 crore, the difference between the two figures to be borne by the government. In line with an international treaty that India will accede to, the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC), the bill also legally channels liability to the operator but not in as clear-cut a way as American nuclear companies which are lining up to supply reactor components would like.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/01/stories/2010040162941400.htm>

### **[India seeks nuclear pact with Japan](#)**

**The Hindu, 1 April 2010**

India wants Japan to shun its apprehensions and join hands in the atomic energy sector. This would stimulate the Japanese economy as well as provide muscle to the bilateral strategic partnership, said former Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran, who was the Prime Minister's Special Envoy on Indo-U.S. nuclear issues. "We see Japan as a strategic partner contributing to India's economic and social development. It is against this background that we must explore the prospects for civil nuclear energy cooperation," Mr. Saran observed at a seminar on Indo-Japan cooperation in peaceful use of nuclear energy organised by the influential International Friendship Exchange Council (FEC) in Tokyo. He was fielded as part of the Foreign Office's recent approach of asking veteran diplomats to articulate India's position internationally on various issues.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article347264.ece>

### **[US public support for nuclear at record high](#)**

**World Nuclear News, 1 April 2010**

Public support for nuclear energy in the USA has reached a record high, with 74% of people saying they are in favour of nuclear energy, according to the results of a new poll. The telephone survey of 1000 US citizens was carried out between 18 and 21

March by Bisconti Research in conjunction with GfK Roper on behalf of the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI). Surveys conducted by Bisconti have shown a significant change in the US public's view of nuclear energy over past years. Favourability has increased fairly steadily since 1983, when Bisconti's first poll showed that 49% of Americans supported the use of nuclear energy. The latest poll found that 80% of US men and 68% of women favour nuclear energy. It also showed that those respondents who strongly favour nuclear energy (33%) outnumber those who are strongly opposed (10%) by more than three to one.

[http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP-US\\_public\\_support\\_for\\_nuclear\\_at\\_record\\_high-0104104.html?jmid=11690&j=245852856&utm\\_source=JangoMail&utm\\_medium=E-mail&utm\\_campaign=WNN+Daily%3A+Links+for+the+supply+chain+%28245852856%29&utm\\_content=rekhachakrava](http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP-US_public_support_for_nuclear_at_record_high-0104104.html?jmid=11690&j=245852856&utm_source=JangoMail&utm_medium=E-mail&utm_campaign=WNN+Daily%3A+Links+for+the+supply+chain+%28245852856%29&utm_content=rekhachakrava)

### **[India committed to nuclear liability law: US](#)**

**Hindustan Times, 2 April 2010**

Saying India has expressed commitment to the nuclear liability legislation, the United States has said it was up to New Delhi to figure out how to move forward on it overriding opposition objections to certain clauses. "I don't see that as a sticking point," Assistant Secretary Of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Robert Blake told reporters on Thursday when asked about opposition to the nuclear liability bill in India. "In all of our conversations with the Indian government, they have consistently said that they remain committed to fulfilling this commitment under the civil nuclear deal, to pass civil liability legislation." "I think the opposition in India has recently expressed its objections to aspects of that legislation, so it will be up to the government of India to figure out how to move forward on this," Blake said. "But again, they've always said to us that they remain committed to moving that legislation."

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/India-committed-to-nuclear-liability-law-US/526115/H1-Article1-526117.aspx>

### **[U.S. Ratification of CTBT Faces Additional Challenges](#)**

**Global Security Newswire, 2 April 2010**

The extended amount of time it took for the United States to negotiate a new nuclear arms control treaty with Russia is thought to have hurt the chances for U.S. Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty this year, the Associated Press reported today (see GSN, Feb. 18). Moscow and Washington spent nearly a year in talks on the replacement for the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, which is now set to be signed next week. The Obama administration had hoped to see negotiations wrapped up before the pact expired Dec. 5 of last year, giving a boost to its effort on CTBT ratification. The United States is one of nine "Annex 2" states that must yet join the global prohibition on nuclear test blasts before it can enter into force.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20100402\\_6871.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20100402_6871.php)

### **[Liberal Democrats call for immediate review of UK Trident policy](#)**

**Guardian, 2 April 2010**

Britain's Trident nuclear missile system must be debated in the forthcoming strategic defence review, the Liberal Democrats said today. "The government's decision to replace Trident on an equivalent basis [with the same number of submarines and

ballistic missiles] is no longer tenable," says a Lib Dem policy paper seen by the Guardian. "Labour and Conservative plans to avoid all consideration of nuclear weapons with the [review] are illogical." Avoiding such a "fundamental question" as whether Trident should be replaced would render the strategic defence review (SDR) invalid, it adds. Given that the defence budget faces up to a £36bn shortfall over the next 10 years, all parties agree that a review must be set up before the summer. But Labour and Tory leaders say the need for a Trident-based nuclear weapons system is absolute and must be excluded from the review.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/apr/02/liberal-democrats-review-trident>

### [Iran Nuclear Ring Probed](#)

**The Wall Street Journal, 3 April 2010**

An Iranian firm closely linked to Tehran's nuclear program acquired special hardware for enriching uranium, despite sanctions intended to keep such equipment out of Iran, according to officials with knowledge of the matter. In recent weeks, the officials said, an Iranian procurement firm obtained critical valves and vacuum gauges made by a French company that until December was owned by U.S. industrial conglomerate Tyco International. The French and U.S. firms said they knew nothing of the case. Western authorities are still struggling to understand precisely how the valves and gauges in question reached Iran. The International Atomic Energy Agency is investigating the matter, according to a Vienna-based diplomat, and Western intelligence agencies also are investigating, The Wall Street Journal has learned.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052702303450704575160242131138472.html>

### [Kudankulam nuclear power project delayed](#)

**Hindustan Times, 4 April 2010**

The delay in the arrival of components for the upcoming 2,000 MW nuclear reactor at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu has led to the postponement of the commissioning of the first unit of the project by a few months, an official said. Service providers for the project like the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) are clueless about the possible date for the arrival of the components. The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) is building two 1,000 MW light water nuclear reactors in Kudankulam, about 600 km from Chennai, in Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu with Russians supplying all the components of the plant, including the nuts and bolts. "Nearly 30 per cent components on the piping side are yet to come from Russia, as far as our portion of the contract is concerned. We are not informed as to when they would arrive," BHEL executive director P R Shriram told reporters on Saturday.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/tamilnadu/Kudankulam-nuclear-power-project-delayed/Article1-526917.aspx>

### [Uranium-mining nations flout UN on nuclear terror](#)

**The Associated Press, 4 April 2010**

Years after a six-month deadline passed, dozens of nations, including uranium producers, remain potential weak links in the global defense against nuclear terrorism, ignoring a U.N. mandate on laws and controls to foil this ultimate threat. Niger, a major uranium exporter, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the source of the uranium for the first atomic bomb, are among the states falling short in

complying with Security Council Resolution 1540, a key tool in efforts to block nuclear proliferation. Uncontrolled freelance mining in the Congo has long worried international authorities that the raw material for a bomb might fall into the wrong hands. U.S. President Barack Obama, who calls nuclear terrorism "the most immediate and extreme threat to global security," hosts a summit on nuclear security April 12-13 in Washington, where implementation of Resolution 1540 will be high on the agenda.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gvM3O42iHD37qDK1s5V4myxv\\_S-gD9ERMHDOO](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gvM3O42iHD37qDK1s5V4myxv_S-gD9ERMHDOO)

### **Obama Limits When U.S. Would Use Nuclear Arms**

**The New York Times, 5 April 2010**

President Obama said Monday that he was revamping American nuclear strategy to substantially narrow the conditions under which the United States would use nuclear weapons. But the president said in an interview that he was carving out an exception for "outliers like Iran and North Korea" that have violated or renounced the main treaty to halt nuclear proliferation. Discussing his approach to nuclear security the day before formally releasing his new strategy, Mr. Obama described his policy as part of a broader effort to edge the world toward making nuclear weapons obsolete, and to create incentives for countries to give up any nuclear ambitions. To set an example, the new strategy renounces the development of any new nuclear weapons, overruling the initial position of his own defense secretary.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/06/world/06arms.html?hp>

### **Manmohan to attend nuclear security summit**

**The Hindu, 5 April 2010**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will attend a global meeting in Washington convened by U.S. President Barack Obama next week aimed at strengthening national measures on protecting nuclear material and combating their trafficking. The initiative, while adhering to multilateral instruments and norms, would help in the expanded use of civil nuclear energy, Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao told newsmen here on Sunday. The two-day summit beginning on April 12 would not be country-specific but would be aimed at eliminating clandestine proliferation and trafficking in nuclear weapons and material. Asked why Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were not invited and if the issue was raised during the two preparatory conferences, Ms. Rao said discussions were held in the "global context."

<http://www.thehindu.com/2010/04/05/stories/2010040558580100.htm>

### **US to release its report on nuclear strategy Tuesday**

**Press Trust of India, 5 April 2010**

Ahead of the next week's Nuclear Security Summit to be attended by leaders from more than 40 countries including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, the US today said it would release its nuclear strategy tomorrow. The Nuclear Strategy Report is expected to stress non-nuclear deterrent capabilities, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said. Gibbs said that it would build the momentum for the Nuclear Security Summit that has been convened by President Barack Obama in Washington on April 12 and 13.

### **U.S.-India Reprocessing Deal Spurs Complaints, But Congressional Rebuff**

### Unlikely

#### **Global Security Newswire, 5 April 2010**

A number of influential U.S. lawmakers are expected to protest an agreement announced last week that would allow India to reprocess spent nuclear fuel purchased from the United States, but the deal is widely expected to proceed (see GSN, March 30). Political pushback -- potentially from both Democrats and Republicans -- could come in the form of an official letter to U.S. President Barack Obama or Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, according to Capitol Hill sources. Issue experts also would not rule out the possibility of hearings being held on the matter, perhaps most likely in the Senate. Such reprocessing agreements are relatively rare, having previously been granted by Washington only to its closest allies in Europe and Japan.

[http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw\\_20100405\\_5116.php](http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100405_5116.php)

### Malaysia passes law to curb nuclear trafficking

#### **The Associated Press, 5 April 2010**

Malaysia has passed a law to curb the trafficking of nuclear weapon components after being linked to the illegal supply of sensitive technology to countries including Iran and Libya. The Strategic Trade Bill was approved by Parliament late Monday, a week before Prime Minister Najib Razak is scheduled to visit Washington for a nuclear security summit on the invitation of President Barack Obama. The law provides for prison terms of at least five years and fines of millions of ringgit (dollars) for people who illegally bring in or export material that could be used to make weapons of mass destruction. Offenders can be sentenced to death by hanging or life imprisonment if their actions result in casualties.

### Nuclear liability in other countries

#### **The Hindu Business Line, 5 April 2010**

Beating a hasty retreat on an issue is never the most palatable of options in politics. But the UPA Government was forced to do an embarrassing about-turn on the landmark Nuclear Liability Bill. The prospect of facing a united Opposition, along with poor floor management in the Lok Sabha, contributed to an unceremonious exit for the crucial legislation even before it could be tabled in the House. A look at the provisions in the Bill shows that there is merit in some of the concerns raised by naysayers. The three most contentious provisions are: The capping of compensation; a prescribed time limit for filing applications and claiming compensation; and conformity, or lack of it, with international conventions, on issues such as operator liability in the event of a terrorist strike.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/2010/04/05/stories/2010040550600900.htm>

### Revisions in N-liability bill a must

#### **The Economic Times, 6 April 2010**

After the national furore, the government has begun to redraft its nuclear-accident liability bill. It was left with little choice. Unlike the 123 agreement or the latest reprocessing accord with the US, the proposed new law on liability has to go before Parliament for scrutiny and approval. The bill, circulated to members of Parliament last month, attempted to fashion a new principle in international law — profits are private, accident-related liabilities are all public. The bill gave foreign reactor suppliers a free ride at the Indian taxpayer's expense. Limits on liability traditionally

have been designed in the world to limit the financial risks of private firms engaged in the business of nuclear-generated electricity. But in India the state intends to own and operate all nuclear power plants.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/Revisions-in-N-liability-bill-a-must/articleshow/5765052.cms>

### **Pakistan's strategic assets in safe hands: NCA**

**Daily Times, 6 April 2010**

The 17th meeting of the National Command Authority (NCA) on Monday expressed full confidence in the arrangements for custodial controls as well as the safety and security of Pakistan's strategic assets, and the effectiveness of Pakistan's strategic deterrence. The meeting chaired by Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani reviewed in detail, the policies and measures in place for the safety and security of nuclear materials and facilities, said a press release issued by the Inter-Service Public Relations. The NCA reiterated that, as a nuclear-armed state with advanced nuclear technology and expertise, Pakistan was fully cognisant of its responsibilities. The nuclear safety, security and non-proliferation measures put in place by Pakistan were supported by extensive legislative, regulatory and administrative framework.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\06\story\\_6-4-2010\\_pg1\\_5](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\06\story_6-4-2010_pg1_5)

### **Australia blocks shipment to Pakistan over weapons fears**

**Agence France-Presse, 6 April 2010**

Australia has blocked a shipment of scientific equipment to Pakistan over fears it could be used to help build weapons of mass destruction, a spokesman for Defence Minister John Faulkner said Tuesday. The government used the 1995 Weapons of Mass Destruction (Prevention of Proliferation) Act to stop an Australian company exporting instruments and accessories to a Pakistani firm, he said. "The minister forms the view, based on advice from the Department of Defence supported by other agencies, that there are unacceptable risks associated with the provision of these goods," the spokesman told AFP. It is the fourth time the minister has used the little-known act to block a shipment going overseas. On previous occasions, the goods had been destined for Iran or countries deemed at risk of passing them on to Iran.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hTRjxn0C0cHURKwfdjjrmWwkJHsQ>

### **NPCIL-NTPC to build two nuclear plants**

**The Hindu, 6 April 2010**

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and NTPC joint venture is likely to build two 700 MWe nuclear power plants at a site identified by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). Talking to reporters on the sidelines of the India Energy Congress here on Tuesday, Department of Atomic Energy Secretary Srikumar Banerjee said one of the sites identified by the DAE for 2x700 MW plant would go to the NPCIL-NTPC joint venture company. NPCIL and NTPC had entered into an agreement in February last year to start a joint venture company that will build nuclear power plants. Mr. Banerjee also deliberated on the advantages of nuclear power in a growing economy in view of the climate change-induced energy scenario.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/business/companies/article389870.ece>

### [U.N. chief will press for abolition of nuclear arms](#)

**The Washington Post, 6 April 2010**

Standing at the former Soviet nuclear test site, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said on Tuesday he would press nuclear powers at a Washington summit next week to scrap all their atomic weapons. The U.N. chief said there was good reason to believe the long-standing U.N. goal would eventually be realized amid optimism over a new U.S.-Russian strategic arms pact and a nuclear policy review by Washington, which he praised. Ban, on a Central Asian tour, flew by helicopter to the site in Kazakhstan where the former Soviet Union carried out nearly 500 atmospheric and underground nuclear test explosions between 1949 and 1989. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev closed the site, now called "Ground Zero," in 1991 as the Soviet Union broke up into independent states.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/06/AR2010040602041.html>

### [Australia not to supply uranium to India](#)

**Hindustan Times, 6 April 2010**

Australia on Tuesday ruled out changing its policy and said it would not supply uranium to India, which is seeking fuel for its nuclear energy programme, a media report said. Australian Trade Minister Simon Crean told reporters in Canberra: "There is no prospect for a change. We have consistently said, made this clear to India that we, because of our policy, cannot supply to countries that are non-signatories to the non-proliferation treaty," the Australian Financial Review quoted him as saying. In August 2007, the government of John Howard agreed to sell uranium to India subject to the finalisation of a US-India nuclear deal and the conclusion of a bilateral Australia-India nuclear safeguards agreement. But Kevin Rudd's government overturned the decision after taking power in December that year.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/world/Australia-not-to-supply-uranium-to-India/Article1-527858.aspx>

### [CPM willing to consider changed N-liability bill](#)

**Hindustan Times, 6 April 2010**

Prakash Karat on Tuesday said the CPM was willing to take another look at the nuclear liabilities bill if the government reworked it, but would oppose its introduction in Parliament in the present form. In conversation with HT, the CPM general-secretary said, "We are not in favour of the introduction of the bill in the present form. Let the government come back to the political parties with the changes they intend to make to the bill. So far, we haven't heard from the government on the issue". Karat said the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damages Bill was flawed in not fixing the liability on foreign suppliers in case of a nuclear accident, and that the Centre should redraft the bill the same way it was redrafting the Food Security Bill. About the BJP being primarily opposed to the capping of liability, Karat said "There is a blanket exemption given to the foreign suppliers in the case of any nuclear accident.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/newdelhi/CPM-willing-to-consider-changed-N-liability-bill/Article1-528048.aspx>

### [US to seek CTBT ratification, says no N-tests](#)

**Business Standard, 6 April 2010**

The US will not conduct nuclear tests and move to seek the ratification of the CTBT,

the Obama administration said today, as it underlined the importance of the NPT to the non-proliferation regime, the two pacts that India has failed to support in its present form. "The United States will not conduct nuclear testing and will pursue ratification and entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)," said a key US Nuclear Posture Review Report 2010. The Report released by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates at the Pentagon, said the US will not develop new nuclear warheads. "The United States will not develop new nuclear warheads. Life Extension Programmes (LEPs) will use only nuclear components based on previously tested designs, and will not support new military missions or provide for new military capabilities," it said.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/us-to-seek-ctbt-ratification-says-no-n-tests/90493/on>

### **[Two contrasting views could present obstacles to upcoming global nuclear security summit](#)**

**Xinhua News Agency, 7 April 2010**

The United States' ultimate fear might be the sight of a mushroom cloud floating over the city of New York. That seemed the stuff of science fiction films until the attacks of 9/11 proved the United States was vulnerable to a terrorist attack. But 9/11 would look like a mere practice run compared to the tsunami of destruction that a nuclear-armed terror group could unleash. That is a big reason why U.S. President Barack Obama is hosting the Global Nuclear Security Summit on April 12th and 13th in Washington, D.C. Obama has on numerous occasions said he views nuclear terrorism as the most deadly threat to global security and wants to help develop a plan of action to secure vulnerable nuclear materials within four years.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-04/07/c\\_13239891.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2010-04/07/c_13239891.htm)

### **[Asian allies welcome new US nuclear stance](#)**

**The Associated Press, 7 April 2010**

U.S. allies in Asia on Wednesday welcomed President Barack Obama's new policy aimed at reducing the likelihood of nuclear conflict, while powerhouse China was silent over his call for Beijing to better explain its nuclear intentions. In a much-awaited announcement, Obama vowed Tuesday to reduce America's nuclear arsenal, refrain from nuclear tests and not use nuclear weapons against countries that do not have them. North Korea and Iran were not included in that pledge because they do not cooperate with other countries on nonproliferation standards. Some U.S. allies, which benefit from being under the U.S. nuclear defense umbrella, were concerned they would be left vulnerable by a change in Washington's policy. But Obama's statement appeared to defuse many such concerns.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jW84bNCS157ewlxuCXihA\\_29kt5gD9EU4A3G0](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jW84bNCS157ewlxuCXihA_29kt5gD9EU4A3G0)

### **[NTPC JV may get site for nuclear power project](#)**

**The Financial Express, 7 April 2010**

Central utility NTPC's plan to enter nuclear power generation business might take off soon, with the government planning to allocate a site for the development of 2X700 mw capacity to the proposed NTPC-NPCIL joint venture (JV). The department of atomic energy (DAE) is in the process of finalising site for the JV. "One of the sites identified by the DAE for 2x700 mw plant will go to the NPCIL-NTPC JV," DAE secretary Srikumar Banerjee said on the sidelines of the India Energy Congress here

on Tuesday. In a twin strategy to reduce its expanding carbon footprint and bolster fuel security for its power plants, India's largest thermal power generator NTPC has drawn up plans to reduce its dependence on coal. As part of the strategy, it has planned forays into non-conventional power generation like renewable and nuclear.

<http://www.financialexpress.com/news/NTPC-JV-may-get-site-for-nuclear-power-project/601007/>

**[India not going to join NPT "for quite some time": US Hindustan Times, 7 April 2010](#)**

The United States on Wednesday said India is not going to join the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) "for quite some time", but wanted New Delhi to work with the Obama administration to strengthen the non-proliferation regime. A day after the US underlined its determination to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime, a top US official said Washington would not push New Delhi to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) until it is ratified by the American Senate. Appreciating India's principled opposition to the NPT, Robert J Einhorn, Special US Advisor Non Proliferation and Arms Control, said that New Delhi is unlikely to join the pact. "India's not going to join the NPT for quite some time, if at all. We understand that. But we want India to work with us in strengthening the nonproliferation regime," Einhorn told foreign journalists in Washington.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-not-going-to-join-NPT-for-quite-some-time-US/H1-Article1-528423.aspx>

**[No nuclear deal with Pakistan, says US The Indian Express, 8 April 2010](#)**

Hours after Pakistan Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said that his country "qualifies" for a civilian nuclear deal with the US, like that of India, the Obama administration in a blunt message told it that such a deal is not on platter of its talks with Islamabad. "We are focused on Pakistan's energy needs, but, as we said last week, right now that does not include civilian nuclear energy," assistant secretary of state for public affairs P J Crowley told reporters. A high-level Pakistani delegation led by the country's foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi was here last month to launch the US-Pak Strategic Dialogue. The Pakistani delegation sought a civil nuclear deal with the US on the lines of that of India. The Obama administration did not give any concrete assurance to Qureshi, neither did it totally reject the request.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/nonucleardealwithpakistan-saysus/601765/>

**[Payback? Iran to yell bias over N-deal The Times of India, 8 April 2010](#)**

In what is likely to further impact India-Iran ties over the nuclear issue, Tehran will raise what it describes as discrimination being practised by nuclear weapon states in entering into nuclear cooperation with countries which have not signed NPT. Iran plans to raise this issue at the nuclear disarmament conference it is hosting on April 16 and 17, immediately after the nuclear summit in Washington. While India confirmed on Saturday that its ambassador to Iran will participate in the conference, government sources said that yet another IAEA report in February had raised certain pertinent questions about Iran's nuclear programme and that Tehran needed to answer these. Specifying topics to be addressed in the conference, Iranian officials in India told TOI on Wednesday that the practice of offering nuclear cooperation to

those who have not signed NPT had created the wrong impression that states could enjoy greater benefits by staying out of this treaty.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Payback-Iran-to-yell-bias-over-N-deal/articleshow/5771442.cms>

### [India, US to put forth perspectives on nuclear safety](#)

**Press Trust of India, 8 April 2010**

Facing trans-national threats, India and the US will be sharing their perspectives on how to keep nuclear weapons out of the reach of terrorists during the upcoming Summit of key countries on nuclear security in Washington. "Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and US President Barack Obama will meet in days ahead to put forth their perspectives on nuclear proliferation and nuclear safety," US Ambassador to India Timothy J Roemer said here. Pointing that both India and USA faced "trans-national threat," Roemer said, "we have experienced it in New York and you in Mumbai." He said the countries needed to work together to try to make sure that it couldn't be a nuclear or chemical crisis. "That will be talked by the two great leaders," the ambassador said.

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/601681\\_India--US-to-put-forth-perspectives-on-nuclear-safety](http://www.ptinews.com/news/601681_India--US-to-put-forth-perspectives-on-nuclear-safety)

### [India could gain from US-Pakistan nuke deal \(W Pal Sidhu\)](#)

**The Wall Street Journal, 8 April 2010**

Despite all the rhetoric of a new strategic partnership between Islamabad and Washington the much-coveted prize of a civilian nuclear deal was politely, but firmly, denied to the visiting high-level Pakistani delegation by the US. Although the Pakistani establishment claimed they were satisfied with the negotiations, including on the nuclear deal, there was clear disappointment, especially as the US-Pakistan no-deal was in stark contrast to the announcement just days earlier that New Delhi and Washington had ironed out the final details of the India-US civilian nuclear deal which would allow India to reprocess nuclear material that has been used in its reactors. Although this might sound like a significant advantage to India, it is in fact New Delhi which is catching-up. More importantly, if we were to step back for a moment and look at the issue dispassionately, a similar deal between Pakistan and the US may not be such a bad idea at all from India's strategic point of view.

<http://www.livemint.com/2010/04/08231806/India-could-gain-from-USPakis.html?h=B>

### [Russia and U.S. Sign Nuclear Arms Reduction Pact](#)

**The New York Times, 8 April 2010**

The United States and Russia opened what they called a new era in their tumultuous relationship on Thursday as they signed an arms control treaty and presented a largely united front against Iran's nuclear program, marking a sharp change since they broke over the Georgia war two years ago. In a ceremony filled with flourish and the echoes of history, President Obama and President Dmitri A. Medvedev put aside the tensions of recent years to seal the New Start pact paring back their nuclear arsenals. The two leaders used the moment to showcase their growing personal relationship and a mutual commitment to cooperation on a host of issues. The celebratory mood in the majestic, gilded hall of Prague Castle masked stubborn

divisions on matters like missile defense and European security. Mr. Obama avoided any public criticism of Russia's human rights record.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/09/world/europe/09prexy.html>

**[Scrap dealer, workers suffer burns from radiation exposure](#)**  
**The Hindu, 8 April 2010**

A scrap dealer and three of his workers suffered serious burns and complained of uneasiness after they were exposed to a radioactive isotope under mysterious circumstances at a scrap market in West Delhi on Thursday. The material has been covered and the entire area cordoned off to prevent further damage. Shop owner Deepak Jain bought a scrap consignment that included a metal piece, which may have contained the radioactive material, about a week ago. The metal piece was kept inside an almirah in his shop in Mayapuri Phase-II. On Thursday, when one of the workers, Jitender, cut the piece, a white fluid oozed out, causing instant burn injuries. Mr. Jain also suffered burn injuries and patches on the skin when he lifted the piece. His hair started falling and his skin turned black. Other workers also complained of nausea and vomiting as the mysterious injuries created a scare in the area.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article392095.ece>

**[Govt prepares defence of nuclear liability bill](#)**  
**The Times of India, 9 April 2010**

In a response to the Left parties' critique of the civil liability for nuclear damage bill, the government has argued that the proposed law is intended to impose "strict liability" on operators of nuclear facilities even before their fault in an accident was established. With government keen to at least ensure the bill is referred to a standing committee when the Budget session of Parliament resumes later this month, it has drawn up a defence of the proposed law pointing out that victims will not be required to prove the fault of operators in order to access compensation. The immediate payment of an amount, currently set at Rs 500 crore and which could be improved upon, is meant to ensure that a compensation regime kicks in immediately. There is no such provision as of now and it does not cover criminal liability. A quantification of strict liability is needed to enable an operator to access insurance cover.

<http://toi.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Govt-prepares-defence-of-nuclear-liability-bill/articleshow/5776090.cms>

**[Benjamin Netanyahu calls off trip to nuclear conference](#)**  
**The Hindu, 9 April 2010**

Officials say Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called off his trip to Washington next week to attend a conference on the spread of nuclear weapons. Mr. Netanyahu had said he would attend the conference to underline the dangers of terrorists acquiring nuclear weapons. But officials in his office said early on Friday

that Netanyahu decided not to go, because some nations planned to use the conference to target Israel because of its reported nuclear weapons programme. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement has been made. Israel has not admitted to possessing nuclear weapons and has not signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Based on evidence, international experts have estimated that Israel has dozens of nuclear bombs.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article392353.ece>

### [China to push Pak case for nuke deal with US](#)

**The Economic Times, 9 April 2010**

As the US blew hot and cold on a civilian nuclear deal for Pakistan, China is all set to emerge as a strong backer for the idea. Pakistan wants a civilian nuclear deal in a bid to get parity with India. Though the US did not reject the idea outright, it did say that a nuclear deal was not on the cards right now. On Thursday, the Obama administration reiterated this position. "We are focused on Pakistan's energy needs, but, as we said last week, right now that does not include civilian nuclear energy," assistant secretary of state for public affairs P J Crowley told reporters. Earlier US secretary of state Hillary Clinton put matters in perspective by saying that a civil nuclear deal like India's does not happen "easily or quickly." The US position hasn't discouraged Islamabad from stepping up efforts to secure a nuclear deal. And these efforts are now reportedly geared towards Beijing.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/Politics/Nation/China-to-push-Pak-case-for-nuke-deal-with-US/articleshow/5776231.cms>

### [The nuclear family \(Rajesh Rajagopalan\)](#)

**Indian Express, 9 April 2010**

Next week, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will be attending the nuclear security summit in Washington DC. The summit represents a good opportunity for India to continue its transition from being a target of the global nuclear non-proliferation order to being one of its managers. But to make that transition, India needs to be a little more aggressive and venturesome in its diplomacy than it has been so far. The summit is the culmination of more than a year of preparation by the Obama administration and represents one part of a multi-pronged effort, all aimed at creating the necessary climate for a successful nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT) review conference, which is scheduled to take place in a few weeks. NPT review conferences (RevCons) are held every five years as a stock-taking effort by the NPT members and the last one in 2005 was a disaster.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/The-nuclear-family/601744>

### [Republicans to oppose arms reduction treaty as U.S prepares for nuke summit](#)

**The Hindu, 9 April 2010**

Even as the U.S. Administration is getting ready to host the nuclear security summit on April 12 top leaders of the Opposition Republican Party on Friday indicated that they would oppose the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) when it comes for ratification in the U.S. Senate. Billed as the historic treaty by the ruling Democrats and non-proliferation experts world over, the New START treaty was signed by President Barack Obama and his Russian counterpart Dmitry Medvedev in

Prague on Thursday. As per the treaty, both nations agreed to slash arsenals of strategic nuclear warheads. "Whatever our ultimate conclusions on the START follow-on treaty, we continue to believe it will be difficult for it to pass the Senate without the fully funded robust nuclear weapons modernisation programme required by section 1251 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2010," two top Republican Senators, John McCain and John Kyl, said in a statement.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article392396.ece>

### **[Ahmadinejad: Iran still ready for nuclear fuel swap](#)**

**Press TV, 9 April 2010**

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has expressed Tehran's readiness for a nuclear fuel swap with the Western side without preconditions. "Although we are capable of producing 20-percent-enriched uranium, we still can exchange fuel with no preconditions," the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Ahmadinejad as saying in an exclusive interview with German television network RTL. "If Iran is not provided with uranium enriched to a level of 20 percent, we will produce it on our own," he added. Ahmadinejad stressed that Iran would not be influenced by other countries on the nuclear issue. "Iran does not need countries which exercise pressure on us," he said.

<http://www.presstv.ir/detail.aspx?id=122838&ionid=351020101>

### **[Iran miffed by US's nuclear posture](#)**

**Asia Times, 9 April 2010**

Tehran has reacted sharply to the new United States nuclear doctrine that explicitly targets Iran and North Korea and allows for the threat and use of nuclear weapons against them. Leading the charge, President Mahmud Ahmadinejad has accused the Barack Obama administration of nuclear duplicity and being more warmongering than the predecessor administration of George W Bush. The US Nuclear Posture Review, which was unveiled this week on the eve of the Prague signing of a new bilateral arms control treaty between the US and Russia, is notable for its prioritization of nuclear terrorism and threats of nuclear proliferation, as opposed to traditional Cold-War type nuclear threats. It also has a contradictory position. On the one hand it explicitly reduces the role of nuclear weapons in the US's national security strategy. On the other it increases the coercive diplomatic role of the US's nuclear wherewithal as a strategy for "reversing" the nuclear ambitions of countries such as Iran and North Korea, and for deterring the would-be nuclear-seekers with the blunt threat of a US nuclear backlash.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle\\_East/LD10Ak02.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/LD10Ak02.html)

### **["India has impeccable nuclear safety record"](#)**

**The Hindu, 10 April 2010**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday stated that India had an impeccable record of security and safety which reflected the country's conduct as a responsible nuclear power. His statement on the eve of his departure for the U.S. to attend the Nuclear Security Summit comes against the backdrop of a "radiation leak" in the national capital earlier this week. The Prime Minister will then leave for Brazil to attend the India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) and Brazil-Russia-India-China (BRIC) summits being hosted by Brazilian President Lula da Silva in Brasilia. Dr. Singh said

the Washington Summit's focus on nuclear terrorism and proliferation of sensitive nuclear material and technologies were legitimate concerns which required firm responses. India being a consistent advocate of complete and universal global nuclear disarmament was encouraged by the fact that this approach was finding greater resonance today. "We will continue to call for more meaningful progress in this direction," he added.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article393246.ece>

### **Obama seeks concrete action on nuclear security**

**The Hindustan Times, 10 April 2010**

US President Barack Obama will urge nations to agree to steps to ensure nuclear-related material is safe and inaccessible to terrorists when he hosts an unprecedented international summit next week in Washington, advisers said on Friday. Obama wants to develop an action plan to set standards for securing nuclear stockpiles and accomplishing the goal within four years, the advisers said. That could include pursuing new agreements and strengthening existing ones, they said. "The threat of nuclear terrorism is a very serious threat," said Gary Samore, the White House's senior director for nuclear non-proliferation. Obama will host the two-day summit that begins Monday and includes leaders and representatives from 47 countries. Thirty-eight heads of state are expected to attend as well as chiefs of the United Nations and its nuclear monitoring body, the International Atomic Energy Agency, said Ben Rhodes, a deputy national security adviser.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/americas/Obama-seeks-concrete-action-on-nuclear-security/529530/H1-Article1-529465.aspx>

### **PM to meet Obama tomorrow to get drift of Indo-US ties**

**The Times of India, 10 April 2010**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will get a first-hand sense of where President Barack Obama is taking the US-India relationship and his road map for the AfPak region when he meets the American President here on Sunday ahead of the Nuclear Security Summit hosted by Washington starting Monday. Singh is scheduled to be Obama's first bilateral meeting (at 1.45 p.m.) on a day the US President typically likes to reserve for his young family and an occasional appearance at a church. The engagement is followed by Obama's meetings with the President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazabayev (3.00 p.m.), South Africa's Jacob Zuma (4.00 p.m.), Pakistan's Yousef Raza Gilani (5 p.m.) and Nigeria's Goodluck Johnson (5.45 p.m.). The bilats with two "new" nuclear powers and two countries which voluntarily gave up nuclear weapons programme underlines Obama's pursuit of greater nuclear security through a summit meeting that has been elevated by his pro-active approach to nuclear weapons reduction but undermined by the decision of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to attend.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/PM-to-meet-Obama-tomorrow-to-get-drift-of-Indo-US-ties/articleshow/5782682.cms>

### **Sherpas give final shape to communique for N-security summit**

**The Hindustan Times, 10 April 2010**

A key nuclear security summit here next week being attended by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and other world leaders is expected to recognise that nuclear terrorism is a serious threat and highlight the need to secure all vulnerable atomic material over a four-year period. The text of the communique and other documents to be issued at the end of the April 12-13 summit convened by US President Barack Obama were finalised at the meeting of the Sherpas yesterday, during which India was represented by Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao. The meeting was chaired by US Sherpa Gary Samore, Senior Advisor to the President and Senior Director for non-proliferation. "There will be a high-level communique from the leaders which will recognise that nuclear terrorism is a serious threat (and) which will endorse President Obama's effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear materials over a four-year period," Samore said.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/americas/Sherpas-give-final-shape-to-communiqué-for-N-security-summit/529468/H1-Article1-529490.aspx>

**[India, Pakistan have upset nuclear deterrent balance](#)**  
**The Hindu, 10 April 2010**

India and Pakistan have pursued nuclear weapons "in a way that has upset the balance of nuclear deterrent," Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Friday. She added that that was why the United States was working with both countries "very hard to try to make sure that their nuclear stockpiles are well tended to, and that they participate with us in trying to limit the number of nuclear weapons." Speaking at a lecture at University of Louisville, Kentucky, Ms. Clinton argued that the nature of the nuclear threat had changed: "As President Obama has said, the risk of a nuclear attack has actually increased. And the potential consequences of mishandling this challenge are deadly." Nuclear terrorism presents a different challenge, but the consequences would still be devastating, she said. Highlighting the growing threat of nuclear terrorism and nuclear proliferation a few days ahead of the 47-nation Nuclear Security Summit in Washington, the Secretary illustrated what a doomsday scenario would look like given these risks.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article393829.ece>

**[Govt ready to consider changes in Civil Nuclear Liability Bill](#)**  
**Daily News & Analysis, 10 April 2010**

Government is ready to consider changes in the controversial Civil Nuclear Liability Bill including replacing the word 'cap' relating to compensation in case of accidents, which has come under attack from the opposition. Reacting to a suggestion by former solicitor general Soli Sorabjee that the word 'cap' should be replaced with 'norm', sources said this can be done but "in a democratic way". The sources said there were "misapprehensions" on certain counts on the Bill which could be addressed by sending the proposed legislation to the Standing Committee of Parliament. "If some bits need to be improved, including raising the cap, it can be done," they said. Opposition parties like the BJP and Left parties have opposed the bill, saying the cap of Rs500 crore was low. The sources explained that there was no cap on compensation and the Rs500 crore figure mentioned in the bill was for

insurance purposes and to ensure immediate liability without the victim having to prove an accident.

[http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report\\_govt-ready-to-consider-changes-in-civil-nuclear-liability-bill\\_1369849](http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_govt-ready-to-consider-changes-in-civil-nuclear-liability-bill_1369849)

**[US not pushing Pakistan to sign NPT](#)**  
**The Dawn, 10 April 2010**

The United States has said that it wants countries like Pakistan to help prevent further proliferation of nuclear weapons even if they are not willing to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Robert J. Einhorn, special adviser on non-proliferation and arms control to the US Department of State, also said that Washington wanted India, Pakistan and China to ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, once it was approved by the US Senate. At a briefing in Washington on the new US nuclear policy, Mr Einhorn said the US realised that India might never sign the NPT and accepted the Indian position. Asked why India, Pakistan and Israel were exempted from the NPT, the official said: "We call on all countries, whether they have chosen to join the NPT or not, to work together to limit, to prevent, the threat of further nuclear proliferation. Whether you're an NPT party or not, there's a common interest in ensuring that this regime does not unravel."

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/us-not-pushing-pakistan-to-sign-npt-040>

**[NKorea has 'nothing to fear' from new nuclear policy: US](#)**  
**Agence France-Presse, 10 April 2010**

North Korea has "nothing to fear" if it breaks from its nuclear weapons program, officials in Washington insisted Friday after Pyongyang attacked the new US nuclear policy as showing continued hostility. "If they have concerns about what's in the Nuclear Posture Review, they have control on what happens next," said State Department spokesman Philip Crowley, referring to the policy renouncing the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear states in compliance with the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. "If they come back to the six-party process, if they take affirmative steps toward denuclearization, then they have nothing to fear from (the) NPR," Crowley said. A foreign ministry spokesman in Pyongyang told the official news agency earlier Friday that "as long as the US nuclear threat persists, the DPRK (North Korea) will increase and update various type nuclear weapons as its deterrent."

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jMPizgA9tC3\\_kpepFmj5vjxD72jQ](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jMPizgA9tC3_kpepFmj5vjxD72jQ)

**[Iranian Anger Rises Over Obama's Revised Nuclear Policy](#)**  
**The New York Times, 11 April 2010**

A large majority of Iranian lawmakers, angered over the Obama administration's new nuclear weapons policy that conspicuously makes Iran and North Korea possible targets, urged their government on Sunday to formally complain to the United Nations in a petition that called the United States a warmonger and threat to world peace. Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khomeini, also spoke out against the

Obama administration's revised nuclear policy. In remarks reported by the Fars News Agency, the ayatollah said the United States is a "sinister government and cannot be trusted."

The Iranian reactions to Mr. Obama's revised policy, which was issued last Tuesday in Washington in what is known as the presidential Nuclear Posture Review, appeared timed to coincide with the start of an international summit meeting hosted by Mr. Obama starting Monday, during which other world leaders will be talking about curbing Iran's nuclear ambitions.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/12/world/middleeast/12iran.html>

### **[NKorea has up to six nuclear weapons: Clinton](#)**

**Agence France-Presse, 11 April 2010**

North Korea has as many as six nuclear weapons, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has said as she pressed for international efforts to help denuclearize the volatile hermit country. But Clinton also stressed that despite a recent new pact with Russia to reduce atomic stockpiles and a push for disarmament, the United States will keep nuclear arms so long as other countries have access to the weapons of mass destruction. "We will not unilaterally disarm. We will maintain our nuclear deterrent," she said during a speech Friday in Louisville, Kentucky. In a rare reference by the chief US diplomat to the number of weapons held by North Korea, Clinton said Pyongyang had "between one and six nuclear weapons." The Council on Foreign Relations think-tank said last year that the North has built between six and eight nuclear weapons.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gzZoWRx05e3pg7Mh4X865w aqxPIQ>

### **[Manmohan-Obama bilateral focused on nuclear security, Afghanistan](#)**

**The Hindu, 12 April 2010**

Nuclear security and non-proliferation, Afghanistan, food security, and poverty reduction featured prominently in the bilateral discussions between Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and President Barack Obama on Sunday, Ben Rhodes, Deputy National Security Advisor for Strategic Communications, told media during a teleconference. Mr. Obama had, in particular, thanked Dr. Singh for the humanitarian and development work that India has been undertaking in Afghanistan, Mr. Rhodes added. At the meeting both leaders emphasised the strategic importance of the India-United States relationship to the entire world, he said. The Singh-Obama meeting was the first in series of bilateral talks that President Obama is holding prior to the kickoff of the Nuclear Security Summit of April 12-13.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article394714.ece?homepage=true>

### **[Threat to Pak N-arsenal leaves India worried](#)**

**The Times of India, 12 April 2010**

India is "very worried" about the security of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and the prospect of it "leaking" to terrorist entities like al-Qaida and its affiliates. This will be raised by India on the sidelines of the nuclear security summit, which started here on Monday. India will flag these concerns, not at open plenary sessions but quietly lobbying with other nations, because the summit technically does not allow for naming specific countries. On the whole, India sees the nuclear summit as a vindication of its long-standing position that the security of nuclear materials is key to ensuring the goals of both non-proliferation and disarmament. The PM will have separate meetings with Kazakh president Nursultan Nazarbayev on Sunday, Canadian PM Stephen Harper and French president Nicholas Sarkozy on Monday. The Kazakh meeting is important, because not only has India signed important nuclear deals with Kazakhstan, but the Central Asian country recently withdrew its candidature from the non-permanent seat of the UN Security Council, leaving India with a clear field.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/Threat-to-Pak-N-arsenal-leaves-India-worried/articleshow/5785966.cms>

### **[Nuclear Summit opens to keep N-weapons out of terrorist hand](#)**

**The Indian Express, 12 April 2010**

An unprecedented two-day Nuclear Security Summit kicks off here on Monday with US President Barack Obama and other world leaders joining to craft an agreement on keeping nuclear weapons out of terrorist hands. The Summit of world leaders from 47 countries, including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will open with a warning by Obama that terror groups like al-Qaeda have aspirations to arm themselves with nuclear weapons. The gathering of Presidents and Prime Ministers has been described as the largest gathering of world leaders organised by the US in more than five decades. The Summit would be heralded by Obama hosting a working dinner for the heads of delegations but US officials said a sweeping or bold new initiatives to halt nuclear proliferation were not expected.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/Nuclear-Summit-opens-to-keep-N-weapons-out-of-terrorist-hand/605116>

### **[Q+A - Obama summit to highlight threat of nuclear terrorism](#)**

**Reuters, 12 April 2010**

Nearly 50 countries meet in Washington this week for an unprecedented summit aimed at agreeing concrete action to prevent bomb-grade nuclear material from falling into the hands of terrorists. WHAT IS THE GOAL OF THE SUMMIT? In a speech in Prague last year, U.S. President Barack Obama warned that nuclear terrorism was the "most immediate and extreme threat to global security." He wants to use the summit to galvanize countries to take the issue more seriously. The goal of the summit is to reach a common understanding on the threat posed by nuclear terrorism and to agree on a plan of action to secure all loose nuclear material within four years to stop terrorists from getting their hands on it. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says the April 12-13 gathering of 47 nations is the largest conference hosted by the United States since 1945. Two countries not on the guest list are Iran and North Korea, both of which are locked in their own nuclear standoffs with the

West.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-47614020100412>

**[Nuclear terrorism is gravest threat to global security, Barack Obama warns](#)**  
**The Telegraph, 12 April 2010**

At a two-day summit on Monday, the biggest gathering of world leaders led by an American president since the end of the Second World War, Mr Obama will urge international co-operation on securing every ounce of loose nuclear material within four years. Ahead of the meeting, he said: "The single biggest threat to U.S. security, both short-term, medium-term and long-term, would be the possibility of a terrorist organization obtaining a nuclear weapon. "This is something that could change the security landscape in this country and around the world for years to come." "If there was ever a detonation in New York City, or London, or Johannesburg, the ramifications economically, politically and from a security perspective would be devastating. "We know that organisations like al-Qaeda are in the process of trying to secure nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction, and would have no compunction at using them."

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/7580210/Nuclear-terrorism-is-gravest-threat-to-global-security-Barack-Obama-warns.html>

**[China faces nuclear diplomacy with awkward baggage](#)**  
**Reuters, 12 April 2010**

Chinese President Hu Jintao takes tricky baggage to the nuclear security summit opening on Monday, representing a superpower in the making that is a relatively small nuclear arms state, wary of its big peers. The meeting in Washington D.C. hosted by President Barack Obama will focus on making atomic sites and materials safer from theft and terrorist attack, not broader questions about arms controls and cuts. But the unprecedented 47-nation meeting that could test China's approach of staying inside the exclusive club of five official nuclear weapons states and yet sometimes acting as an outsider, critical of the biggest nuclear powers. "China wants to be grouped with the recognized (nuclear) weapons states, but also wants to be seen as a voice for the demands of the non-nuclear developing world," said Jingdong Yuan, an expert on China's nuclear arms policies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in California. For all its rising wealth and military spending, China keeps a relatively small stockpile of perhaps 200-240 nuclear warheads.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE63B0FS20100412>

**['Radioactive gas can detect nuclear tests'](#)**  
**The Hindu, 12 April 2010**

In a breakthrough, scientists have isolated an exotic radioactive gas which, they claim, would make it easier to detect underground nuclear tests from air samples. A global network of monitoring stations constantly samples the air for signs of underground nuclear tests. One thing the stations look for is the radioactive gas

xenon-133. Nuclear explosions produce an excited form called xenon-133m, in which the atomic nucleus is boosted to a higher-energy state, but it is not known exactly how sensitive detectors are to this form as there has been no way to make pure samples of xenon-133m with which to test them. Now, Kari Perrvi of the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority in Finland has solved the problem. The team placed a cloud of xenon-133 atoms inside a magnetic trap and then jolted it with oscillating electric and magnetic fields; this pushed out the unexcited form, leaving only the excited form behind, the *New Scientist* has reported.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/article394514.ece>

**[The country's imminent liabilities \(Vikas Kumar and Chandan Gowda\)](#)**  
**The Deccan Herald, 12 April 2010**

The draft of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill, 2010, which the Centre wished to enact as a follow-up to the Indo-US nuclear deal, has evoked strong reactions. The Bill seeks to establish the liability standards for nuclear plant operators from any part of the world. In addition to the US operators, companies from Europe and India are equally interested in a lenient liability Bill. The damage in the event of a nuclear accident is so enormous that insurance companies have consistently refused to extend full coverage. Should the state decide to use the nuclear option to diversify its energy sources, it must also agree to bear that part of the cost that any operator, public or private, cannot bear on their own. In other words, the nuclear power industry is a hazardous business. Since successive governments in India have consistently endorsed the nuclear energy option, ways have to be found to ensure that the citizens are protected in the event of a nuclear accident. The Bill attempts to address this issue.

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/63312/countrys-imminent-liabilities.html>

**[US-India deal clouds nuclear summit](#)**  
**The Asia Times, 12 April 2010**

For India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who was on Sunday tapped by US President Barack Obama for his first major one-on-one meeting at the sidelines of this week's Nuclear Security Summit in Washington DC, much has changed since his visit to the US capital last November. The two-day summit, which is focusing on making atomic sites and materials safer from terrorists, comes after last week's release of the latest US Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) and the signing in Prague of the US-Russia START nuclear arms control treaty. In May, there is also the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference. There are sub-plots to the US-India engagement, including the continuing dispute over Indian access to David Headley, the Mumbai terror suspect being tried in the US, relations with Pakistan and the situation in Afghanistan. Still, Singh's superb salesmanship is once again on display thanks to the US announcement in late March of a nuclear reprocessing agreement with India.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/South\\_Asia/LD13Df01.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/South_Asia/LD13Df01.html)

**[Obama lauds South Africa, Kazakhstan for dismantling nuclear weapons](#)**

### **The Times of India, 12 April 2010**

US President Barack Obama applauded South Africa and Kazakhstan for dismantling their nuclear weapons programmes. Obama, who met South African President Jacob Zuma and his Kazakhstan counterpart Nursultan Nazarbayev at the Blair House on the eve of the Nuclear Security Summit took the opportunity to praise both the nations for dismantling their nuclear weapons programmes. "I wanted to publicly compliment President Zuma and his administration for the leadership they have shown. And we are looking forward toward the possibility of them helping to guide other countries down a similar direction of non-proliferation," Obama told reporters after the meeting with Zuma. "President Obama welcomed President Jacob Zuma to Washington to discuss nuclear security, as well as other topics of mutual interest. The President acknowledged South Africa's historical leadership in this arena, demonstrating its peaceful nuclear intentions by the dismantling of its nuclear weapons programme," the White House said in a statement.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/Obama-lauds-South-Africa-Kazakhstan-for-dismantling-nuclear-weapons/articleshow/5787272.cms>

### **[Trade unions ask India, Pakistan to sign NPT, CTBT](#)**

#### **The Hindu, 12 April 2010**

Trade union leaders of India and Pakistan have urged the two countries to sign the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and use the trillions of rupees they spend on bomb-making and arms trade for poverty eradication and the welfare of their people. At a conference organised by the International Trade Union Confederation of the Asia Pacific Region in Singapore on April 7 and 8, union leaders from the two nations joined their counterparts from Japan, the Philippines, Mongolia, Indonesia and other nations of the region in demanding that the nuclear stockpiles of the two nations be scrapped. The Indian unions were represented by Hind Mazdoor Sangh (HMS) president Thampan Thomas, and those in Pakistan by Muhammed Zahoor Awan of the Pakistan Workers Federation.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article394655.ece>

### **[Drafting in the dark](#)**

#### **The Indian Express, 12 April 2010**

Reports suggest that a controversial clause in the Civil Nuclear Liability Bill is actually unnecessary. The Bill, in its current form, puts an upper limit of 300 million special drawing rights (SDR) that must be paid as monetary damages in the event of a nuclear accident. In a country in which compensation for the victims for the 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy continues to be discussed 25 years on, this upper limit naturally generated criticism of kowtowing. The government seemed to defend this limit as a pre-condition of the International Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage. If India wanted to be a big player in civil nuclear energy, the argument went, limits to liability was the trade-off. But it now emerges that the international convention which the government is relying on actually sets 300 million SDR as a minimum base, not a maximum ceiling. In other words, the convention aims to protect victims, not curtail their remedies.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/Drafting-in-the-dark/604934>

**[Sanctions not answer to Iran's nuclear ambitions: Manmohan](#)**  
**The Hindu, 13 April 2010**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said he had told US President Barack Obama that India does not favour Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions but sanctions were not an answer to it as poor people get affected more than the ruling establishment. "I said to the President that we do not favour Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions," Dr. Singh told a press conference here when asked about the discussions on Iran that he had with Mr. Obama two days back. Dr. Singh said he had told Mr. Obama that as a signatory to the NPT, Iran is entitled to all the rights which the members, who have signed the NPT, have on peaceful uses of atomic energy. "As far as issue of sanctions is concerned, I said to him, that as far as we are concerned, we do not think sanctions really achieve their objectives. "Very often the poor in the affected country suffer more and as far as the ruling establishments are concerned they are not affected by these sanctions in any meaningful way.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article396742.ece>

**[Pakistan makes surprise offer of nuclear fuel services](#)**  
**The Dawn, 13 April 2010**

Pakistan has said that it has acquired advanced nuclear fuel cycle capability and can offer it to the rest of the world under IAEA safeguards. The offer, contained in a national statement presented at a two-day summit which concluded in Washington on Tuesday, reflected Islamabad's desire to gain recognition as a nuclear state. "As a country with advanced fuel cycle capability, Pakistan is in a position to provide nuclear fuel cycle services under IAEA safeguards, and to participate in any non-discriminatory nuclear fuel cycle assurance mechanism," the document said. At the summit, Pakistan also reiterated its proposals for establishing a strategic restraint regime in South Asia.

The policy paper released during the conference stressed that such a regime would "promote nuclear and missile restraint, a balance in conventional forces, and conflict resolution".

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/pakistan-makes-surprise-offer-of-nfuel-services-440>

**[Lofty goals set out at nuclear summit](#)**  
**Reuters, 13 April 2010**

Following are some key issues that emerge from the two-day Washington nuclear security summit's final communique, which was obtained by Reuters reporters: \* The document calls on the 47 nations to join together with a single-minded purpose: to prevent "non-state actors" -- think al Qaeda or its allied groups -- from obtaining nuclear technology or materials. This would require a level of cooperation that seems unprecedented, including among some countries who do not have a history of getting along with each other. For example, the communique calls on all states to work cooperatively "as an international community to advance nuclear security, requesting and providing assistance as necessary." Will the Saudis, the Jordanians or the Algerians, who are attending the summit, agree to provide assistance or information

to the Israelis, who are also participants, as the document implies? In the same vein, would the Indians and Pakistanis agree to share nuclear information? Both developed nuclear weapons as a deterrent against each other.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE63C4D420100413>

**[Nuclear summit begins, Obama welcomes world leaders](#)**  
**The Hindustan Times, 13 April 2010**

The two-day Nuclear Security Summit began on Monday as US President Barack Obama welcomed leaders of 46 countries who have gathered in the American capital to ensure bomb-making materials do not fall into the hands of terrorists. Obama welcomed world leaders, including Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Chinese President Hu Jintao, shaking their hands and posing for photograph as they entered the Walter E Washington Convention Centre that has become a virtual security fortress. The summit is the largest gathering of world leaders called by an American president since the iconic Franklin D Roosevelt organised the 1945 meeting in San Francisco that gave birth to the United Nations.

The summit will culminate with a joint communique on Tuesday that will spell out a specific plan to secure all loose bomb-usable materials around the world within four years. According to an estimate, there is enough weapon-grade material floating around the globe that could help build 120,000 nuclear bombs.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/americas/Nuclear-summit-begins-Obama-welcomes-world-leaders/530954/H1-Article1-530540.aspx>

**[India to set up Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership: PM](#)**  
**Daily News and Analysis, 13 April 2010**

Demonstrating India's responsible behaviour, prime minister Manmohan Singh today announced setting up of a 'Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership' for conducting research and development of design systems that are secure, proliferation resistant and sustainable. As soon as Singh made the announcement at the Nuclear Security Summit, US President Barack Obama intervened to welcome it, saying "this will be one more tool to establish best practises" in the quest for nuclear safety. Addressing the Summit convened by Obama here, Singh said the Centre will consist of four schools dealing with Advanced Nuclear Energy System Studies, Nuclear Security, Radiation Safety and application of Radioisotopes and Radiation Technology in areas of healthcare, agriculture and food. The Centre is visualised to be a state-of-the-art facility based on international participation from IAEA and other interested foreign partners.

[http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report\\_india-to-set-up-global-centre-for-nuclear-energy-partnership-pm\\_1371059](http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_india-to-set-up-global-centre-for-nuclear-energy-partnership-pm_1371059)

**[Pakistan – a notable absentee](#)**  
**The Hindu, 14 April 2010**

The one notable absentee from the list of national or country-level commitments made at the just-concluded Nuclear Security Summit is Pakistan, which finds no mention in a White-House issued document titled "Highlights of National

Commitments at the NSS". The document lists commitments of 30 countries and the International Atomic Energy Agency, including India's commitment "Announcing the creation of a Nuclear Energy Centre with a nuclear security component," and China's commitment "Announce cooperation on nuclear security Centre of Excellence". One mention of Pakistan's commitments came from President Obama himself, during a press conference at the close of the summit. Mr. Obama said: "Pakistan... announced new steps to strengthen port security and prevent nuclear smuggling." This was a reference to the Megaports Initiative which aims to detect radioactive materials in containerised cargo.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article397432.ece>

### [India wants 'zero tolerance' of nuclear traffickers](#)

**The Hindu, 14 April 2010**

With the spectre of A.Q. Khan and his clandestine smuggling ring still haunting India, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told world leaders that there should be "zero tolerance for individuals and groups which engage in illegal trafficking in nuclear items." He was speaking at the Nuclear Security Summit convened by the United States to address international concerns that lax national attitudes towards the physical protection of nuclear material could allow terrorists to acquire nuclear weapons or 'dirty bombs.'

But if India could not resist the opportunity of reminding the world of the failings of its neighbour, Pakistan was also true to form, equating the problem of nuclear security to one of "strategic restraint" in the subcontinent. Forty-seven countries attended the two-day meet. The next Nuclear Security Summit will be held in South Korea in 2012, they decided.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/14/stories/2010041461760100.htm>

### [India puts N-proliferation, terror on table at summit](#)

**Times of India, 15 April 2010**

India took the twin dangers of clandestine proliferation and international terrorism to the nuclear security summit. Both issues, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said, found prominent resonance at the 47-nation gathering of heads of state and government here which turned Washington into a garrison, killed a citizen and gave President Barack Obama a good PR bump, even if it did little to enhance his ratings. The communique and "work plan" broke little new ground, but asked nations to lock down nuclear materials under their control and make sure they did not end up in the hands of terrorists and "non-state actors", and asked states to adhere to "existing" mechanisms. But for India, it was a summit that went a step further in ensuring that international nuclear documents like the one issued are NPT-neutral, that the global nuclear architecture can be built upon away from a treaty that India believes has not only been flawed and discriminatory, but also one that has failed the basic tenets it had set out to achieve.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-puts-N-proliferation-terror-on-table-at-summit/articleshow/5806685.cms>

### [India 'satisfied' with summit outcome](#)

**The Hindu, 15 April 2010**

Expressing satisfaction at the outcome of the two-day Nuclear Security Summit, which ended here on Tuesday, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh said India was gratified that the international community was finally sitting up and taking note of its long-held concerns about the activities of nuclear traffickers. "The concerns which we have been voicing about nuclear security, about proliferation and about nuclear terrorism, they have been taken notice of by the international community and the communiqué reflects that," he told a press conference. "[Earlier] the world used to listen to us but this is the first time that 47 countries came together to recognise that these are genuine concerns. So I think that's a matter of some satisfaction as far as India is concerned." India first began working on its offer to set up a Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership — officially announced by the Prime Minister at the summit on Tuesday — in late 2009.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article397596.ece>

### [All on board over N-fuel offer: official \(Pakistan\)](#)

**The Dawn, 15 April 2010**

The decision to offer nuclear fuel services to the world was made at a recent meeting of the National Command Authority, said a senior aide who was assisting Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani at a news conference on Tuesday evening. The aide, who was responding to a question put to the prime minister, said the country's highest decision-making body on strategic issues had made a consensus decision to create a fuel bank. The offer, made in a national document presented at the two-day nuclear summit in Washington, reflected the decision made by the National Command Authority, the aide said. "As a country with advanced fuel cycle capability, Pakistan is in a position to provide nuclear fuel cycle services under IAEA safeguards, and to participate in any non-discriminatory nuclear fuel cycle assurance mechanism," said the document presented at the summit, which ended in Washington on Tuesday.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/all-on-board-over-nfuel-offer-official-540>

### [No objection to Pak-US civilian nuclear cooperation: Singh](#)

**Daily Times, 15 April 2010**

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has said that India does not wish to interfere in Pakistan's relations with the US. Commenting on Pakistan's wish for a nuclear deal with the US on Tuesday, Singh said, "Who am I to interfere with what goes on between Pakistan and the US?" Singh ruled out serious discussions with Pakistan until it took "credible steps" to bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai attacks to justice. Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani had refuted India's claims, saying Islamabad had banned Lashkar-e-Tayyaba. Gilani argued that India needed to provide more evidence, to which Singh shot back that senior members of LT were "roaming around freely" in Pakistan. "I don't see that there is any need for any further evidence," Singh said.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\15\story\\_15-4-2010\\_pg1\\_2](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\15\story_15-4-2010_pg1_2)

### [Manmohan links nuclear security and disarmament](#)

**The Hindu, 15 April 2010**

India on Tuesday made a strong pitch for global disarmament with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh telling the Nuclear Security Summit that the abolition of nuclear weapons would be the "best guarantor of nuclear security." "The dangers of nuclear terrorism make the early elimination of nuclear weapons a matter of even greater urgency", he said. Recounting India's efforts in this regard from Jawaharlal Nehru to Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister said non-proliferation efforts at the global level could only succeed if they were universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory and linked to the goal of complete nuclear disarmament. He welcomed the agreement between the United States and Russia to cut their nuclear arsenals as a step in the right direction and called upon all countries "with substantial nuclear arsenals" — the phrase is ambiguous but certainly excludes India — "to further accelerate this process by making deeper cuts that will lead to meaningful disarmament".

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article396493.ece>

### [India, 24 other nations pledge action plans at Nuclear Summit](#)

**The Hindu, 15 April 2010**

India, China, Japan and Canada were among 25 countries that announced specific action plans at the Nuclear Security Summit here with regard to non-proliferation, including setting up of facilities for research and development and contribution of funds to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) .

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, addressing the summit of convened by U.S. President Barack Obama on Tuesday, announced India's decision to set up a Global Nuclear Energy Centre for conducting research and development of design systems that are secure, proliferation resistant and sustainable.

As soon as Dr. Singh made the announcement, U.S. President Barack Obama intervened to welcome it, saying "this will be one more tool to establish best practises" in the quest for nuclear safety.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article397040.ece>

### [India against sanctions on Iran](#)

**Times of India, 15 April 2010**

India does not want Iran to acquire nuclear weapons capability but would prefer the IAEA to deal with Iran's nuclear programme rather than the UN Security Council's sanctions committee. This is the essence of the Indian position which was stressed by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to US President Barack Obama. Singh said, "We do not favour Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions. As a signatory to the NPT, Iran is entitled to all the rights of members regarding the peaceful use of nuclear energy." But on sanctions, India is not about to endorse the US position. "We don't think sanctions really achieve their objective. Very often, the poor in the affected country suffer more. As far as the ruling establishment is concerned, they are not really affected by these sanctions," Singh said. In his press meet a little earlier, Obama was clear that sanctions was his preferred means to get Iran to step back from its

nuclear programme.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-against-sanctions-on-Iran/articleshow/5806665.cms>

**[India: 7 Hospitalized for Radiation Exposure at Market](#)**  
**The New York Times, 15 April 2010**

Seven people have been admitted to a New Delhi hospital after being exposed to radioactive waste. The waste was detected in a congested scrap metal market last week when five people were taken to a hospital after showing symptoms of radiation exposure. Two more victims have since been admitted. The police said they found cobalt-60, a radioactive metal used for radiotherapy in hospitals and sterilization in industrial food processes.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/04/15/world/asia/15briefs-Indiabrf.html>

**[Lessons to be learnt from Delhi radiation incident \(K.S. Parthasarathy\)](#)**  
**The Hindu, 15 April 2010**

At 12:45 hrs on April 7, 2010 the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) received a fax message from Indraprastha Apollo Hospital, Delhi stating that a scrap metal dealer admitted to the hospital showed symptoms suspected to be caused by radiation exposure. Six more workers who also exhibited similar symptoms were admitted elsewhere. On receiving the information, two AERB officers who were already in Delhi inspected the shop and its surroundings, identified high radiation levels and promptly shielded some suspected high radiation locations with metal sheets to reduce the radiation levels. As per the procedure in place, a team of scientists from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and the Narora Atomic Power Station, mobilized by the Crisis Management Group of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and scientists from AERB visited the site again and restored normalcy by safely removing the sources into appropriately shielded containers.

<http://www.hindu.com/seta/2010/04/15/stories/2010041551311400.htm>

**[To pressure Iran, Obama should work on Europe -- not Russia and China](#)**  
**The New York Daily Times, 15 April 2010**

The Obama administration is squandering valuable time and resources in making extended overtures to Russia and China to join the West's crackdown on Iran's illegal atomic program. Secretary of State Clinton should instead turn to Europe - where leading economic powerhouses such as Germany, France, Italy and the United Kingdom are, after years of drowsiness, amenable to punishing Iran. Combined pressure from U.S. and European leaders is enough to ratchet up pressure on Tehran. If together they impose tough sanctions, it will be more effective than weakened measures agreed to simply in order to win the cooperation of China and Russia. Clinton has over the past year engaged in an elaborate tango dance to secure the votes of Russia and China for a fourth round of UN Security Council sanctions against Iran. Yet Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Jiang Yu reiterated China's longstanding position on Monday that "pressure and sanctions cannot fundamentally solve" the Iranian nuclear crisis.

[http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2010/04/15/2010-04-15\\_to\\_pressure\\_iran\\_obama\\_should\\_work\\_on\\_europe\\_\\_not\\_russia\\_and\\_china.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2010/04/15/2010-04-15_to_pressure_iran_obama_should_work_on_europe__not_russia_and_china.html)

### [Pakistan hails Manmohan's remark on nuclear deal](#)

**The Hindu, 16 April 2010**

Pakistan on Thursday welcomed the stance taken by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on the prospect of a 'U.S.-Pakistan civil nuclear deal.' Referring to Dr. Singh's comment that it was a bilateral matter — a view that is in variance with the position taken by the Indian External Affairs Ministry — Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman Abdul Basit said: "It is good to see India taking a position based on the principle of non-discrimination." Earlier, Pakistan had bristled over official sources in India stating that "we hope the international community would strike the right balance between meeting the energy needs of any country while taking on board its track record with regard to proliferation of nuclear technology and weapons of mass destruction." Dr. Singh's assertion that he had no locus standi to interfere in a civil nuclear deal between two sovereign nations comes at a time when Pakistan is upbeat over its invitation to the just-concluded Nuclear Security Summit in Washington.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article398402.ece>

### [Reading the atomic tea leaves \(Harsh Pant\)](#)

**The Wall Street Journal, 16 April 2010**

It was grand summitry at its best. Around 47 nations gathered in Washington earlier this week to discuss the threat of nuclear terrorism as the Barack Obama administration tried to generate consensus on securing vulnerable fissile materials worldwide and strengthening the resolve of the international community to keep it away from terrorist groups. This agenda fits right in; after all, nuclear weapons seem to be the flavour of the season. Obama has declared that Al Qaeda and other terrorist outfits acquiring nuclear material is the single biggest threat to international security. His administration has just signed a new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with Russia and has announced its new Nuclear Posture Review (NPR). The world is viewing both these attempts with great anticipation to see if they will lead to a world without nuclear weapons—something Obama had pledged in Prague last year. But India should view all this with some trepidation.

<http://www.livemint.com/2010/04/15212347/Reading-the-atomic-tea-leaves.html?h=B>

### [New pledges to nuclear security](#)

**The Hindu, 16 April 2010**

After two days of negotiations during the Nuclear Security Summit here earlier this week, a range of national commitments towards strengthening the security of nuclear materials were made by attending countries, including a promise by the United States and Russia to dispose of weapons-grade plutonium. Announcing the plutonium elimination deal, the two countries said they had signed a protocol to "amend and update" the U.S.-Russian Plutonium Management and Disposition Agreement (PMDA) of the year 2000 — a "major step" in efforts to eliminate nuclear-weapon-grade materials, according to an official statement. As per the protocol, both the U.S. and Russia are now committed to disposing of a minimum

of 34 metric tonnes of excess weapon-grade plutonium with further disposition likely over time. According to the State Department and remarks made by President Barack Obama, the initial combined amount — 68 metric tonnes — represented “enough material for approximately 17,000 nuclear weapons”.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article398322.ece>

### [Pakistan also offers nuclear security skills to world](#)

**The Dawn, 16 April 2010**

In a policy paper presented to leaders from nearly 50 nations, Pakistan offered to share with other states its nuclear security skills, particularly in prevention, detection and response to illicit trafficking.

In a similar document, presented at the Washington nuclear security summit, which ended on Tuesday, Pakistan declared that it had acquired advanced nuclear fuel cycle capability and can offer it to the rest of the world under IAEA safeguards. “Pakistan is ready to share with nations its competence in the area of nuclear security, particularly prevention, detection and response to illicit trafficking,” said the paper Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani presented at one of the sessions at the Washington summit earlier this week. The same document contained two other equally significant points: nations need to cooperate with each other in acquiring reliable nuclear security and that India needed to work with Pakistan for protecting South Asia against a nuclear disaster.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/pakistan-also-offers-nuclear-security-skills-to-world-640>

### [Splitting the atom \(Gamal Nkrumah\)](#)

**Al-Ahram, 16 April 2010**

The curious political paradox of our time is that we've actually got a scintillating president in the Oval Office. 2010 could, by a wide stretch of the imagination, mark the beginning of the end as far as nuclear weapons are concerned. However, as we all know, the end of uncanny matters such as nuclear proliferation is never as clear as their beginnings. United States President Barack Obama in a landmark move signed the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia in the Czech capital Prague barely a week before hosting the improbably dubbed Nuclear Security Summit -- a contradiction in terms, for nuclear can never be secure, nor safe. Key players, or rather those who purport to incapacitate Obama's moralistic perspective of nuclear power, were conspicuously absent. North Korea and Iran were not invited, yet they are widely perceived as posing a threat to world peace. Snubbed, Iran is to host its own counter-proliferation summit next week and officially pointed out that it was not bound by agreements arrived at on the close of the 12-13 April Washington nuclear security summit.

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2010/994/in1.htm>

### [Terrorism: The nuclear summit's 'straw man'](#)

**The Asia Times, 16 April 2010**

American President Barack Obama gathered 47 national delegations for the first

Nuclear Security Summit (NSS) in Washington on April 12 and 13. It was the largest gathering of world leaders in Washington since the close of World War II. The scale of the summit was meant to impress the gravity of the subject matter. In Obama's words, "This is an unprecedented gathering to address an unprecedented threat": the prevention of nuclear terrorism. In trademark style, Obama offered rhetorical flourishes to fit the occasion: "Two decades after the Cold War we face a cruel irony of history. The risk of nuclear confrontation between nations has gone down, but the risk of nuclear attack as gone up". The president said that a tiny scrap of plutonium the size of an apple was now the biggest threat to world stability, with "just the tiniest amount of plutonium" in the wrong hands posing potential for catastrophe.

[http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle\\_East/LD16Ak02.html](http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Middle_East/LD16Ak02.html)

### [India to fight Pak agenda at disarmament conference](#)

**The Times of India, 16 April 2010**

With the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon desperately seeking to revive the Conference on Disarmament (CD) by calling for a meet on fissile material cut-off in September, India is preparing for a showdown with Pakistan which has singlehandedly managed to block any forward movement in CD citing its security concerns vis-a-vis India. The 65-nation UN-backed CD, which moves on consensus, has been reduced to being moribund but with Ban Ki-Moon urging the Geneva-based forum to initiate discussions on putting an end to production of fissile material, Pakistan is likely to be come under renewed international pressure. Pakistan blocked the 2010 CD agenda on cutting down nuclear weapons because of its focus on working out a fissile material cut-off treaty. Indian officials said that Islamabad will again try to wriggle out of the situation by linking fissile material cut-off with conventional arms control at the regional and sub-regional level, a proposal it came up with in January to further block the conference.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-to-fight-Pak-agenda-at-disarmament-conference/articleshow/5813359.cms>

### [Use of nuclear arms 'haram', says Khamenei](#)

**The Times of India, 18 April 2010**

Use of nuclear arms is "haram" (religiously forbidden) and it is necessary for all to protect mankind from the grave disaster, Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has said. "Any use or even threat to use nuclear weapons is a serious and material violation of indisputable rules of humanitarian law and a cogent example of a war crime," Khamenei was quoted as saying Saturday by IRNA news agency. The Iranian supreme leader said: "There is no winner in a nuclear war and entering such a war is irrational and inhuman." He stressed the need to find "sensible and practical ways and solutions to counter the threat of nuclear weapons against humanity." The Ayatollah also urged participants at the First International Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, which began here Saturday, to take "serious steps towards protecting world peace and stability."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/middle-east/Use-of-nuclear-arms-haram-says-Khamenei/articleshow/5828507.cms>

### [Obama lacks domestic, international support for key nuclear ambitions](#)

**The Washington Post, 19 April 2010**

In signing a new arms treaty with Russia and hosting a major nuclear terrorism summit, President Obama has shown leadership on his pledge to move toward a world without nuclear weapons. But is anyone following? At home, Obama faces a polarized Congress and a public focused on other issues, such as the economy. Although many experts think the Senate will approve the new strategic-arms treaty with Russia, prospects are dim for ratifying another Obama priority: a global pact banning nuclear tests. Internationally, there is also a mixed picture. Obama has won kudos, and a Nobel Peace Prize, for a policy that many perceive as less belligerent than that of President George W. Bush. But George Perkovich, a prominent nuclear expert, noted in a recent report that nuclear powers such as Russia, China and France had not rallied behind the idea of moving toward global disarmament. "The result is a talented president ready to lead a long-term campaign to remove the existential threats posed by nuclear weapons, but as yet lacking sufficient colleagues and followers to make it happen," wrote Perkovich, who is at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/18/AR2010041803110.html>

### **[Iran nuclear conference urges Israel to join NPT](#)**

**The Associated Press, 19 April 2010**

An Iranian-hosted international disarmament conference concluded Sunday with a demand that Israel join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to assure a nuclear weapons-free Middle East. The two-day conference followed closely behind a 47-nation nuclear security conference hosted by President Barack Obama in Washington last week, which excluded Iran and nuclear-armed North Korea. Washington and its allies suspect Iran's nuclear program is geared toward producing weapons, which Tehran denies. As the conference was ending Sunday, Iran staged an annual military parade where it displayed missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads. The forum, which Iran said was attended by representatives of 60 countries, gave Tehran a platform for challenging Washington's assertion that it wants to see a world without nuclear weapons and for defending its own nuclear program.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5ixeFBxfLzaSjs8Mb8cuFmtPOT6-wD9F5KKBO1>

### **[Iran boasts its nuclear disarmament summit draws more support than Obama's](#)**

**The Telegraph, 19 April 2010**

One day earlier, Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, condemned Washington as the world's "only atomic criminal," while President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad called for it to be "suspended" from the UN nuclear watchdog. The competing summits set the stage for a review of the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the framework agreement on nuclear disarmament, at the United Nations in New York next month. Although attendance was diminished by volcanic ash over Europe, Tehran managed to draw delegations from most of the 60 countries that originally pledged to attend - an improvement on the 47 countries Mr Obama hosted in Washington last week, though the US conference attracted far more senior diplomats. Among the delegations in Teheran were representatives from China and Russia - both major powers the West is pushing to accept new sanctions against Iran over its nuclear programme. Iran has broken NPT rules by producing highly enriched

uranium that Western intelligence agencies believe put it within a year of making an atom bomb.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/middleeast/iran/7604307/Iran-boasts-its-nuclear-disarmament-summit-draws-more-support-than-Obamas.html>

### [Nuclear hazards \(Huma Yusuf\)](#)

**The Dawn, 19 April 2010**

For those in Pakistan who have questions about nuclear security, this past week they should have finally learned to stop worrying and to love the bomb instead. Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani assured US President Barack Obama that "appropriate safeguards" were in place to protect the country's arsenal.

Pakistan declared itself competent in matters of nuclear security, and even offered to share its hard-earned wisdom on how to prevent the trafficking of nuclear materials with the world. In response, Britain declared itself satisfied with Pakistan's measures to secure its nuclear weapons. China trumpeted the cause of enhanced nuclear security as the way forward in a world where all countries had the right to use nuclear energy peacefully. And a personage no less than the US president himself assured the world that Pakistan had strengthened port security and taken other measures to prevent future proliferation.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/columnists/19-huma-yusuf-nuclear-hazards-840-hh-07>

### [Koodankulam project by September](#)

**The Hindu, 19 April 2010**

The Koodankulam nuclear power project will be commissioned by September with one of the reactors attaining criticality, Srikumar Banerjee, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, said on Saturday. Talking to reporters after delivering the convocation address at Sathyabama University near here, Dr. Banerjee said six months from September, another unit would attain criticality at Koodankulam. On the delayed arrival of reactors from Russia, Dr. Banerjee said several equipment had to come and they came in 49 shiploads. The project was being implemented in stages. Radioactive material On the radioactive material found in a scrap shop in New Delhi, Dr. Banerjee said whatever happened in the Capital had nothing to do with the activities of his department. The scrap materials come from other countries and it was not possible for the department to check entry points if there were any radioactive material. Moreover, the scrap was found in a small area.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/18/stories/2010041861320500.htm>

### ['India must see itself as a N-weapon, rising power' \(C Raja Mohan\)](#)

**Rediff News, 19 April 2010**

Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh told the media at the Nuclear Security Summit hosted that his statement at the summit outlined India's "approach to the issues of nuclear security, nuclear terrorism, clandestine proliferation and global disarmament". He said, "After listening to world leaders at the summit, I feel a sense of vindication of India's position. The intersection of international terrorism and clandestine proliferation affects our security directly. The concerns that we have been expressing for decades on the dangers of proliferation and risk of nuclear

materials finding their way into the wrong hands are today finding widespread acceptance." At the summit, Dr Singh also announced India would establish a Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership, which "would be owned and managed by the government, but will be open to international participation in terms of academic exchanges and research and development efforts". "This initiative is the next logical step in India's engagement with the world after the opening of international civil cooperation with India," he said.

<http://news.rediff.com/interview/2010/apr/17/interview-with-security-expert-c-rajamohan-on-the-recent-nuke-summit.htm>

### **[Insuring India's Nuclear Power \(Henry Sokolski\)](#)**

**The Wall Street Journal, 19 April 2010**

New Delhi wants to repay Washington for lifting an international civilian nuclear suppliers' embargo on nuclear exports to India by making it possible for American firms to bid on Indian nuclear power plant construction projects. There is only one problem: Indians are now reluctant to pony up the level of nuclear-accident immunity that American nuclear vendors are demanding before they'll bid. It's easy to understand why. On Dec. 2, 1984, thousands of Indians were killed when a Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal accidentally released toxins that poisoned half a million people. Some casualty estimates exceed 20,000 dead. The Indian government demanded \$3.3 billion in damages from the U.S.-based company, but eventually settled for just \$470 million. Civil and criminal cases are still on file in the Manhattan U.S. District Court. A quarter century later, no one has yet been prosecuted.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704508904575192793726876892.html?mod=WSJ\\_latestheadlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704508904575192793726876892.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines)

### **['Nuclear fuel swap deal with Iran is still alive'](#)**

**Press Trust of India, 20 April 2010**

The Obama Administration has said that the nuclear fuel swap deal with Iran is still alive after Tehran said that it would talk with the entire UN Security Council to break the impasse. "We looked at the deal offered last September as being a confidence-building step. Iran has now taken seven months and has really not been willing to respond meaningfully to that offer," Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs P J Crowley told reporters at a daily news conference. "I think we are still interested in taking that step, but at the heart of it, there was the proposal that Iran would ship out a significant amount of its stock of enriched fuel and there would be an exchange for a corresponding amount of fuel suitable to the Tehran research reactor," he said.

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/617252\\_-Nuclear-fuel-swap-deal-with-Iran-is-still-alive-](http://www.ptinews.com/news/617252_-Nuclear-fuel-swap-deal-with-Iran-is-still-alive-)

### **[US optimistic about nuclear liability law](#)**

**The Economic Times, 20 April 2010**

The US on Monday said it was "optimistic" that issues relating to the civil nuclear

liability bill, which has remained stuck due to political opposition in India, would be resolved soon. "We are optimistic and positive that these issues will be settled for American companies to do business in India," US Ambassador Timothy J Roemer told journalists here when asked about political opposition in India to the civil liability legislation. "We are making good progress," the envoy said about the implementation of the civil nuclear deal. The passage of the civil nuclear liability legislation is among the last two remaining steps required to implement the landmark India-US civil nuclear deal. With a reprocessing pact out of the way, India is required to enact the liability legislation and give non-proliferation assurance to US nuclear companies.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/US-optimistic-about-nuclear-liability-law/articleshow/5832499.cms>

### **[N-tech: US firms want level playing field in India \(Ron Sommers\)](#)**

**Rediff News, 20 April 2010**

Although elated over Washington and New Delhi completing protracted negotiations on reprocessing United States-origin spent fuel, there is angst in American business circles that the civil nuclear liability bill is yet to be taken up in India. Ron Somers, president, US-India Business Council, which lobbied to get the US-India nuclear technology deal approved, like the rest of the American business fraternity, is upset by India's recent purchase of nuclear reactors and sophisticated technology and weaponry from Russia. Following India's purchase of nuclear reactors and other sophisticated technology from Russia, is there growing concern that things are moving slowly on the civil nuclear liability bill in India? Are you worried that US companies that went to bat for India in Congress over nuclear technology, are being left behind, and the Russians and French are moving in? We do not shy away from competition. We believe that we produce the best technology and, therefore, the only request is that we have a level playing field.

<http://business.rediff.com/interview/2010/apr/20/interview-with-us-india-business-council-president-ron-somers.htm>

### **[Fueling nuclear solutions](#)**

**Xinhua News Service, 21 April 2010**

Positive remarks from the United States on its willingness to discuss a nuclear fuel swap with Iran may offer a ray of hope for those who support peaceful solutions to the Iran nuclear issue. The deal, proposed by the International Atomic Energy Agency last October, was intended to help avoid confrontation over Iran's nuclear issue. It requires Iran to send most of its low-enriched uranium abroad for further processing and conversion into fuel rods. The topic was brought up by a senior Iranian official again on Sunday after a two-day international conference on nuclear disarmament hosted by Iran. Iran's Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki said his country plans to hold talks with all members of the UN Security Council over the deal in both direct and indirect ways. Given that the US is working hard to rally international support for a fourth round of sanctions against Iran, this new development is a timely reminder to the international community - that there is still room for diplomacy to take an upper hand in breaking the international impasse over Iran's nuclear program.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/indepth/2010-04/21/c\\_13260763.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/indepth/2010-04/21/c_13260763.htm)

### **[Six powers meet again on Iran sanctions](#)**

### **The Hindustan Times, 21 April 2010**

Envoys of six major powers huddled behind closed doors at China's UN mission in New York Tuesday for another round of bargaining on new UN sanctions against Iran, but nothing filtered from their deliberations. Ambassadors from the five veto-wielding members of the UN Security Council -- Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States -- plus Germany have been meeting almost daily since last Wednesday but made clear that they would not comment on the content of their discussions. A diplomat close to the discussions said however on condition of anonymity that the Russian side made "some rather constructive proposals" in discussions of a US draft outlining sanctions against Tehran.

The source said the Chinese had yet to give their comments on the draft and it was unclear whether they did so at Tuesday's meeting.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/world/6-powers-meet-again-on-Iran-sanctions/Article1-533942.aspx>

### **[US skeptical of report NKorea preparing third nuclear test](#)**

#### **The Indian Express, 21 April 2010**

The United States said on Wednesday it was 'skeptical' of a South Korean television report that North Korea is preparing for a third nuclear test in the coming months. "We're skeptical of that report," State Department spokesman Philip Crowley told reporters. "It's an area we keep watching intensively." South Korean YTN TV, quoting an unidentified diplomatic source in Beijing, said North Korea had begun the preparations in February for a test possibly in May or June. But South Korean Foreign Minister Yu Myung-Hwan told journalists: "There are no signs of the North preparing for a third nuclear test." Analysts in Seoul also dismissed the report as implausible. YTN TV had said the preparations involved significantly upgraded technology compared with its previous two tests. It said Pyongyang had been receiving technological assistance from Russians and that a senior North Korean official recently visited Beijing to discuss a possible test.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/US-skeptical-of-report-NKorea-preparing-third-nuclear-test/609272>

### **[Pakistan Could Still Join Fissile Material Ban Talks, U.S. Says](#)**

#### **Global Security Newswire, 21 April 2010**

Pakistan could be persuaded to allow discussion of a potential global ban on production of nuclear-weapon material, despite Islamabad's concern that such an arrangement could give a strategic advantage to neighboring rival India, the U.S. ambassador to the international Conference on Disarmament said yesterday (see GSN, April 14). The 65-nation conference in 2009 broke a deadlock that had lasted for more than 10 years, agreeing to a work plan that addressed four issues: nuclear disarmament, a fissile material cutoff pact, the prohibition of space-based weapons, and an agreement by nuclear-armed states not to use their strategic weapons against nations that do not possess such armaments. Pakistan initially endorsed the plan, but later withdrew its consent and demanded further consideration of the program. As the conference makes its decisions by consensus, Pakistan could ensure that a fissile material production ban would not undermine its strategic security, U.S. Ambassador Laura Kennedy said.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20100421\\_9095.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20100421_9095.php)

**["Radioactive material may have come from abroad"](#)**

**The Hindu, 21 April 2010**

A full-fledged probe into the incident of radioactive material being found in the scrap at Mayapuri in west Delhi earlier this month is under way. The scrap apparently came from abroad, Minister of State for Atomic Energy Prithviraj Chavan told the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. "How did it come? Most likely this piece of equipment containing Cobalt 60 is not registered with the Atomic Energy Regulation Board (AERB). So the logical conclusion is that it came as scrap from abroad," Mr. Chavan said in response to a calling attention motion moved by D. Raja of the Communist Party of India. Mr. Chavan ruled out the material having originated from domestic sources, as the country had strict rules and regulations in place. "No operator in the country could buy radiological equipment for treatment without the permission of the AERB, and even the disposal of the same is monitored." He agreed with the suggestion of members that a proper law was needed to ensure that compensation was paid to victims of such accidents.

<http://www.hindu.com/2010/04/21/stories/2010042154061300.htm>

**[India Allowed Additional Nuclear Reprocessing Sites in Trade Deal](#)**

**Global Security Newswire, 22 April 2010**

India could be allowed to up to four nuclear reprocessing sites under its atomic trade deal with the United States, the Washington Times reported today (see GSN, April 5). The recent deal on reprocessing permits New Delhi to establish two facilities for reprocessing U.S.-origin nuclear fuel. The agreement also gives India the option of building two more should the nation's energy requirements continue to expand. The trade deal permits the transfer of U.S. nuclear material and technology to India's atomic energy industry in return for New Delhi's agreement to open up nonmilitary nuclear sites to international monitoring. The nuclear-armed nation is not a party to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and some arms control advocates have warned that the pact sets a bad precedent. Washington recognizes "the need for sufficiently indigenous Indian capacity to reprocess or otherwise alter in form or content, under (International Atomic Energy Agency) safeguards, U.S.-obligated nuclear material," reads the joint reprocessing agreement.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20100421\\_8591.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20100421_8591.php)

**[China military paper spells out nuclear arms stance](#)**

**Reuters, 22 April 2010**

China must have a limited nuclear "second strike" force to deter foes from threatening it with atomic weapons, the nation's main military newspaper said on Thursday, in a rare account of Beijing's nuclear strategy. The commentary in the official Liberation Army Daily comes during intensifying atomic diplomacy -- after a nuclear security summit hosted by U.S. President Barack Obama and before an international conference in May about the future of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). China has been gradually modernizing its relatively small nuclear arsenal and some critics of proposals to cut dramatically Western nuclear forces have said uncertainty about Beijing's plans should deter such proposals. Retired People's Liberation Army Major General Xu Guangyu said in the newspaper commentary that China wanted a minimal nuclear deterrent and would avoid any arms race.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE63L0PR20100422>

**[Obama and the nuclear summit \(Iftikhar Ahmad\)](#)**

**The Daily Times, 22 April 2010**

In the perspective of the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and disarmament, world leaders are required to strengthen the international rule of law and promote peace and security. Leaders in politics are supposed to be statesmen with a level of maturity and diplomatic skill. Much more is required when it comes to electing the president of the US. Richard Wolffe's book, *Renegade: The Making of a President*, based on exclusive interviews with Barack Obama, could easily be included in recommended lists of readings on leadership. *Renegade* is more than an election epic; it is an insightful biography of an "inscrutable" man, the real Barack Obama, wrestling with the momentous decision to run for president and figuring out how to actualise the two factors that guided him in the situation. First, he was deeply competitive and wanted to win. Second, he wanted to be a game changer, someone who could turn the contest on its head. Someone who could switch from being an individual star to a team player and back again.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\22\story\\_22-4-2010\\_pg3\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2010\04\22\story_22-4-2010_pg3_4)

**[Nuke Liability Bill not being brought under foreign pressure: Government](#)**  
**Daily News and Analysis, 22 April 2010**

The government today refuted the charge that the Nuclear Liability Bill was being brought under foreign pressure and said it is willing to refer the measure to a Parliamentary Standing Committee for scrutiny. The bill, which provides for compensation in case of a nuclear accident, is a key step in operationalising the Indo-US nuclear deal. "Parliament is the right forum (to discuss the Bill). If the House wants to send the Bill to a Parliamentary Standing Committee, we will do (that)," minister of state in prime minister's office Prithviraj Chavan said in Rajya Sabha. He said during Question Hour that the Bill has been under consideration for very long as the Public Liability Insurance Act of 1991 (enacted in the aftermath of the Bhopal gas tragedy in 1984) is not applicable to nuclear incidents. "Thus, at present there is no law to provide compensation to the victims of a nuclear incident. Is there any pressure (from foreign companies to bring the Bill)? Absolutely none," he said.

[http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report\\_nuke-liability-bill-not-being-brought-under-foreign-pressure-government\\_1374259](http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_nuke-liability-bill-not-being-brought-under-foreign-pressure-government_1374259)

**[US won't persuade 'very special friends' India, Pak to sign NPT](#)**

**The Economic Times, 22 April 2010**

Bracketing both India and Pakistan as its 'very special friends', the United States has said that it would not pressurise these countries to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT). Interacting with media persons during a press briefing here, US Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Ellen Tauscher said the Obama Administration is in direct touch with both India and Pakistan over such issues and holds daily conversations with them. "The countries that you mentioned are very special friends of the United States. We have conversations with them every day about many different things," Tauscher said while responding to a question that

whether the US would persuade New Delhi and Islamabad to sign the NPT. She, however, added: "We would like all countries to sign onto the NPT. We have a universality commitment, yes." The top US official also warned that the world was facing more danger than it was during the Cold War era, as more and more countries are competing to acquire nuke know-how.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/US-wont-persuade-very-special-friends-India-Pak-to-sign-NPT/articleshow/5843300.cms>

**[Anshu Bharadwaj: Why, how and how much?](#)**  
**the business standard, 22 April 2010**

The government has recently drafted the "Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill (CNLB), 2010" and plans to introduce it in Parliament. Several important issues have been raised in the public debate on the Bill.

Do we need this Bill? Most countries with nuclear power programmes have enacted legislation to cover the liability in the event of a nuclear accident and are also party to one of several international conventions such as the Vienna Convention, the Paris Convention, and the Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC). India stands out with neither a national liability legislation, nor membership in one of the international conventions. The government is fully responsible for compensation in the event of a nuclear accident in any of the current reactors. Further, the Indian nuclear industry is now expected to grow several fold from the present 4,120 Mw, with a fleet of indigenous reactors and those built with international assistance. Such a large nuclear programme warrants legislation to cover all aspects of civil liability, including possible trans-boundary damage.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/anshu-bharadwaj-why-howhow-much/392670/>

**[Govt willing to enhance N-liability amount to get bill through](#)**  
**The Economic Times, 23 April 2010**

Keen to push through the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill, the government reiterated its offer to make changes in the proposed legislation, including increasing the liability amount. In what appeared to be a suggestion for a quid pro quo, the government said that changes could be considered by the standing committee. Refuting charges that it was under "foreign pressure" to bring in the legislation, the Centre used the opportunity accorded by Question Hour in the Rajya Sabha to make a case for a legislation that would provide "immediate and prompt" compensation in the event of a nuclear accident. Minister for state in the PMO Prithviraj Chavan said, "I totally refute the charges of international pressure... It is not true that the bill is being brought to appease any country... The bill has nothing to do with the Indo-US nuclear deal." Responding to questions on the Bill, Mr Chavan said that idea of joining an international convention on nuclear liability since 1988 when the government began negotiating with the then USSR to set up a nuclear power plant in Kudankulam.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics/nation/Govt-willing-to-enhance-N-liability-amount-to-get-bill-through/articleshow/5846529.cms>

**['Pakistan may let Taliban use its nuclear weapons against India'](#)**  
**The Hindustan Times, 23 April 2010**

Pakistan may let surrogate Taliban use its nuclear weapons to do its "dirty work" against India in the event of escalation of tension between the two South Asian neighbours over Kashmir, a top US non-proliferation expert has suggested. Bob Graham, head of US Commission on the Prevention of WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) proliferation and terrorism painted such a scenario at a House Homeland Security Committee hearing on nuclear terrorism on Thursday. "If something broke out in Kashmir that reignited the vitriol between India and Pakistan, that could be an incident that could cause someone to make the decision," he warned "(The Pakistanis may say) We don't want to use these weapons, but we're going to let our surrogate Taliban have access to these weapons and they'll do our dirty work," he said. "I think one of our recommendations was to work with India and Pakistan to develop some fail-safe procedures," Graham said responding to questions from lawmakers concerned about the safety and security of nuclear weapons in Pakistan.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Pakistan-may-let-Taliban-use-its-nuclear-weapons-against-India/H1-Article1-534956.aspx>

### **[Power from first Kudankulam unit by December](#)**

**The Hindu, 24 April 2010**

It is indeed a good news for the energy managers of power-starved Tamil Nadu. Electricity will start cascading from the first unit of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) by December. The mandatory pre-commissioning milestone event of loading of 'dummy fuel assembly' into the reactor core of the first of the 2 X 1,000 MWe unit began on Friday. "Since we've planned to complete the loading of dummy fuel assembly by mid-May and commence the loading of actual fuel of enriched uranium assemblies during September, we'll be in a position to commission the first reactor by December," Chairman and Managing Director, Nuclear Power Corporation of India, Shreyans Kumar Jain told reporters at the KKNPP site. "About 50 per cent of the power generated by this reactor will be given to Tamil Nadu." Thermo-hydraulic tests A total of 163 dummy fuel assemblies, each 4.57 metres long and weighing about 705 kg, are being loaded into the reactor for full-scale thermo-hydraulic tests of the reactor systems, prior to the loading of actual fuel, to assess the design performance of the systems.

<http://www.thehindu.com/2010/04/24/stories/2010042464821700.htm>

### **[Mechanism to prevent Indo-Pak Nuclear war urged](#)**

**The Dawn, 24 April 2010**

A US bipartisan commission has urged Congress to help develop a mechanism for preventing an accidental nuclear war between India and Pakistan, warning that Kashmir could become a nuclear flashpoint. The commission includes members of both Republican and Democratic parties and is supported by the US Congress. Bob Graham, a former senator, who now heads the commission, described various scenarios for this possibility, arguing that a war in Kashmir could cause Pakistan also to hand over nuclear weapons to the Taliban. "If, for instance, something broke out in Kashmir ... that could be an incident that could cause someone to make the decision" to hand over nukes to the Taliban, said Mr Graham. Someone in Pakistan,

he argued, might come to the conclusion: "We don't want to use these weapons, but we're going to let our surrogate, Taliban, have access to these weapons and they'll do our dirty work," he added.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/the-newspaper/front-page/mechanism-to-prevent-indopak-nwar-urged-440>

**[Toshiba: In Talks With IHI To Jointly Produce Nuclear Plant Equipment](#)**  
**The Wall Street Journal, 25 April 2010**

Toshiba Corp. (6502.TO) said Monday it is in talks with IHI Corp. (7013.TO) over the possible joint production of steam turbine components for nuclear power plants. "We are in talks, but haven't reached an agreement yet," a Toshiba spokesman said. Earlier Monday, the Nikkei reported that Toshiba (6502.TO) and IHI will form a joint venture this fall to make core components for nuclear plants, marking their first joint manufacturing effort in a decades-long relationship. The companies aim to essentially merge their nuclear equipment businesses to become globally cost competitive, the Nikkei said. The Toshiba spokesman declined to comment on how the relationship might develop in the future. IHI said in a statement Monday that it is in talks with Toshiba on how the two firms might cooperate in nuclear power plant operations.

[http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100425-704030.html?mod=WSJ\\_latestheadlines](http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20100425-704030.html?mod=WSJ_latestheadlines)

**[Iran strikes secret nuclear mining deal with Zimbabwe's Mugabe regime](#)**  
**The Daily Telegraph, 25 April 2010**

Iran has struck a secret deal with Zimbabwe to mine its untapped uranium reserves in a move to secure raw material for its steadily expanding nuclear programme. The agreement was sealed last month during a visit to Tehran by a close aide to Robert Mugabe, the Zimbabwean president who last weekend celebrated 30 years in power, The Sunday Telegraph has learned. In return for supplying oil, which Zimbabwe desperately needs to keep its faltering economy moving, Iran has been promised access to potentially huge deposits of uranium ore – which can be converted into the basic fuel for nuclear power or enriched to make a nuclear bomb. "Iran secured the exclusive uranium rights last month when minister of state for Presidential affairs, Didymus Mutasa visited Tehran," said a Zimbabwean government source. "That is when the formal signing of the deal was made, away from the glare of the media." Mr Mutasa is the former lands minister in the Zanu-PF administration and one of Mr Mugabe's most senior aides.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/africaandindianocean/zimbabwe/7628750/Iran-strikes-secret-nuclear-mining-deal-with-Zimbabwes-Mugabe-regime.html>

**[Iranian technocrats, disillusioned with government, offer wealth of intelligence to U.S.](#)**

**The Washington Post, 25 April 2010**

Iran's political turmoil has prompted a growing number of the country's officials to defect or leak information to the West, creating a new flow of intelligence about its

secretive nuclear program, U.S. officials said. The gains have complicated work on a long-awaited assessment of Iran's nuclear activities, a report that will represent the combined judgment of more than a dozen U.S. spy agencies. The National Intelligence Estimate was due last fall but has been delayed at least twice amid efforts to incorporate information from sources who are still being vetted. Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair said in a brief interview last week that the delay in the completion of the NIE "has to do with the information coming in and the pace of developments." Some of the most significant new material has come from informants, including scientists and others with access to Iran's military programs, who are motivated by antipathy toward the government and its suppression of the opposition movement after a disputed presidential election in June, according to current and former officials in the United States and Europe who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the intelligence gains.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/24/AR2010042402710.html>

### [Experts fear presence of more radioactive sources in Mayapuri](#)

**The Hindu, 25 April 2010**

Fearing presence of more radioactive sources in Delhi scrap yard Mayapuri, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) plan to carry out a multi-pronged approach survey in the area. "But the scrap dealers and the people in the area have to cooperate with the authorities," they said. So far eight victims have suffered in this month after exposure of radioactive material in Mayapuri. All of them are still in a critical condition with dangerously low platelet counts and depleted bone marrows. Besides this, thousands of people in the area now live in fear. AERB officials said, so far the joint team of NDMA, AERB and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Department of Atomic Energy crisis management has detected 11 sources of radioactive cobalt-60 from the Mayapuri scrap yard using 'Tele-detectors'.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/national/article409838.ece?homepage=true>

### [Iran discusses nuclear issue with IAEA](#)

**The Hindu, 26 April 2010**

Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki met IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano here to discuss issues related to Tehran's nuclear programmes, including swapping of fuel for further enrichment. "The meeting was held in a business-like atmosphere," the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said in a statement which did not provide any further detail. The two sides "discussed the issue of the provision of fuel for the Tehran research reactor and exchanged views on the possible modalities for its realisation", said IAEA spokeswoman Gill Tudor. Mr. Mottaki is in Vienna to gain Austria's support to oppose any new UN sanction against Iran, Xinhua reported. Meanwhile, Austria's Foreign Minister Michael Spindelegger said Iran must cooperate with the West if it wants to avoid sanctions. "I hope it will not have to come to this sanctions and that Iran is ready to cooperate with the international community," Mr. Spindelegger said at a joint news conference with Mr. Mottaki.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article410326.ece>

**[Australia seeks funds for uranium, with rider](#)**

**The Telegraph, 26 April 2010**

Australia has invited Indian companies to invest in uranium mines in that country. However, the mineral cannot be exported to India. South Australia has 40 per cent of the world's deposit of uranium, a critical raw material for civil nuclear power generation that can also be used to make warheads. Brian Hayes, special envoy to India, government of South Australia, said his country would not export uranium to India unless the latter signs the nuclear non-proliferation treaty (NPT).

"Indian companies are free to invest in our mining sector, including uranium. They can export uranium to all those countries who have signed the NPT," Hayes said. He was in Calcutta heading a mining delegation to India. Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries is the only Indian company to be present in South Australia through a joint venture in uranium mining. Hayes expressed hope that "government policies can be reviewed going forward" without giving a time line when the country would allow uranium exports to India.

[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1100426/jsp/business/story\\_12380865.jsp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1100426/jsp/business/story_12380865.jsp)

**[Nigeria, US 'agree to fight nuclear proliferation'](#)**

**Agence-France Presse, 26 April 2010**

Nigeria and the United States have agreed to work together to counter the spread of nuclear weapons, a senior US official said after a weekend meeting with acting president Goodluck Jonathan. Undersecretary of state for political affairs William Burns met Jonathan late Saturday as the West leans on the UN Security Council -- where Nigeria has a seat -- to slap tougher sanctions on Iran over its nuclear programme. "The United States and Nigeria are determined to live up to our responsibility on nuclear issues," Burns told Nigerian state radio after the meeting, which he described as "excellent". Both nations would work together to "both reduce existing nuclear arsenal ...and work against the proliferation of nuclear weapons," he added. They will also "look for ways in which we can increase cooperation on civilian nuclear energy," he added.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jdEa4genC\\_JCfzJFuqqKyHYbXGug](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jdEa4genC_JCfzJFuqqKyHYbXGug)

**[Unsafe nuclear surge \(A.N Prasad\)](#)**

**The New Indian Express, 26 April 2010**

The ongoing debate on the nuclear liability Bill is unfortunately mired with controversy. The passions have risen so high that the Bill is being branded as an affront to the people of this country and patently inimical to national interest. Also the move has raised apprehensions about the motives on the part of the government in choosing to rush the Bill hastily without a public debate. The Bill is perceived as protecting particularly the foreign suppliers of power plants and hopelessly exposing the Indian public to bear the brunt of the consequences either as taxpayer or direct sufferer in case of a nuclear accident. While compensation resulting from a

catastrophic nuclear incident could run into billions of dollars, the Bill speaks of millions which many consider as a big joke. Underlying the arguments on various provisions of the Bill is the need for proper understanding of some of the factors having scientific bearing, particularly safety issues.

<http://expressbuzz.com/opinion/op-ed/unsafe-nuclear-surge/168241.html>

### **'Cong approval of reprocessing agreement is a mere formality'**

**The Hindustan Times, 26 April 2010**

Noting that there is a bipartisan support to Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, the Obama Administration expressed hope that Congressional approval of the reprocessing agreement reached between the two countries is a "mere formality". "The next step on the US side is the submission of the arrangements and procedures to Congress for a review period of 30 days of continuous session. The departments of Energy and State are currently preparing to make this submission," PJ Crowley Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs told PTI. On March 23, India and US had announced the conclusion of reprocessing agreement to granting New Delhi advance consent to reprocess spent fuel of US origin and fuel burned in US reactors. "We believe that there is bipartisan support for the 123 Agreement and we hope that this is a formality," he said when asked about Congressional approval of the reprocessing agreement reached between India and the US, which is a key component of the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/News-Feed/americas/Cong-approval-of-reprocessing-agreement-is-a-mere-formality/Article1-535132.aspx>

### **China begins construction of new nuclear power plant**

**The Times of India, 26 April 2010**

China has begun constructing a large nuclear power plant in southern Hainan province. The construction of the plant started on Sunday in Changjiang County of Hainan province with an estimated investment of 19 billion Yuan (\$2.78 billion), Xinhua news agency reported. The new plant will consist of two water reactors, with a capacity of 650,000 kw each. The first reactor will be completed and connected to the grid by the end of 2014, the provincial government said. China's nuclear power giants, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC) and China Huaneng Group (CHG), will jointly finance and develop the project, Xinhua said. Hainan needs more energy to sustain and boost its rapid development as an international tourist destination. The safe and clean nuclear power was chosen to avoid affecting the island's ecology, said provincial governor Luo Baoming. The province has little coal resource, while 66 percent of its hydropower resource has been utilised, leaving little potential for future development, Luo added.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/china/China-begins-construction-of-new-nuclear-power-plant/articleshow/5858338.cms>

### **Delhi radiation exposure: One patient dies**

**Press Trust of India, 26 April 2010**

A man hospitalised after radiation exposure in the national capital earlier this month

died due to multi-organ failure today, doctors said. Rajender, 35, a worker at a shop in Mayapuri scrap market, died at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. He was shifted there on April 13 from the DDU hospital, where he was initially admitted. "He died due to multi-organ failure at around 9.30 pm. His condition had deteriorated. His TLC count and his platelet count had dropped drastically and he had developed pneumonia. There were signs of kidney and liver function impairment. He was on ventilator and was being administered multiple drugs," a doctor with the hospital said. Four other radiation exposure patients are still admitted in AIIMS, while Deepak Jain, the owner of the scrap shop from where radioactive material Cobalt-60 was recovered, is at Apollo Hospital.

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/627591\\_Delhi-radiation-exposure--One-patient-dies](http://www.ptinews.com/news/627591_Delhi-radiation-exposure--One-patient-dies)

### **India to Deploy Radiation Sensors at Ports, Borders** **Global Security Newswire, 26 April 2010**

India plans to place radiation portal monitors at all ports and border crossings following indications that radioactive material might have been shipped into the country, the Press Trust of India reported yesterday (see GSN, Nov. 30, 2009). The devices under consideration are built to sense ionizing radiation emitted through cargo containers, including gamma radiation and some neutron emissions. The detectors could be set to scan smaller containers and people as a "discreet fixed-mount detection system," and video monitoring equipment could be placed on the machines. Plans to install the devices were prompted by claims that a supply of radioactive cobalt 60 responsible for sickening six people in West Delhi had entered India through one of its ports. The material was discovered at a scrap repository in Mayapuri.

[http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw\\_20100426\\_5746.php](http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20100426_5746.php)

### **US wants Iran sanctions resolution as soon as possible at UN** **The Times of India, 27 April 2010**

The United States said Monday it wants to see a sanctions resolution submitted "as soon as possible" within the UN Security Council to punish Iran for its sensitive nuclear work. "We are actually engaged in New York in a variety of different groupings... to reach a conclusion on the particulars of a resolution. And we want to get this done as soon as possible," State Department Philip Crowley told reporters. US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton held a flurry of telephone conversations on Iran over the weekend with world leaders, including her Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov, he added. Crowley also dismissed the idea that Lebanon, which assumes the chairmanship of the UN Security Council in May and is opposed to sanctions against Iran, would slow the sanctions debate down. The United States and its allies fear that Iran is seeking to acquire atomic weapons under the guise of a civilian nuclear energy program, while Tehran insists the program is peaceful in nature.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/US-wants-Iran-sanctions-resolution-as-soon-as-possible-at-UN-/articleshow/5861509.cms>

### **Police should be trained to handle radioactivity: Kakodkar** **The Times of India, 27 April 2010**

With an increase in chances of attacks through Chemical, Biological, Radioactive, Nuclear warfare (CBRN), police should be trained to carry out necessary actions in

case of radioactivity, Dr Anil Kakodkar, former chairman of Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) said. "After any kind of explosion, police teams going to the spot should be armed with radiation monitors. If radioactivity is detected then the place has to be cordoned off and the authorities of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) should be called," Kakodkar said at an anti-terrorism seminar held here. The former chairman further said since nuclear and radiation technologies are improving in India, there is a need to secure malevolent use of these materials and technologies by terror outfits. Kakodkar also said the police should not create a panic situation.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Police-should-be-trained-to-handle-radioactivity-Kakodkar/articleshow/5862965.cms>

### [NTPC, NPCIL ink JV deal to set up nuclear power](#)

**The New Indian Express, 28 April 2010**

NTPC and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) have signed a joint venture agreement in New Delhi on Tuesday for formation of a public limited company to set up nuclear power project with two nuclear reactor units. R S Sharma, CMD, NTPC and S K Jain, CMD, NPCIL inked the agreement in presence of Sushilkumar Shinde, Union Minister of Power, Prithviraj Chavan, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology & PMO and Bharatsinh Solanki, Union Minister of State for Power. The joint venture will have NPCIL holding a 51 per cent equity stake, while NTPC will own the rest. The new company will operate about 1,400 MW of capacity with two reactors of 700 MW each. With an installed capacity of 31,704 MW, NTPC is largely dependent on coal (about 82 percent) and gas for generating electricity. The company has begun to diversify into other power generating streams and is focusing on its renewable energy portfolio.

<http://expressbuzz.com/finance/ntpc-npcil-ink-jv-deal-to-set-up-nuclear-power/168930.html>

### [UN nuclear review puts hopes on US-Russia pact](#)

**The Hindu, 28 April 2010**

As world governments gather in May to review the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), hopes are that the new Washington-Moscow commitment to reduce nuclear warheads will produce long-overdue progress on the treaty. Normally, the every-five-year review takes place in conference rooms in New York and Geneva with little notice. In 2000 and 2005, the gathering produced no consensus agreement even as nuclear capability has spread. But this year, there is unusual momentum. US President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev on April 8 sealed the new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, New START. In addition, nearly 50 heads of state or their representatives recently recognized nuclear terrorism as a major threat to world security during an April summit hosted by Mr. Obama. And the White House released a new nuclear defence policy that reduces reliance on nuclear warheads. The 1970 NPT is the cornerstone of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, but has been unable to stop nuclear weapons from spreading beyond the five lead signatories - the US, Russia, China, France and Britain.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article413596.ece?homepage=true>

### [Nuclear-free Mideast key to settling Iran nuclear issue: Egypt](#)

### **Agence-France Presse, 28 April 2010**

Egypt said Tuesday establishing a Middle East nuclear-free zone at next month's nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review conference here was the key to resolving the nuclear standoff with Iran. "Success in dealing with Iran will depend to a large extent on how successfully we deal with the establishment of a nuclear-free zone" in the Middle East, Egypt's UN Ambassador Maged Abdel Aziz told a luncheon briefing with reporters here. "We refuse the existence of any nuclear weapons in (the Middle East) whether it is in Iran or whether it is in Israel," he added. Egypt is to present a working paper at the NPT review conference, which opens next week, urging implementation of a 1995 resolution calling for establishment of a nuclear-free Middle East. The paper calls on NPT members to "renew their resolve to undertake, individually and collectively, all necessary measures aimed at the prompt implementation of the resolution, including the accession by Israel to the treaty as soon as possible as a non-nuclear weapon state."

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gvy7ovwZDjJZUIZwY7V3I55z1LHw>

### **[Report: Osama bin Laden tried to acquire nuclear weapons](#)**

**Haaretz, 28 April 2010**

Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden tried to obtain nuclear weapons, his former bodyguard told London-based Al-Quds Al-Arabi on Wednesday, according to Army Radio. Nasser Al-Bakri told the pan-Arab daily that bin Laden dreamed of acquiring nuclear arms and claimed that his former boss would not have hesitated to use them. Bakri, who currently resides in Yemen, also said that he always carried around bullets in order to kill bin Laden in case he was captured. Also on Wednesday, a former leader of an Islamist organization tied to global jihad said that his group was surprised by the United States' reaction to the September 11 terror attacks, Army Radio reported. Numan Bentuman said that Al-Qaida expected the U.S. response to be along the lines of how it responded to terror attacks at its embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998, after which then president Bill Clinton ordered missile attacks on specific targets.

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1165975.html>

### **[Fast Breeder Reactor to be delayed by a year: Chavan](#)**

**Press Trust of India, 28 April 2010**

India's Fast Breeder Reactor for commercial nuclear energy generation is likely to be delayed by a year, the Lok Sabha was told today. The reactor is likely to start operation by March 2012, Minister for Science and Technology and Earth sciences Prithviraj Chavan said in a written reply. The raft which supports the civil structure was severely affected due to tsunami in 2004 and it needs to be reconstructed, he said.

The Indian industries carried out a number of mock up on civil and mechanical works to meet the stringent technical specifications, he said.

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/630225\\_Fast-Breeder-Reactor-to-be-delayed-by-a-year--Chavan](http://www.ptinews.com/news/630225_Fast-Breeder-Reactor-to-be-delayed-by-a-year--Chavan)

### **[China to build two nuclear reactors in Pakistan](#)**

**The Times of India, 29 April 2010**

China has agreed to build two new civilian nuclear reactors in Pakistan, a report said on Thursday, amid persistent concerns about the safety of nuclear materials in the

restive south Asian state. Chinese companies will build at least two new 650-megawatt reactors at Chashma in Punjab province, the Financial Times said. China began building a reactor at Chashma in 1991 and broke ground on a second one in 2005, which is expected to be completed next year, it said. A statement posted on the website of the China National Nuclear Corporation on March 1 said financing for two new reactors at Chashma was agreed by the two sides in February. A spokeswoman for the corporation, which oversees China's civilian and military nuclear programmes, said she was unaware of the deal when contacted by AFP on Thursday. "Our Chinese brothers have once again lived up to our expectations," the Financial Times quoted an unidentified Pakistani official as saying of the deal, which would help Pakistan cope with a crippling energy crisis.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/china/China-to-build-two-nuclear-reactors-in-Pakistan/articleshow/5871203.cms>

### **US unlikely to openly criticise Sino-Pak nuke trade**

**Press Trust of India, 29 April 2010**

China is all set to export two nuclear power plants to Pakistan in violation of the guidelines of the Nuclear Suppliers Group that require NPT signatory states to supply such equipment only with comprehensive IAEA safeguards, a US think tank said today. But the Obama Administration is unlikely to openly criticise such a deal, given its overwhelming dependence on Islamabad for its Afghan operations even though it might object to it inside the NSG, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace said in its report released today. "Contrary to guidelines adopted in 1992 by nuclear equipment supplier states in the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), China is poised to export two power reactors to Pakistan.

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/629307\\_US-unlikely-to-openly-criticise-Sino-Pak-nuke-trade](http://www.ptinews.com/news/629307_US-unlikely-to-openly-criticise-Sino-Pak-nuke-trade)

### **After parliament vote win, India to move on nuclear bill**

**Reuters, 29 April 2010**

India's government is planning to introduce a delayed nuclear liability bill in parliament, officials said on Wednesday, a move that will allow entry of U.S. firms into the country's \$150 billion sector. A 2008 civilian nuclear deal with the United States ended India's nuclear isolation since its 1974 atomic test, and gave it access to U.S. technology and fuel. But endorsement of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Bill is imperative for private U.S. firms reluctant to do business in India without legislation that underwrites their compensation liability in the case of industrial accidents. In March the government was forced to shelve plans to introduce the bill in parliament following protests by the opposition, who say the bill favours private players. But after Tuesday's victory in a confidence vote moved by the main opposition parties in parliament, the Congress appeared to be moving forward on key pending bills, including on pension reform and entry of foreign universities.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSSGE63R0J520100428?type=marketsNews>

### **Radioactive matter in Mayapuri scrap market came from DU lab, say police**

**The Indian Express, 29 April 2010**

The origin of the radioactive Cobalt-60 found in Mayapuri market has been traced to a laboratory in Delhi University's Chemistry department, where it was lying unused for the last 25 years. Deputy Commissioner of Police (West) Sharad Aggarwal said on Wednesday that the university bought the gamma cell in question from the Atomic Energy Canada Limited in 1970 for use in experiments by students. It was not used since 1985. The university authorities auctioned it on February 26 this year, and it passed through different hands before reaching the scrap market in Mayapuri, according to DCP Aggarwal. Several workers and Deepak Jain, the owner of a scrap shop in the market, were hospitalised earlier this month with ailments caused by exposure to radioactive substances. One of the victims, Rajender, succumbed to the infection on Monday.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/radioactive-matter-in-mayapuri-scrap-market-came-from-du-lab-say-police/612706/>

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/radioactive-matter-in-mayapuri-scrap-market-came-from-du-lab-say-p>

**The Times of India, 29 April 2010**

A few days after Bhaba Atomic Research Centre certified that the radioactive Cobalt isotope found at 11 locations in Mayapuri was not manufactured in India, authorities in Delhi University on Wednesday were taken aback after they came to know that it had actually come from their own chemistry lab at north campus. BARC was not wrong as DU had reportedly bought Cobalt-60 from Canada in 1970. The substance remained unused for nearly 25 years in the lab with nobody trained to handle it. Vice-chancellor, professor Deepak Pental said that the varsity may set up an external inquiry to check the safety situation on the campus. "It is shocking. It is the worst thing that I have come across in the past five years," Pental said, adding that there has to be a proper procedure to dispose of such materials for which the department is responsible. The faculty at the department of chemistry insisted that Cobalt-60 had not been used for any experiment by the students in all these years and it had been kept safe in lead and iron covers inside the lab.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Radioactive-metal-Chem-dept-head-in-dark-V-C-says-shocking-/articleshow/5870791.cms>

[\*\*NPT regime is under great stress and is fraying at seams: U.S.\*\*](#)

**The Hindu, 30 April 2010**

Ahead of the crucial nuclear non-proliferation treaty review conference, the Obama Administration has said that NPT regime is under great stress and US will work to prevent countries from cynically violating the nuclear treaty and then exercising their withdrawal rights to evade accountability. Ellen Tauscher, Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security in her remarks at the Centre for American Progress, charged countries like North Korea and Iran from violating its international responsibilities. "The nuclear non-proliferation regime is under great stress and is fraying at the seams. North Korea announced its withdrawal from the NPT in 2003 and subsequently announced that it had conducted two nuclear tests," Tauscher said. "Iran poses another challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Under the guise of a purportedly peaceful nuclear programme, Iran has violated its IAEA safeguards and Security Council obligations in pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability," she said.

<http://beta.thehindu.com/news/international/article418233.ece?homepage=true>

### [China Guangdong Nuclear lining up pre-IPO investors](#)

**Reuters, 30 April 2010**

China Guangdong Nuclear Power Group (CGNPG) is planning to rope in new strategic investors to prepare for an initial public offering, the China Daily reported on Friday. The official English-language daily did not say when or where the long-mooted IPO might take place. "CGNPG is planning to bring in new investors to replace some of the existing shareholders, and is a precursor to the company's long-term plan of going public," the newspaper quoted an unidentified source as saying. The group currently owns Guangdong Daya Bay nuclear power station and Ling Ao nuclear power station with nearly 4 million kilowatts of installed generating capacity.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINTOE63T00Z20100430>

### [AERB's directive to Delhi University on radiation sources](#)

**The Hindu, 30 April 2010**

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) has asked the Delhi University to suspend all activities involving the use of radiation sources. The directive follows the tracing of a radioactive material that caused the death of a person of a scrap shop and injuries to several others at Mayapuri here to the university's Chemistry Department. The AERB, whose mission is to ensure that the use of nuclear energy does not have an "unacceptable impact on the health of workers and the members of the public and on the environment," has issued a show-cause notice to the university, asking it to explain the violations within two weeks. The board said on its website that the radioactive material (Cobalt-60) originated from an old gamma cell model 220 that was made by Atomic Energy Canada Limited with decayed Cobalt-60 sources. The AERB said the incident was caused by the unauthorised disposal of the gamma cell by the university as scrap, in violation of the Atomic Energy (Safe Disposal of Radioactive Waste) Rules and Atomic Energy (Radiation Protection) Rules.

<http://www.thehindu.com/2010/04/30/stories/2010043062371000.htm>

### [Railways plans n-power plant with NPCIL](#)

**Daily News and Analysis, 30 April 2010**

The Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) is in the process of joining hands with Indian Railways to set up a power plant, to meet the energy requirements of the largest public transport network in the country. Though the plan is still in an initial stage, NPCIL is said to be in active consultations with the Railways to take the project forward shortly. "They (Railways) are big consumers of power. They want to set up a power plant for their own consumption. In any case, the Railways will act just as an investor," SK Jain, CMD, NPCIL, said on the sidelines of a programme organised by an engineering company in Hyderabad on Thursday. According to him, the Railways approached NPCIL to set up a nuclear-based power plant to meet the energy requirements, estimated to touch 4,000 mw in the next five years. Jain refused to divulge further details on the project saying it is "still in the discussion stage."

[http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report\\_railways-plans-n-power-plant-with-npcil\\_1377162](http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report_railways-plans-n-power-plant-with-npcil_1377162)

### [Nuclear danger from Pakistan \(Kanwal Sibal\)](#)

**The New Indian Express, 30 April 2010**

Nuclear terrorism as dramatic a danger as it is being made out to be? The idea that nuclear material could be used in a terrorist attack is no doubt frightening, and in theory it cannot be ruled out. The malevolence of terrorist attacks in total disregard for human life shows the lengths to which their perpetrators can go. The ready supply of suicide bombers shows the intensity of terrorist motivation. But, even so, was US President Barack Obama justified in organising the big Nuclear Security Summit in Washington on April 12/13, with leaders from 47 countries present? The US, traumatised by the September 11 attack, feels particularly vulnerable to all conceivable forms of terrorism. It is responding with an array of security measures that at times seem excessive and impractical, like the Container Security Initiative. The Nuclear Security Summit was, at one level, a response to deep-seated public anxiety in the US about a terrorist attack against the country with nuclear materials.

<http://expressbuzz.com/opinion/columnists/nuclear-danger-from-pakistan/169476.html>

### [DU buried 20kg of radioactive material on campus, says professor](#)

**The Times of India, 30 April 2010**

The cobalt-60 that was callously sold by the Delhi University to a scrap dealer an act that resulted in the death of a man and critical radiation exposure to at least seven others is not the only example of the varsity mishandling radioactive substances. A DU professor has claimed that the physics department dumped as much as 20kg of radioactive material in a 10 feet deep pit on the campus itself, near the chemistry department, some 20 years ago. "Instead of handing over the hazardous material to BARC for proper disposal, they just buried it in the ground. Though it's been 20 years, the buried isotopes of substances like uranium could still be active. There are all kinds of pipelines running underneath and so much construction is going on for the Commonwealth Games. It's really dangerous," said professor Ramesh Chandra of the chemistry department.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/DU-buried-20kg-of-radioactive-material-on-campus-says-professor/articleshow/5874787.cms>

### [Radioactivity detectors at all ports soon: DAE](#)

**The New Indian Express, 30 April 2010**

In the wake of the Delhi radiation leak experience and in a bid to prevent illegal import of radioactive materials into the country, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) on Thursday said it will install necessary equipment to detect radioactive elements at all air, sea and land ports. "We have initiated work to set up detection units at all ports across the country. Very soon, land, sea and airports will have radioactive substance detectors to prevent its unauthorised entry into the country," said Dr Srikumar Banerjee, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission & Secretary to DAE. Speaking on the sidelines of a handing over ceremony organised by MTAR Technologies, an aerospace and engineering firm, here in the city, he said, "A lot has to be done in terms of checking all ports where scrap is being imported. Currently, none of the ports has radioactive detection equipment." The move to equip ports with detectors comes three weeks after Cobalt-60, a radioactive substance, was discovered in a scrap yard in Delhi.

<http://expressbuzz.com/finance/radioactivity-detectors-at-all-ports-soon->

dae/169559.html