

### [Does US have 'plan B' for Pak nukes?](#)

**The Times of India, 1 May 2009**

US president Barack Obama's carefully calibrated reply referring to concerns that Pakistan's nuclear arms might fall into militants' hands, appeared to suggest that the US has secondary back-up plans in the event of any exigencies, something the intelligence analysts' community has long considered inevitable. When the reporter followed up to seek a more precise answer, asking if in the worst case scenario, the US military could secure the nuclear weapons, Obama responded crisply: "I'm not going to engage in hypotheticals of that sort. I feel confident that that nuclear arsenal will remain out of militant hands. Okay?" There is strong pressure on Pakistan from Washington to deploy regular troops rather than its constabulary or para-military in the battles against Taliban, but Islamabad is said to be desisting, holding out for greater military aid and equipment to carry out the task.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Does-US-have-plan-B-for-Pak-nukes/articleshow/4469776.cms>

### [Left, BJP shed extreme view on nuclear deal](#)

**The Times of India, 1 May 2009**

First it was BJP prime ministerial candidate L K Advani who walked back from wanting to renegotiate the nuclear deal. This week, it was the turn of CPM general secretary Prakash Karat to ditch the idea of ditching the deal. Is it a quiet acknowledgment of reality, that an international agreement, negotiated by two countries cannot be reopened without some deleterious and far-reaching consequences? Having opposed the India-US nuclear deal for close to two years, Advani last week quietly acknowledged the reality by saying the BJP would not scrap the nuclear deal as he had threatened earlier. On Wednesday, it was the turn of Karat. In a stance that was several degrees softer than his previous unyielding opposition to the deal, the CPM boss told an interviewer he believed the deal should be "reviewed and reworked".

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Left-BJP-shed-extreme-view-on-nuclear-deal/articleshow/4469010.cms>

### [Committed to implement Indo-US civilian nuke deal: Obama admn](#)

**Press Trust of India, 1 May 2009**

The Obama Administration has asserted it is committed to implement the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, a landmark foreign policy achievement by the previous Bush government. US Department of Energy yesterday issued a statement, following the conclusion of a three-day meeting of the 'US-India Civil Nuclear Energy Working Group'. The second meeting of the group and the first after the nuke deal was signed last year, held at the Idaho National Laboratory from April 28 to 30. The Obama administration said it looks forward to India to bring its IAEA Safeguards Agreement into force, filing its declaration of facilities pursuant to the safeguards agreement, publicly announcing reactor park sites for US companies and enacting global standards of liability protection.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/407E61A236A6F317652575A90011346D?OpenDocument>

### [At the Indian Point Nuclear Plant, a Pipe Leak Raises Concerns](#)

**The New York Times, 1 May 2009**

The discovery of water flowing across the floor of a building at the Indian Point 2 nuclear plant in Buchanan, N.Y., traced to a leak in a buried pipe, is stirring concern about the plant's underground pipes and those of other aging reactors across the country. A one-and-a-half-inch hole caused by corrosion allowed about 100,000 gallons of water to escape from the main system that keeps the reactor cool immediately after any shutdown, according to nuclear experts. The leak was discovered on Feb. 16, according to the plant's owner, Entergy Nuclear Northeast, a subsidiary of the Entergy Corporation. Entergy and the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission emphasized that the Indian Point reactor could still have been shut down safely with either of two other backup systems, although operators generally avoid using both.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/02/nyregion/02nuke.html?ref=us>

### **North Korea seeks upper hand with nuclear threat**

**Reuters, 1 May 2009**

North Korea's threats on Wednesday to conduct a nuclear test and fire an intercontinental ballistic missile are likely aimed at increasing its bargaining leverage with global powers. The North said it would go ahead with the tests unless the U.N. Security Council apologized for tightening sanctions against Pyongyang in response to the reclusive state's rocket launch this month. \* Experts say that since the North's only nuclear test in October 2006 was just a partial success, another is inevitable because Pyongyang needs to see if it has built a better bomb design. A nuclear test is one of the biggest cards North Korea can play in its strategy of brinkmanship with the international community, and doing so would push Pyongyang right to the top of U.S. President Barack Obama's agenda.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/reutersEdge/idUSTRE5403TR20090501>

### **Despite Taliban turmoil, Pakistan expands nuke plants**

**McClatchy News Service, 1 May 2009**

Pakistan is expanding its nuclear weapons program even as Islamic extremists in northwest Pakistan advance in the direction of several highly sensitive nuclear-related sites, U.S. officials and other experts said this week. Pakistan's government is completing two new nuclear reactors to produce plutonium for weapons that would be smaller, lighter and more efficient than the 60-odd highly enriched uranium-fueled warheads that Pakistan is now thought to possess, the officials and experts said. "In the current climate, with Pakistan's leadership under duress from daily acts of violence by insurgent Taliban forces and organized political opposition, the security of any nuclear material produced in these reactors is in question," said an April 23 report by the Institute for Science and International Security.

### **Worried Obama confident over Pak nuclear weapons' security**

**Daily Times, 1 May 2009**

US President Barack Obama said on Wednesday that he is 'gravely concerned' about the stability of the Pakistani government, but is confident that Pakistan's nuclear arsenal will not fall into the hands of the Taliban. Addressing a prime-time news conference on his 100th day in office, Obama called the government in Pakistan 'very fragile'. But he said, "I'm confident that we can make sure that Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is secure." "I am more concerned that the civilian government right now is very fragile and don't seem to have the capacity to deliver basic services, said Obama. "As a consequence, it's very difficult for them to gain the support and loyalty of their people," he added.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\01\story\\_1-5-2009\\_pg1\\_4](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\01\story_1-5-2009_pg1_4)

### **[Pakistan Strife Raises U.S. Doubts on Nuclear Arms](#)**

**The New York Times, 3 May 2009**

As the insurgency of the Taliban and Al Qaeda spreads in Pakistan, senior American officials say they are increasingly concerned about new vulnerabilities for Pakistan's nuclear arsenal, including the potential for militants to snatch a weapon in transport or to insert sympathizers into laboratories or fuel-production facilities. The officials emphasized that there was no reason to believe that the arsenal, most of which is south of the capital, Islamabad, faced an imminent threat. President Obama said last week that he remained confident that keeping the country's nuclear infrastructure secure was the top priority of Pakistan's armed forces. But the United States does not know where all of Pakistan's nuclear sites are located, and its concerns have intensified in the last two weeks since the Taliban entered Buner, a district 60 miles from the capital.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/04/world/asia/04nuke.html?em>

### **[Safety issues revealed at nuclear facility](#)**

**The State, 3 May 2009**

Contractors at the Savannah River Site — one of the country's major nuclear-weapons complexes — repeatedly procured dangerous construction materials and components that failed to meet federal safety standards, according to a recently completed internal government probe. One of the substandard materials revealed at the Savannah River Site on the South Carolina-Georgia border "could have resulted in a spill of up to 15,000 gallons of high-level radioactive waste," the inspector general of the U.S. Energy Department found. The five-month investigation also disclosed the purchase of 9,500 tons of substandard reinforcing steel at the SRS site near Aiken.

<http://www.thestate.com/local/story/772791.html>

### **[India to set up nuclear reactors in Kazakhstan](#)**

**China View, 3 May 2009**

India will set up an unspecified number of nuclear reactors in Kazakhstan under a memorandum of understanding (MoU) reached between the two countries early this year, said the local newspaper Mail Today on Sunday. The MoU was signed during Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's visit to India in January, the newspaper quoted unidentified sources as saying. The two countries have also reached an advanced stage in discussions on nuclear cooperation and Kazakhstan could well be the first foreign destination for India-made reactors, said the report. Such reactors would be of medium size, with a capacity to generate 200 to 300 megawatt of power each, according to the report. Kazakhstan has also agreed to supply over 2,000 tons of uranium to India to make fuels for its nuclear plants.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/03/content\\_11304309.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/03/content_11304309.htm)

### **[Russia to build floating Arctic nuclear stations](#)**

**Guardian, 3 May 2009**

Russia is planning a fleet of floating and submersible nuclear power stations to exploit Arctic oil and gas reserves, causing widespread alarm among

environmentalists. A prototype floating nuclear power station being constructed at the SevMash shipyard in Severodvinsk is due to be completed next year. Agreement to build a further four was reached between the Russian state nuclear corporation, Rosatom, and the northern Siberian republic of Yakutiya in February. The 70-megawatt plants, each of which would consist of two reactors on board giant steel platforms, would provide power to Gazprom, the oil firm which is also Russia's biggest company. It would allow Gazprom to power drills needed to exploit some of the remotest oil and gas fields in the world in the Barents and Kara seas.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/may/03/russia-arctic-nuclear-power-stations>

### ['Long road' to nuclear-free world: Robert Gates](#)

**Agence France-Presse, 4 May 2009**

US Defense Secretary Robert Gates on Sunday lauded the sentiment behind President Barack Obama's wish for a world without nuclear weapons, but said it would be "a long road to get there." "I think this is an important goal for everyone to have in the world, but I think that it's a long road to get there," he told CNN. "President Obama is the fourth president that I have worked for who has said publicly he would like to see an end to nuclear weapons and (have) a nuclear weapons-free world. I think that's a laudable objective," Gates said. But the US defense chief said any such move would be as the result of gradual and labored disarmament efforts. "It's a goal that you have to move toward step by step," Gates said.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gGd2USa6L3t\\_JD2Ihh\\_CGGT55MA](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gGd2USa6L3t_JD2Ihh_CGGT55MA)

### [Koodankulam sets off chain reaction](#)

**The Hindu Business Line, 4 May 2009**

Action is picking up in the Indian nuclear sector. With the opening of the new window of nuclear commerce with other countries, the first on the list of projects to come up in the country is at the Koodankulam site in Tamil Nadu. Two reactors are already being constructed with Russian assistance under an earlier inter-governmental pact, while another four units are being planned. With Russia cashing in on its first-mover advantage and commencing preparatory work for the proposed additional units at Koodankulam, and the French and the Americans waiting in the wings, some degree of momentum in setting up of new Light Water Reactor-based capacities could be envisaged once a new government takes office at the Centre.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/2009/05/04/stories/2009050450150800.htm>

### [US seeks Pakistan nuclear pledge](#)

**BBC News, 4 May 2009**

The US national security adviser has told the BBC that Washington needs guarantees from Pakistan that its nuclear arsenal is safe from militants. General James Jones said Pakistan's army had repeatedly told him the stockpile was "under control", but "this is very much an ongoing topic". The Pakistani government is fighting to stop Taliban militants expanding their power in the north-west of the country. Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari is due to meet Barack Obama this week. In an interview with the BBC's North America editor, Justin Webb, Gen Jones said that "things are moving in a more positive direction" in Pakistan, but that more assurances were needed about the safety of the country's nuclear weapons.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8032898.stm>

**[U.S. sanctions will not halt nuclear work: Iran](#)**

**The Washington Post, 4 May 2009**

Iran will not suspend its disputed nuclear program even if the United States imposes sanctions targeting companies that ship fuel to the Islamic Republic, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday. Twenty-five U.S. senators from both parties have proposed giving President Barack Obama new leverage in the dispute over Tehran's nuclear ambitions. The bill gives Obama the authority to sanction companies supplying petrol to Iran. The United States and its Western allies suspect Iran is aiming to develop nuclear bombs under the cover of a civilian program and want it to halt sensitive uranium enrichment. Iran rejects the allegation and says it will not bow to pressure. "We can cope with such measures (U.S. sanctions). Sanctions and threats will not stop Iran from continuing its nuclear work," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hassan Qashqavi told a weekly news conference.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/04/AR2009050400891.html>

**[U.S. Negotiator Signals Flexibility Toward Moscow Over New Round of Arms Talks](#)**

**The New York Times, 4 May 2009**

The top arms control negotiator for the United States said on Monday that the government was willing to agree to count both nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles when renegotiating the 1991 Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or Start — addressing one of Russia's longstanding concerns. In an interview with the Russian news service Interfax, the negotiator, Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller, also said the United States was open to a Russian proposal to use radar based in Azerbaijan or Southern Russia, rather than Eastern Europe, for the proposed missile defense system. Officials from the administration of President George W. Bush had not followed up on the idea of relocating the radar from Eastern Europe, where Russia fears it would be part of a missile defense system that would be used against it.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/05/world/europe/05russia.html?ref=us>

**[Pakistan nuclear arsenal dispersed; control in place: US](#)**

**Press Trust of India, 5 May 2009**

The United States has said that Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is dispersed and has a very solid command and control structure in place, as media reports resurfaced that the US is very concerned about preventing nuclear weapons of Pakistan from falling into the hands of Taliban or extremist groups. "Pakistan's nuclear arsenal is dispersed. There, as I said, is a very solid command and control structure in place with regard to that arsenal," the State Department Spokesman, Robert Wood, told reporters in reply yesterday to a question at his daily press briefing. However, the spokesperson denied responding to the question if the US knew where these nuclear arsenals are being kept in Pakistan. "I really don't want to talk about ... that's getting into intelligence," he said.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/082A9A12DA80306E652575AD0016A9F5?OpenDocument>

**[Zardari flies to US amid fears over Pak nuclear weapons](#)**

### **The Hindu, 5 May 2009**

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari left the British capital for a summit in the US on Tuesday amid mounting fears over the safety of Pakistan's nuclear bombs. Mr. Zardari, who was camping in London for two days ahead of the Washington meeting, did not meet Prime Minister Gordon Brown or any British leader, British sources said. However, Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi, who was also in London, was met by his British opposite number David Miliband at a central London hotel where he was staying. Mr. Zardari left for his first meeting with US President Barack Obama accompanied by his Interior Minister Rehman Malik, Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence chief Lt.Gen. Shuja Pasha and chief of military operations Maj. Gen. Javid Iqbal.

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/000200905052117.htm>

### **Pakistan, US in talks on nuclear security**

#### **The Boston Globe, 5 May 2009**

US and Pakistani officials have begun behind-the-scenes talks aimed at achieving a greater US role in securing Pakistan's nuclear materials, including a proposal to ship some highly enriched uranium to the United States for disposal, according to two administration officials with direct knowledge of the discussions. If successful, the talks between nonproliferation specialists at the State and Energy departments and their Pakistani counterparts would mark a breakthrough in efforts to persuade Pakistan to accept greater assistance in preventing terrorists from obtaining nuclear fuel or the technology to build a nuclear weapon. "The Pakistanis take this very seriously," said a senior US official involved in the talks who asked not to be identified discussing the sensitive negotiations.

[http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2009/05/05/pakistan\\_us\\_in\\_talks\\_on\\_nuclear\\_security/](http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2009/05/05/pakistan_us_in_talks_on_nuclear_security/)

### **U.S. envoy set for talks with allies on North Korea**

#### **Reuters, 5 May 2009**

The U.S. envoy to North Korea will leave on Wednesday for Japan, South Korea, China and Russia to discuss how to bring back Pyongyang to stalled six-party nuclear talks, the State Department said on Tuesday. State Department spokesman Robert Wood said the delegation, led by special representative for North Korea policy, Stephen Bosworth, had no plans to visit North Korea during the trip. "The purpose of this trip is to work with our allies to find a way forward in convincing the North to come back to the negotiating table," Wood told reporters. North Korea has rejected a call to return to the stalled nuclear talks it has with South Korea, Japan, Russia, the United States, and China.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-39432820090505>

### **Canada touts nuclear energy know-how to Baltics, Romania**

#### **Agence France-Presse, 5 May 2009**

Canada's trade minister on Monday launched a promotional tour of Lithuania, Latvia, Romania and the Czech Republic to tout its nuclear technologies. The four-country tour aims to "open doors" for Canadian companies and raise the profile of Canadian energy sector technologies, International Trade Minister Stockwell Day said in a statement. "The Baltic states and Romania have energy needs, and Canadian businesses have solutions," he said. "These countries represent significant opportunities for Canada's nuclear industry, including the Visaginas nuclear project in

Lithuania and the Cernavoda project in Romania -- and these opportunities will translate into jobs back home in Canada." During his visit, Day will meet with key officials in all four countries, including Lithuania's Prime Minister Andrius Kubilius, his office said.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5icJhIb5q6cfL\\_5u3FpOladrYfN2g](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5icJhIb5q6cfL_5u3FpOladrYfN2g)

#### [Lavrov says new START to be key issue at Russia-US summit.](#)

**Itar-Tass News Agency, 5 May 2009**

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said a new strategic arms reduction treaty (START) will be the key issue at the upcoming Russia-US summit in Moscow in July and experts will work in the coming months to provide proposals for the Russian and US Presidents, Dmitry Medvedev and Barack Obama. "The priority issue to be discussed at the summit will be the new treaty," Lavrov said on Thursday in Carnegie Foundation. "We need a new treaty and we are actively working on it," he added. The provisions of START-1, which expires later this year, have been fulfilled and overfulfilled, according to Lavrov. "It is no longer an efficient instrument in the sphere of strategic arms control. Therefore, we see no grounds to prolong the treaty," Lavrov said.

<http://en.rian.ru/world/20090507/121492118.html>

#### [US may press India to sign CTBT: Blackwill](#)

**Daily Times, 6 May 2009**

Former US ambassador to India Robert Blackwill on Tuesday said New Delhi may face pressure from the Obama administration over signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Addressing a seminar on US-India relations organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry, he said India should help the US in imposing sanctions on Iran. Blackwill, who is currently associated with RAND Corporation, an influential US think tank, also pointed out the lack of communication and close relationships between the policy makers in Washington and in New Delhi. "Although it is certainly early days, there are preliminary indications that the Obama administration has a different policy orientation towards India. First, it is not clear that the Obama administration has the same preoccupation with the rise of Chinese power and India's balancing role in it," Blackwill said.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story\\_6-5-2009\\_pg7\\_44](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\06\story_6-5-2009_pg7_44)

#### [Nuke deal rings on turf of turncoats](#)

**The Indian Express, 6 May 2009**

At a time when many candidates of cosmopolitan constituencies plead ignorance about country's foreign policy issues, the Indo-US nuclear deal is making a buzz in the dusty and backward Bijnor constituency in Rohilkhand — a reserved seat till last elections. The candidate who has made the nuclear deal a talking point is Shahid Siddiqui, former Rajya Sabha MP, who left the Samajwadi Party to join the BSP in July 2008 when SP chief Mulayam Singh Yadav suddenly decided to rescue the UPA government from falling. "I take up the nuclear deal issue in my campaign and explain to people about the need of power from diversified sources — hydro, solar and bio — and not nuclear alone. Heavy investment in nuclear energy will divest resources and cannot ensure energy security. We need gas from Iran. The nuclear deal compromised our sovereignty," Siddiqui told The Indian Express.

<http://www.expressindia.com/latest-news/nuke-deal-rings-on-turf-of-turncoats/455141/>

**['Linking aid to access to AQ Khan won't help US: Holbrooke](#)**

**The Indian Express, 6 May 2009**

The United States has asked Islamabad to allow American intelligence access to Pakistan's disgraced nuclear scientist A Q Khan, US' special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke has said. Responding to lawmakers, who demanded greater accountability from Pakistan, Holbrooke said, while the Obama Administration had raised the issue of Khan with Islamabad, it was not in favour of making US aid conditional on the matter. "I find it hard to understand... that A Q Khan was not immediately made available to the US. We had no access. And I just don't understand it, given the immense amount of damage he (has done)," Holbrooke said in response to a question from Congressman Gary Ackerman.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/linking-aid-to-access-to-aq-khan-wont-help-us-holbrooke/455219/>

**[Obama calls for tougher nuclear treaty](#)**

**The Economic Times, 6 May 2009**

President Barack Obama urged delegates at a UN meeting on Tuesday to put aside differences and strengthen the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty so it can deal with the threat of nuclear terrorism and the spread of nuclear weapons. In a message to a two-week meeting helping to lay the groundwork for a 2010 conference to review the treaty, he called for dialogue and hard work to ensure that the NPT remains the cornerstone of global disarmament and nonproliferation efforts and "continues to make an enduring contribution to international peace and security." The last NPT review conference in 2005 failed to make substantive progress because of bickering over procedural issues.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/International-Business/Obama-calls-for-tougher-nuclear-treaty/articleshow/4489757.cms>

**[Nuclear talks get first breakthrough in 10 yea](#)**

**Reuters, 6 May 2009**

Delegates meeting on the 1970 Non-Proliferation Treaty struck their first agreement on the anti-nuclear arms pact in a decade on Wednesday, which diplomats said was largely due to U.S. President Barack Obama. Three days into a two-week meeting on the landmark arms control agreement, delegates from its 189 signatories agreed on an agenda for a major conference next year, where member states hope to adopt an action plan to overhaul the treaty. "Amazing," Ambassador John Duncan, head of the British delegation, wrote on a website he updates regularly. "We just agreed the agenda for the 2010 review conference. It may seem boring but we haven't done so for a decade." Other diplomats described the agreement as modest but significant, because member states have been unable even to agree on what they should talk about for 10 years.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSN06281930>

**[High-enriched uranium traces found in Egypt: IAEA](#)**

**Reuters, 6 May 2009**

The U.N. nuclear watchdog is investigating the discovery of traces of highly enriched

uranium at a nuclear research site in Egypt, according to a restricted International Atomic Energy Agency report obtained by Reuters. It did not specify whether the particles were weapons-grade -- enriched to a level high enough for use as fuel for an atom bomb, as opposed to fuel for some nuclear reactors. An IAEA official reached by Reuters said this was being checked. The report, which described global IAEA work in 2008 to verify compliance with non-proliferation rules, said the highly enriched uranium (HEU) traces turned up in environmental swipe samples taken at the Inshas nuclear research site in 2007-08. The HEU was discovered alongside particles of low-enriched uranium (LEU), the type used for nuclear power plant fuel.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idUSTRE54543S20090506>

### [Secret U.S.-Israel nuclear accord in jeopardy](#)

**The Washington Post, 6 May 2009**

President Obama's efforts to curb the spread of nuclear weapons threaten to expose and derail a 40-year-old secret U.S. agreement to shield Israel's nuclear weapons from international scrutiny, former and current U.S. and Israeli officials and nuclear specialists say. The issue will likely come to a head when Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets with Mr. Obama on May 18 in Washington. Mr. Netanyahu is expected to seek assurances from Mr. Obama that he will uphold the U.S. commitment and will not trade Israeli nuclear concessions for Iranian ones. Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller, speaking Tuesday at a U.N. meeting on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), said Israel should join the treaty, which would require Israel to declare and relinquish its nuclear arsenal.

<http://washingtontimes.com/news/2009/may/06/us-weighs-forcing-israel-to-disclose-nukes/>

### [Support for Nuclear Reductions Builds with Two New Bipartisan Reports \(Kingston Reif\)](#)

**Center for Arms Control and Nonproliferation, 6 May 2009**

Two recent bipartisan reports strongly endorsed the importance of reducing the size of the U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear arsenals. Both reports clearly demonstrated that there is broad and wide support for a START follow-on agreement and that the United States and Russia have an important obligation to reduce the size and role of nuclear weapons in their national security policies. The first report, from a Task Force led by the Council on Foreign Relations, was released on April 30. Co-chaired by former Secretary of Defense William J. Perry and former National Security Advisor Brent Scowcroft, the report "supports efforts to renew legally binding arms control pacts with Russia by seeking follow-on agreements to START and the 2002 Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty (SORT)."

[http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/policy/nuclearweapons/articles/050609\\_support\\_nuclear\\_reductions\\_builds/](http://www.armscontrolcenter.org/policy/nuclearweapons/articles/050609_support_nuclear_reductions_builds/)

### [Fears on Indo-US nuclear deal vindicated: Yechury](#)

**The Hindu, 7 May 2009**

Claiming that its apprehensions on the Indo-US nuclear deal were being vindicated, CPI(M) on Thursday said recent statements by senior American officials had made it clear that the US wanted India to endorse the NPT and other related agreements, "negating" New Delhi's original stand on them. "The Left's reasoning for withdrawing its outside support to the UPA government when the latter unilaterally insisted on going ahead with this (nuclear) deal is now vindicated by the latest pronouncements

made by the US administration itself," Polit Bureau member Sitaram Mr. Yechury said. Mr. Yechury added that it was "now clear" that the Manmohan Singh government had "virtually surrendered to US imperialist pressures".

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/000200905071933.htm>

**[Latest from Obama regime: India, 3 other countries must sign NPT](#)**  
**The Times of India, 7 May 2009**

The Obama administration's "different policy orientation" towards India may not have fully unfolded yet, but New Delhi is already facing the heat. After the US ambivalence over India's relations with Pakistan vis-a-vis the war in Afghanistan, comes the statement by assistant secretary of state Rose Gottemoeller that India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea must sign the Non Proliferation Treaty, the global pact against atomic weapons. The statement made during a UN meet attended by all 189 NPT signatories might appear generic, as India was named alongwith the three other recognised sovereign states who have not signed the treaty, but it has certainly riled New Delhi as its stand is unambiguous-- that it abides by non-proliferation in principle but it will not sign the treaty because it discriminates between nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India-may-come-under-pressure-from-US-to-sign-NPT/articleshow/4490055.cms>

**[Strategic Posture Panel Reveals Split Over Nuclear Test Pact Ratification](#)**  
**Global Security Newswire, 7 May 2009**

A congressionally mandated expert panel yesterday reported that its members were divided over whether the U.S. Senate should ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, but it unanimously advised the White House to clarify specific activities banned by the accord. On Tuesday, Assistant Secretary of State Rose Gottemoeller told a U.N. gathering in New York that the Obama administration "will immediately and aggressively pursue U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty." Plans are also in the works to "launch a diplomatic effort to bring on board the other states whose ratifications are required for the treaty to enter into force," she said. However, if the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States is any indication, the White House might anticipate some partisan wrangling over the issue when it hits Capitol Hill.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20090507\\_3983.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090507_3983.php)

**[Activity at N.Korean Test Sites Intensifies](#)**  
**The Chosun Ilbo, 7 May 2009**

North Korea has been speeding up construction of a new long-range missile test site in Tongchangri, North Pyongan Province. And vehicles and personnel are busily moving around in Kilju, North Hamgyong Province, where the North conducted an underground nuclear test in 2006, showing signs of preparations for another. "The North has recently been speeding up construction at the test site in Tongchangri by deploying more equipment and personnel," a South Korean government official said Wednesday. "We expected the North would complete construction sometime late this year, but it now seems that it could be completed several months earlier." Construction of the test site began eight years ago and was 80 percent complete last September. South Korean military authorities believe the North could accelerate completion of the test site and test-launch a long-range ballistic missile from there.

[http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html\\_dir/2009/05/07/2009050700240.html](http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2009/05/07/2009050700240.html)

### [Report: Iran Could Have Enough Material for Nuke in Months](#)

**CNN, 7 May 2009**

A U.S. Senate report released Thursday says some experts predict Iran could have enough material for a nuclear bomb in six months. The staff report of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee says efforts so far to stop Iran's nuclear program have failed and that the real status of Iran's nuclear program is unknown. "There is no sign that Iran's leaders have ordered up a bomb. But unclassified interviews conducted by a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff make clear that Iran has moved closer to completing the three components for a nuclear weapon-fissile material, warhead design and delivery system," the report says. "... A foreign intelligence agency and some U.N. officials estimated that Iran could reconfigure its centrifuge cascades and produce enough weapons-grade material for a bomb within six months."

<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/POLITICS/05/07/iran.nuclear/index.html>

### [NKorea vows to bolster nuclear arsenal](#)

**The Associated Press, 8 May 2009**

North Korea vowed Friday to bolster its atomic arsenal in response to what it called Washington's "persistent hostile policy," even as a special envoy for President Barack Obama traveled to the region in a bid to draw Pyongyang back to nuclear negotiations. Washington is ready and willing to talk directly with Pyongyang, envoy Stephen Bosworth said in Beijing before heading Friday to Seoul. "The United States reiterates its desire to engage both multilaterally and bilaterally with North Korea," Bosworth told reporters after holding talks with senior Chinese officials Thursday. "We believe very strongly that the solution to the tensions and problems of the area now lies in dialogue and negotiation." But North Korea dismissed the Obama administration's stance as "unchanged" from a previous policy of hostility.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iURO8fOyWVOA0ytFlaAGuC9F7R9wD981THSG4>

### [Zardari assures on nukes, vows fight against militants](#)

**The Hindu, 8 May 2009**

Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari has sought to reassure America that his government has full control of its nuclear weapons and a just launched operation against extremists would continue until normalcy was restored. "I have attested to the fact that our nuclear capability is in safe hands," he told reporters after a meeting with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee here Thursday. "All of the responsible authorities" in and out of Pakistan "are availed of the situation," he added. Reiterating Pakistan's commitment to defeating terrorists threatening the country's stability, Zardari said an operation against militants announced by Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani in Islamabad "will go on till the situation returns to normal."

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/000200905080925.htm>

### [Agenda Set for NPT Review Conference](#)

**Global Security Newswire, 8 May 2009**

Diplomats this week succeeded in producing an agenda for next year's review of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, a feat that eluded delegates until three weeks into

the 2005 conference, the Associated Press reported. The planned agenda, which the signatories will not formally adopt until the conference next May, focuses on the three primary themes of the 40-year-old pact -- disarmament, nonproliferation and nations' right to civilian atomic energy. Among the topics to be discussed are moves by the five recognized nuclear-weapon states -- China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States -- to eliminate their arsenals as called for by the treaty; pledges by those nations not to employ the bomb against non-nuclear nations; and universalization of the pact.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20090508\\_6808.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090508_6808.php)

### **[North Korea repeats vows to strengthen nuclear deterrent](#)**

**Asia Pacific News, 8 May 2009**

North Korea vowed on Friday to strengthen its nuclear deterrent because of what it called Washington's continuing hostile policy, as a US envoy toured the region to try to restart disarmament talks. "The study of the policy pursued by the Obama administration for the past 100 days since its emergence made it clear that the US hostile policy toward the DPRK (North Korea) remains unchanged," a foreign ministry spokesman said. "The DPRK will bolster its nuclear deterrent as it has already clarified," the spokesman said in a statement on the official Korean Central News Agency. Stephen Bosworth, Washington's special envoy for North Korea, arrived in China on Thursday for talks and was due in South Korea Friday afternoon.

[http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp\\_asiapacific/view/427772/1/.html](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific/view/427772/1/.html)

### **[The Trouble With Zero \(Philip Taubman\)](#)**

**The New York Times, 9 May 2009**

Almost from the moment the first atomic bomb was detonated in New Mexico in July 1945, the menacing aura of the nuclear age has inspired visions of a world free of nuclear weapons. Never more so than now, with the prospect that the Taliban could someday control Pakistan's nuclear weapons, North Korea might develop nuclear-tipped missiles, Iran may soon become a nuclear power and terrorists could get a bomb. A growing army of nuclear abolitionists, concerned that proliferation could catch fire at any moment, is advancing the cause, led by Barack Obama, the first president to make nuclear disarmament a centerpiece of American defense policy.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/10/weekinreview/10taubman.html>

### **[Russia to link missile defense in Europe with nuclear arms treaty](#)**

**RIA Novosti, 10 May 2009**

Russia will link U.S. plans for a missile shield in Europe with the issues of strategic offensive armaments in relations with the United States, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said on Sunday. "One needn't be an expert to understand: if one party wants or would have an umbrella against all kinds of threats, this party would develop an illusion that it is allowed to do anything and then the aggressiveness of its actions will increase numerously, and the threat of global confrontation will reach a very dangerous level," Putin said in an interview with Japanese media on the eve of his visit to Japan. Moscow has been at loggerheads with Washington over plans to deploy a missile defense system in Central Europe.

<http://en.rian.ru/russia/20090510/121530185.html>

### **[Pakistan not adding to its nuclear arsenal: Zardari](#)**

### **Dawn, 10 May 2009**

President Asif Ali Zardari has said that Pakistan is not adding to its nuclear arsenal and doesn't have to inform the United States about location of its weapons. Pakistan is not adding to its stockpile as such, he said in NBC's 'Meet the Press' programme on Sunday. 'Why do we need more?' Asked whether Pakistan would tell US intelligence officials where all its nuclear weapons were located, in order to allow for a joint strategy to keep them secure, Mr Zardari said Pakistan was a sovereign country. 'Why don't you do the same with other countries yourself?' he said. 'I think this is a sovereignty issue, and we have a right to our own sovereignty.' Responding to a question, he said the Taliban posed an existential threat to Pakistan and they would be eliminated.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/pakistan/14-pakistani-state-wont-collapse-zardari-zj-12>

### **[Petraeus confident Pakistan nuclear arms secure](#)**

#### **Khaleej Times, 10 May 2009**

US regional commander General David Petraeus expressed confidence Sunday that Pakistan's nuclear sites are secure from any attempted seizure by the Taliban. "We have confidence in their security procedures," the chief of US Central Command said on the "Fox News Sunday" program when asked about Pakistan's nuclear safeguards as the Taliban make deep inroads. Petraeus welcomed what he described as a new mood of determination by Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari's government to take on the Taliban, following White House talks between Zardari and President Barack Obama. Zardari's government and the military recognized the fundamentalist militia pose "a true threat to Pakistan's very existence," the US general said.

[http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/international/2009/May/international\\_May735.xml&ion=international&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/international/2009/May/international_May735.xml&ion=international&col)

### **[Iran to procure Chinese defense system](#)**

#### **The Jerusalem Post, 10 May 2009**

Iran will turn to China instead of Russia to acquire an advanced air defense system after relations between Iran and Russia hit rock bottom, the official Iranian news agency PressTV reported. For years Iran has been trying to purchase the S-300 anti-aircraft missile, which is considered to one of the most advanced systems available on the market and would dramatically increase Iran's air defense capabilities against any attacks on its nuclear installations. Teheran will now turn to China for the HongQi-9/FD-2000 system which reportedly combines elements "borrowed" from the Russian S-300 and the American MIM-104 Patriot system, according to the Iranian news agency.

<http://www.jpost.com/servlet/Satellite?cid=1241773221488&pagename=JPost%2FJPArticle%2FShowFull>

### **[France, Saudi close to civil nuclear pact: minister](#)**

#### **Agence France-Presse, 11 May 2009**

France and Saudi Arabia are close to finalizing a civil nuclear cooperation pact which could lead to the sale of French atomic energy technology, French Economy Minister Christine Lagarde said on Sunday. A deal could be completed "soon," Lagarde said after a day of meetings with top Saudi economic and energy officials as well as Saudi King Abdullah. "The talks have progressed well," she added. Lagarde gave no details of what would be covered by the agreement, but officials said it could be completed

and signed by the end of 2009. Saudi Arabia, despite sitting on the world's largest oil reserves, is considering nuclear technology to drive its power-hungry desalination plants, which supply water to the fast growing population.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jBwvIDzgR7D75VH7JgBc4j6Ga8hA>

### [Russia to deliver N-submarine to India by year-end](#)

**Press Trust of India, 11 May 2009**

Russia is expected to deliver the Akula-class nuclear-powered submarine to India by the end of this year as the shipyard has repaired the damage caused by the mishap during sea trials in November in which 20 sailors and technical staff were killed. "The repairs are complete and the vessel is technically ready for the resumption of sea trials," an official of the Amur Shipyard was quoted as saying by Interfax. According to the director of the shipyard Nikolai Povzyk the "aim is to deliver the vessel by the end of this year." "We are completing the enrolment of trial team, which will have to finish trials and deliver the submarine to the Indian side by the end of this year," Povzyk said. Prime Minister Vladimir Putin today announced plans to provide funds to the Amur Shipyard for the completion of the Indian order.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/AD720AC95CD23885652575B3004A8305?OpenDocument>

### [Singh 'agreed Left nuclear deal'](#)

**BBC News, 11 May 2009**

Indian PM Manmohan Singh was ready to let the Left take credit for a final version of the controversial US nuclear deal, his ex-media adviser says. Sajaya Baru told the BBC the prime minister agreed "in the interests of the nation" to allow the Left to say they had forced a better deal. But hardline left-wingers scuppered the compromise, Mr Baru said, and the Left withdrew from the ruling coalition. A senior communist said he was unaware of any such proposal from Mr Singh. "Must be someone acting on their own," Prakash Karat, who heads the Communist Party of India (Marxist), told the BBC. Mr Karat was a staunch opponent of the nuclear accord. Mr Baru said the PM was a "genius of consensual policy making". But he said his job as media adviser was difficult on occasions as Mr Singh would let others take credit for his decisions as PM.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south\\_asia/8037914.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8037914.stm)

### [Pro-NKorea paper accuses Obama of hostility](#)

**The Associated Press, 11 May 2009**

President Barack Obama's administration should abandon its "hostile" policy toward North Korea if it wants to have a dialogue, a pro-Pyongyang newspaper said Monday. Pyongyang's standoff with the U.S. and other nations over its nuclear and missiles programs has intensified since it defiantly launched a rocket on April 5. North Korea claims it put a satellite into orbit, but critics accused the regime of testing long-range missile technology. The U.N. Security Council condemned the launch and imposed sanctions on three North Korean companies as punishment. That prompted North Korea to abandon ongoing disarmament negotiations with five other nations, and to threaten to carry out nuclear and missile tests. "The Obama government is now sending the wrong signal to North Korea," the Japan-based Choson Sinbo newspaper said.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i\\_-KCTO71Z1ZmHIzC0rUm\\_\\_sfbrAD98483980](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i_-KCTO71Z1ZmHIzC0rUm__sfbrAD98483980)

### [India to receive uranium from Kazakhstan](#)

**Press Trust of India, 11 May 2009**

India could soon receive up to 2500 tonnes of uranium from Kazakhstan as an agreement in this regard is set to be signed between the two sides by the month-end. Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Kazatomprom are holding talks and a contract for supply of uranium is expected to be signed by the end of this month, Kazakh Ambassador Kairat Umarov told PTI here. The fuel will be meant for the existing nuclear plants that are under IAEA safeguards, he said. On the quantity of uranium to be supplied under the contract, Umarov said he was not aware as the companies were dealing with the issue directly. Sources, however, said the discussions centred around supply of 2500 tonnes, a quantity which India wanted for running its reactors to full capacity.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/668FDC552089179F652575B300293B30?OpenDocument>

### [India-Kazakhstan nuclear deal by June](#)

**The Hindu, 11 May 2009**

India and Kazakhstan are expected to sign a broad-based civil nuclear agreement by June under which the uranium-rich central Asian country will supply fuel and technology to New Delhi. India has sent a draft of the Inter Governmental Agreement for Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy to Kazakhstan for its perusal before the two sides ink the pact. Kazakhstan will be the fourth country after the U.S., Russia and France with whom India will have such a broad-based civil nuclear agreement, since the Nuclear Suppliers Group lifted ban on New Delhi last September to have trade in this field. "There is progress in preparation of the agreement on nuclear cooperation in peaceful uses. We are finishing up the agreement and will be sending it to Indian side," Kazakhstan's Ambassador Kairat Umarov said here.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/11/stories/2009051154771100.htm>

### [U.S. Sets Five-Month Limit on Iranian Nuclear Dialogue, Report Says](#)

**Global Security Newswire, 12 May 2009**

The Obama administration would reconsider its conciliatory approach toward Iran around October if the Middle Eastern state failed to back away from its disputed nuclear activities by that time, Haaretz reported Sunday. Dennis Ross, a U.S. policy adviser on Iran, recently told a high-level European official that Washington might adopt a harder line on Iranian nuclear work that could support nuclear-weapon development if dialogue yielded little progress within the next five months, according to intelligence obtained by the Israeli government. Iran insists its nuclear program has no military component. Washington hopes to soon initiate four to five months of negotiations with Tehran in an effort to resolve the nuclear standoff, according to a Jerusalem-based political source.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20090512\\_8731.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090512_8731.php)

### [Nuclear Experts Present Draft Fissile Materials Cutoff Pact](#)

**Global Security Newswire, 12 May 2009**

A panel of nuclear experts yesterday presented a proposed version of a long-awaited

international treaty to ban the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons. The 27-page document, prepared by the International Panel on Fissile Materials, covers the definition, verification, implementation and organization issues associated with such a pact. "We worked on a draft treaty as a kind of exercise for how could you do it," former Dutch diplomat and arms control negotiator Arend Meerburg said during a panel discussion at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Negotiation of a fissile material cutoff treaty was endorsed without a dissenting vote in 1993 by the U.N. General Assembly, said Princeton public and international affairs professor Frank von Hippel, co-chairman of the study group.

[http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/ts\\_20090512\\_7881.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/ts_20090512_7881.php)

### **[Putin orders delivery of Akula N-sub to India by year-end](#)**

**Press Trust of India, 12 May 2009**

Russian Premier Vladimir Putin has ordered the delivery of the Akula-II class nuclear-propelled attack submarine to the Indian Navy by the end of this year, a top Kremlin official said. "On Monday during Vladimir Vladimirovich's (Putin) visit to Amur Shipyard the issue was discussed in detail and he took far going and courageous decisions. He ordered to complete trials of the submarine and deliver it to Indian Navy by the end of this year," Russian Presidential Envoy in the Far Eastern Federal District Viktor Ishayev today told PTI. Putin also allocated USD 300 million for successful completion of the project. Ishayev said Putin has decided to re-instate state control on the strategic shipyard situated in Komsomolsk-on-Amur in the Khabarovsk region bordering China.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/CD2BA7E03E847122652575B400618B04?OpenDocument>

### **[Japan, Russia ink civil nuclear deal](#)**

**The Hindu, 12 May 2009**

Japan on Tuesday signed a bilateral civil nuclear deal with Russia, a move that would entail technology transfer to Tokyo in key areas of plant reconstruction, fuel recycling and uranium enrichment. The civil nuclear accord is expected to give some Japanese manufacturers a chance to expand their profiles in the atomic power business by offering a wider range of services. "Access by Japanese firms to Russian uranium will make their sales talk more attractive," Tomoko Murakami, an atomic power analyst at the Institute of Energy Economics Japan was quoted as saying by Kyodo news agency. But with the agreement, "they will be able to talk about uranium enrichment, too," Mr. Murakami said. "That means they could offer plant building know-how and fuel supply chains as a set."

<http://www.hindu.com/thehindu/holnus/001200905121982.htm>

### **[India-NSG troika meet on reprocessing](#)**

**The Hindu, 12 May 2009**

The Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) troika, led by its current chair Viktor Elbling of Germany, held a meeting with senior government officials here on Monday. This is the first India-NSG troika meeting since the NSG allowed New Delhi last year to enter the civil nuclear mainstream. It took place against the backdrop of the NSG considering a total ban on the sale of enrichment and reprocessing equipment for non-Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) signatories. This was not prohibited when the NSG exempted India, a non-NPT signatory, last year. India is keen that no such conditionality should crop up, especially because it wants to have the right to

reprocess spent fuel to run its fast-breeder programme, which could lead to the third stage in which it could use thorium.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/12/stories/2009051252571100.htm>

### [Putin Hopes for Nuclear Deal in Japan](#)

**The Moscow Times, 12 May 2009**

Prime Minister Vladimir Putin hopes to sign a long-delayed deal to supply additional nuclear fuel to Japan and to cooperate on making related equipment and building reactors during talks in Tokyo on Tuesday. Officials are winding up preparations for an agreement between the Russian and Japanese governments on nuclear power cooperation that has been in the works since 2007, Putin said in an interview with Japanese news media ahead of his three-day visit to Japan, which kicked off Monday. "We see how successful Japan is in developing high technology," Putin said in the interview posted on the Cabinet's web site Sunday. "And, of course, coupling the possibilities of Russia and Japan in these areas, I think, would be very important."

<http://www.moscowtimes.ru/article/600/42/377019.htm>

### [US urged to engage Pakistan to protect nukes](#)

**Dawn, 12 May 2009**

Two senior US scholars, one of whom headed a White House review team, have urged the Obama administration to engage Pakistanis to protect their nuclear weapons instead of taking a unilateral action. 'A jihadist state in Pakistan is neither imminent nor inevitable, it may not be likely, but it is a real possibility,' says Bruce Riedel, who heads the White House team for reviewing the US policy for Pakistan and Afghanistan. Michael E. O'Hanlon, a senior fellow at Washington's Brookings Institution, argues that the possibility of a Taliban takeover leads American policy-makers to the inevitable question: 'What could we do if Pakistan collapsed and the security of its roughly 100 nuclear weapons could no longer be vouched for?'

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/world/12-us-urged-to-engage-pakistan-to-protect-nukes--bi-08>

### [Russians warn of nuke war in South Asia](#)

**Daily Times, 13 May 2009**

The danger of a nuclear war will remain even if Russia and the United States agree to reduce their strategic weapons, Russian analysts have said. They point out that Asia's latest nuclear powers, India and Pakistan, do not intend to follow the example of the two superpowers. India is open about its intention to possess nuclear weapons. According to the nuclear doctrine approved in 2001, it believes it has a 'right' to nuclear arms just like Russia, the US, China, France and Great Britain. In accordance with the doctrine, its nuclear arsenal will have air, ground and sea constituents. Its air force already has nuclear-capable Mirage-2000, MiG-27 and Jaguar aircraft. It also has ground-based ballistic missiles. India does not have nuclear submarines yet, but might get one soon.

[http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story\\_13-5-2009\\_pg7\\_43](http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\05\13\story_13-5-2009_pg7_43)

### [Russia signs civilian nuclear power pact with Bangladesh](#)

**Agence France-Presse, 13 May 2009**

Bangladesh and Russia signed a deal Wednesday which could lead to construction of

the first civilian nuclear power plant in the electricity-starved South Asian nation, an official said. The two sides signed a memorandum of understanding on peaceful use of nuclear energy, which officials said was the first step toward construction of a plant. "We've had approaches from other countries. We're looking into safety and cost and then we'll decide which country will build the first nuclear power plant in Bangladesh," power minister spokesman Afrazur Rahman told AFP. China and South Korea have also made pitches to build Bangladesh's first nuclear power plant, according to Bangladeshi media reports. "If it goes ahead, the plant would have a capacity of 600 to 1,000 megawatts," Rahman said.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5it6gpwop-iIRHSuopuTxYxO8mQ4A>

**[Obama Picks Nuclear Panel Leader](#)**  
**The New York Times, 13 May 2009**

A former adviser to Senator Harry Reid is President Obama's choice to lead the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, giving opponents of a nuclear waste repository in Mr. Reid's home state of Nevada another well-placed ally. The new chairman, Gregory B. Jaczko, has served on the five-member commission since January 2005. He will now serve as the commission's official spokesman and as its chief executive, overseeing day-to-day operations as well as long-range planning.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/14/us/politics/14brfs-OBAMAPICKSNU\\_BRF.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/14/us/politics/14brfs-OBAMAPICKSNU_BRF.html)

**['Biggest' nuclear dump approved](#)**  
**BBC News, 13 May 2009**

Construction is expected to begin next year on the largest store and treatment plant ever to be built in Scotland to deal with radioactive waste. The facilities costing a combined total of more than £300m will be built on land next to the Dounreay nuclear power complex in Caithness. They were approved by Highland Council and forwarded to the Scottish Government for consideration. Ministers have decided not to call in the planning applications. However, they have asked the local planning authority to include an extra condition about the establishment of a community benefit fund as part of its approval of the stores. Work is due to start next year on the treatment plant and construction on the store is to begin in 2011.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/scotland/8047790.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/scotland/8047790.stm)

**['Operationalisation of Indo-US deal may take some more time'](#)**  
**The Times of India, 13 May 2009**

Indo-US civil nuclear deal, which was signed last October, will take some more time to get operationalised and discussions taking place on the details between the two countries are going in the right direction, US consul general Paul A Folmsbee said on Wednesday. "Both India and US are moving in the right direction and details of the deal are being worked to operationalise it. It is going to take some more time," Folmsbee said while interacting with journalists at the Press Club celebrating 100 days of President Barack Obama in the office. United States has a large civil nuclear business running 106 civilian power reactors and business with India will begin once the finer details are worked out, he said. The US is committed to nuclear power and so the relationship is fantastic, he said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Operationalisation-of-Indo-US-deal-may-take-some-more-time/articleshow/4526039.cms>

### [Russia to deliver nuclear submarine by year-end](#)

**The Hindu, 13 May 2009**

Russia will deliver nuclear submarine Nerpa to India before this year end, as the shipbuilders have fixed the vessel, which suffered an accident last year, and the government agreed to provide funding for sea trials. The Amur Shipyard had completed all repairs and would shortly resume sea trials, the plant's CEO, Nikolai Povzyuk, said on Monday. The trials were halted in November when an accidental discharge of poisonous fire-fighting gas killed 20 and injured over 40. Mr. Povzyuk said a sea trials team would soon be reconstituted. "All pre-delivery trials are to be completed and the submarine is to be handed over to the Indian side before the end of the year," news agency Interfax quoted Mr. Povzyuk as saying.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/13/stories/2009051359811200.htm>

### [US envoy takes nuclear-deal fears to Advani's court](#)

**The Economic Times, 14 May 2009**

The US's growing concerns about the future of the Indo-US civilian nuclear cooperation was apparent as US Charge d'Affairs Peter Burleigh met BJP's prime ministerial candidate L K Advani on Wednesday and discussed the party's position on the deal. BJP leader Venkaiah Naidu said BJP's stand on the nuclear deal was conveyed to the envoy. "The US envoy keeps meeting prominent Indian leaders to discuss our views and exchange notes on issues like the nuclear deal, internal security and terrorism," Mr Naidu said and added that the developments in Pakistan had also come up for discussion. BJP's position on the deal is that they will not scrap the deal, but could take a relook at some of the provisions.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/News/PoliticsNation/US-envoy-takes-nuclear-deal-fears-to-Advanis-court/articleshow/4527143.cms>

### [India thinks Pak N-sites already in radical hands: Report](#)

**The Times of India, 16 May 2009**

India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has told President Obama that nuclear sites in Pakistan's restive frontier province are "already partly" in the hands of Islamic extremists, an Israeli journal has said, amid considerable anxiety among US pundits here over Washington's confidence in the security of the troubled nation's nuclear arsenal. Claims about the high-level exchange between New Delhi and Washington were made in the Debka, a journal said to have close ties with Israeli intelligence, under the headline "Singh warns Obama: Pakistan is lost." The brief story said the Indian prime minister had named Pakistani nuclear sites in the areas which were Taliban-Qaida strongholds and said the sites are already partly in the hands of "Muslim extremists." A sub-head to the story said "India gets ready for a Taliban-ruled nuclear neighbor."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Pakistan/India-thinks-Pak-N-sites-already-in-radical-hands-Report/articleshow/4537037.cms>

### [Pak to retain nuclear deterrence at all cost: Gilani](#)

**Press Trust of India, 16 May 2009**

Against the backdrop of reports that the US planned to secure Pakistan's atomic weapons in the event of a Taliban takeover, Premier Yousuf Raza Gilani today said the country would retain its nuclear deterrence at all cost and "no amount of coercion" will force it to compromise on its security interests. "We are determined to

retain the nuclear deterrence at all cost while ensuring fail-safe security of our nuclear assets. No amount of coercion, direct or indirect, will ever force Pakistan to compromise on its core security interest," Gilani said. Addressing a meeting of the top leadership of the ruling Pakistan People's Party, he said nuclear weapons are the "cornerstone of Pakistan's deterrence strategy and enjoy complete national consensus and support."

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/10D28A9BCE1FD578652575B8004159C2?OpenDocument>

### **Obama boosts nuclear talks, split remains**

**Reuters, 16 May 2009**

Talks on reforming a 1970 nuclear arms treaty ended on Friday with signs of progress due to President Barack Obama's vow to reduce the U.S. arsenal, but the wide chasm between rich and poor states remains. A two-week conference at U.N. headquarters on the landmark nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty defied expectations last week when the 189 signatories unanimously agreed an agenda for the next major review next year. The arms control pact has been hobbled by bickering between Western nations, which want to limit the spread of nuclear weapons, and the developing world, which says the big powers are not serious about reducing their nuclear stockpiles. Delegates hope to adopt a plan to overhaul the NPT at the conference in 2010.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-39658120090515>

### **Developing Nations Seek Assurances on Nuclear Arms**

**The Washington Post, 16 May 2009**

U.N. nuclear talks hit a roadblock Friday as Cuba, Iran and other developing nations demanded that the five original nuclear powers accept legally binding commitments to dismantle their nuclear arsenals and provide assurances they will not use such weapons against states that do not possess atomic weapons. The deadlock underscored the challenges the Obama administration faces in reinvigorating the 1971 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The pact commits the five powers -- the United States, Russia, France, Britain and China - to dismantle their nuclear arsenals in exchange for pledges from nonnuclear states to forgo atomic weapons. In this month's talks, the strongest resistance came from France. It said it would not yield to any legally binding commitments to undertake further reductions in its nuclear arsenal or to allow international inspections of its nuclear stockpile.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/15/AR2009051503518.html>

### **Pakistan Is Rapidly Adding Nuclear Arms, U.S. Says**

**The New York Times, 17 May 2009**

Members of Congress have been told in confidential briefings that Pakistan is rapidly adding to its nuclear arsenal even while racked by insurgency, raising questions on Capitol Hill about whether billions of dollars in proposed military aid might be diverted to Pakistan's nuclear program. Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, confirmed the assessment of the expanded arsenal in a one-word answer to a question on Thursday in the midst of lengthy Senate testimony. Sitting beside Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, he was asked whether he had seen evidence of an increase in the size of the Pakistani nuclear arsenal. "Yes," he said quickly, adding nothing, clearly cognizant of Pakistan's sensitivity to any discussion

about the country's nuclear strategy or security.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/18/world/asia/18nuke.html?hp>

### [Hosseini regrets approach of certain nuclear states towards NPT](#)

**Tehran Times, 17 May 2009**

Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs Mohammad-Ali Hosseini regretted that certain nuclear states had adopted an inappropriate approach regarding the NPT issues. Hosseini, who was head of the Iranian delegation to the preparation for the 2010 nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review conference, made the remarks while talking to IRNA correspondent. Referring to the achievements of the two-week meeting, he said coordination among member states of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) was among the positive outcomes of the meeting. He added that the NAM states reached a consensus on various issues. "We did not witness any serious efforts by nuclear states regarding the issue of disarmament," Hosseini regretted.

[http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index\\_view.asp?code=194726](http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index_view.asp?code=194726)

### [Is the US unwittingly helping Pak's nuke program?](#)

**The Times of India, 18 May 2009**

Are American lawmakers and the Obama administration unintentionally funding a runaway Pakistani nuclear weapons program that may not only mean a mortal danger to the United States in the long run, but pose a more immediate existential threat to India? Influential American commentators and media outlets are now starting to question what they see as Washington's indirect bankrolling of Pakistan's nuclear program through massive infusion of aid, even as US President Obama is insisting that he is confident Islamabad won't allow its nuclear assets to fall into extremist hands. News of Islamabad's accelerated nuclear weapons program, exposed by US satellite imagery and reported in this paper last Saturday, is being scrutinized in the light of the administration-backed Congress move to pump billions of dollars of US aid into Pakistan.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/US-unwittingly-aiding-Pak-N-program-/articleshow/4546454.cms>

### [Panetta: Location of all Pakistan nukes not known](#)

**Mercury News, 18 May 2009**

Central Intelligence Agency Director Leon Panetta said Monday that the U.S. does not know the location of all of Pakistan's nuclear weapons but is confident there are "pretty secure" measures to keep them out of terrorists' hands. Panetta's comments come just days after the top U.S. military officer told Congress that there is evidence that Pakistan is adding to its nuclear weapons systems and warheads. Speaking at a downtown forum organized by the Pacific Council on International Policy, Panetta was asked if nuclear weapons in Pakistan are more safely guarded than those in the former Soviet Union. "Obviously, we do try to understand where all of these are located," the director said. "We don't have, frankly, the intelligence to know where they all are located."

[http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci\\_12397388?nclick\\_check=1](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12397388?nclick_check=1)

### [Kazakhstan studies plan to host nuclear fuel bank](#)

**China View, 18 May 2009**

Kazakhstan is still studying the plan to host the international nuclear fuel bank in its territory, Timur Zhantikin, chairman of the Kazakh Atomic Energy Committee, was quoted as saying on Monday by Interfax News Agency. Kazakhstan is studying technical details to host the international nuclear fuel bank and discussing the bank's location, Zhantikin said in Astana, capital of Kazakhstan. He believed that once the technical feasibility of the plan is proved, Kazakhstan will offer to host the international nuclear fuel bank to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Zhantikin emphasized at the same time that ensuring the ecological and environmental security of Kazakhstan will be the principal concern in formulating the program for building the international fuel bank.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/18/content\\_11397532.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/18/content_11397532.htm)

**No link between American aid and Pak nuclear capability: US Press Trust of India, 18 May 2009**

Amidst reports that Pakistan is enhancing its nuclear capabilities and increasing its nuke arsenal even as it seeks massive aid from the United States for its military and civic needs, the Obama Administration today said there is no link between the two. "We shouldn't draw any links between the issues of our assistance package and their nuclear capability," State Department spokesperson Ian Kelly told reporters at his daily press briefing in response to questions on a New York Times report that Pakistan is expanding its nuclear arsenal. Kelly said that the assistance package is for very specific purposes and Obama Administration which is proposing some USD 7.5 billion non-military aid to Pakistan in the next five years and also a substantial increase in its military aid, would make sure that the package is well spent.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/A4B3CB44794444EF652575BA0062EFFC?OpenDocument>

**US gives another free pass to Pak nuclear programme**  
**The Times of India, 19 May 2009**

The United States has again given what virtually amounts to a free pass to Pakistan's India-specific nuclear weapons program, washing its hands off reports by its own military and intelligence that Islamabad is rapidly expanding its arsenal, while insisting it will ensure US aid is not spent on the country's nuclear program. A phalanx of American officials sprang to the defense of questionable US policy on Pakistan on Monday after reports over the weekend confirmed that Islamabad was accelerating its fissile material production, and the consequent concern in sections of the administration and Congress over whether billions of dollars of US aid would indirectly help underwrite the expanded program.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Pakistan/US-gives-another-free-pass-to-Pak-nuclear-program/articleshow/4552420.cms>

**Pakistan denies nuclear expansion**  
**BBC News, 19 May 2009**

Pakistan has denied that it is expanding its nuclear arsenal after the US said that it has unearthed new evidence that it has done so. The denial was issued by Pakistan's information minister a week after US Adm Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, made the disclosure. The response comes amid fears that the country's nuclear weapons could fall into the hands of the Taliban. There are also concerns about Islamabad's weak proliferation record. Pakistan, along with neighbour India, joined the club of declared nuclear weapons states in 1998. "Pakistan does not need

to expand its nuclear arsenal," Qamaruz Zaman Kaira, Pakistan's information minister, told the Associated Press on Monday.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south\\_asia/8058401.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8058401.stm)

### [GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, L&T to develop nuclear power plant](#)

**The Economic Times, 19 May 2009**

GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy, the global nuclear alliance created by GE and Hitachi signed an agreement with engineering and construction major Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T) on Tuesday to develop an advanced nuclear power plant in India based on Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR). "The agreement with L&T is an important step in gearing up to meet the country's power needs through nuclear energy," GE Energy CEO, for India, Srilanka & Bangladesh Kishore Jayaraman said. While GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy will serve as the technology provider of certain ABWR nuclear island equipment and components, L&T's role will be to engineer, manufacture and construct these power equipments. In March 2009, GE Hitachi had announced an ABWR development agreement with Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPCIL).

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/News/News-By-Industry/Energy/Power/GE-Hitachi-Nuclear-Energy-LT-to-develop-nuclear-power-plant/articleshow/4552799.cms>

### [Russia and US begin nuclear talks](#)

**BBC News, 19 May 2009**

Russia and the US have been holding the first of three days of talks in Moscow on a new treaty aimed at reducing their stockpiles of nuclear weapons. Senior diplomats need to negotiate a replacement for the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (Start I) of 1991, which expires on 5 December. The main sticking points are limits on the number of warheads and whether the treaty will cover bombers and missiles. Also on the agenda is Moscow's concern over US missile defence shield plans. Analysts say a successful outcome would be a boost for relations before a visit to Moscow in July by US President Barack Obama. Mr Obama and his Russian counterpart, Dmitry Medvedev, agreed last month to pursue a deal to replace Start I.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/8056996.stm>

### [U.N. chief seeks global talks to curb nuclear arms](#)

**Reuters, 19 May 2009**

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called on Tuesday for countries to exploit greater political will to launch global negotiations to curb nuclear weapons. In a speech to the U.N.-sponsored Conference on Disarmament, Ban said a draft proposal to start negotiations on fissile material at the same time as talks related to preventing an arms race in outer space, "can achieve consensus". "There are now a number of initiatives from nuclear and non-nuclear states that together provide a new momentum for disarmament," Ban told the Geneva forum. "These signs of greater political will represent an opportunity we cannot afford to miss." Diplomats hope that the new U.S. administration will offer initiatives to revive the moribund conference.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-39722420090519>

### [Pakistan multiplying nuclear weapons, increasing their destructive power](#)

**The Times of India, 20 May 2009**

Pakistan is multiplying its nuclear arsenal much beyond its present stable of 60 to

100 weapons and increasing their destructive power and deliverability system, according to latest satellite photos released on Wednesday. Pakistan is expanding its plutonium producing production capacity to build smaller, lighter plutonium-fission weapons and deliverable thermo-nuclear weapons. The new lighter nuclear weapons would use plutonium as a nuclear trigger and enriched uranium in the secondary, a report by US arms control institute said. Satellite images have revealed that Pakistan now has the fastest nuclear weapons programme and it has considerably expanded two sites producing fissile material for nuclear weapons, the report by the Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Pakistan-multiplying-nuclear-weapons-increasing-their-destructive-power/articleshow/4555666.cms>

### **Pak nukes safe but will take action if Taliban tries hand: US**

**The Times of India, 20 May 2009**

The Pentagon has said it is comfortable with the protocols Pakistani military has in place to ensure security of its nuclear arsenal, even as the US will take "requisite action" if Taliban ever tries hand on them. Such a statement from the Pentagon came a day after, the CIA director Leon Panetta, said the US does not know where all the Pakistani nuclear weapons are being kept. Defence department spokesman, Geoff Morrell, told reporters at his daily press briefing they are "comfortable with the protocols the Pakistani military has in place to ensure the security of their nuclear arsenal." "I am sure that our planners take whatever requisite action is required to ensure the arsenal in a country that is obviously in the midst of a great deal - that finds itself with a great deal of challenges right now, that they have some visibility on where such weapons are located," Morrell said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Pak-nukes-safe-but-will-take-action-if-Taliban-tries-hand-US/articleshow/4554456.cms>

### **Pak says France promised nuke tech; Paris talks of N-safety**

**The Indian Express, 20 May 2009**

Notwithstanding France's assertion that the proposed atomic cooperation with Pakistan would be in the field of "nuclear safety" only, Islamabad on Wednesday insisted Paris had "agreed to provide it civilian nuclear technology" to meet its growing energy needs. Presidential spokesman Farhatullah Babar referred to talks between President Asif Ali Zardari and his French counterpart Nicolas Sarkozy in Paris last week and said that "in the course of discussions...the French agreed to provide Pakistan civilian nuclear technology to meet its energy needs, not for military purposes." "It was categorically stated that it is for civilian purposes," Babar told a TV news channel. He quoted Sarkozy as saying that France will "support Pakistan in the development of civilian nuclear technology."

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/pak-says-france-promised-nuke-tech-paris-talks-of-nsafety/462932/>

### **Iran says it tests missile, Israel within range**

**The Indian Express, 20 May 2009**

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Iran test-fired a new advanced missile Wednesday with a range of about 1,200 miles, far enough to strike Israel and southeastern Europe. The announcement will not reassure the U.S. government, coming just two days after President Barack Obama declared a readiness to seek deeper international sanctions against Iran if it shunned U.S. attempts to open

negotiations on its nuclear program. Obama said he expected a positive response to his outreach for opening a dialogue with Iran by the end of the year. "Defense Minister (Mostafa Mohammad Najjar) has informed me that the Sajjil-2 missile, which has very advanced technology, was launched from Semnan and it landed precisely on the target," state radio quoted Ahmadinejad as saying.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/iran-says-it-tests-missile-israel-within-range/462934/>

### [Agni-II fired, jury still out on test's success](#)

**The Times of India, 20 May 2009**

In a step towards making the 2,000-km-plus Agni-II fully operational, the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) conducted a "training test-firing" of the nuclear-capable missile on Tuesday. Though the test was conducted from Wheeler Island, near Dhamra off the Orissa coast, at about 10.05 am, defence officials till late evening were reluctant to dub the test "fully successful". "The missile launch did take off properly but it's difficult to say whether the complete test was successful in meeting all the laid-down flight objectives," said a senior official. "It can be called a success or a failure only after a detailed analysis of telemetry data generated by the flight-test. It was a completely user-driven trial, with the Army missile unit under the SFC conducting the test," he added.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/Agni-II-fired-jury-still-out-on-tests-success/articleshow/4552923.cms>

### [Nuclear trade: France not to treat Pakistan on a par with India](#)

**The Hindu, 20 May 2009**

Though Pakistan had requested cooperation in nuclear energy from France, there is no likelihood of that happening, said sources privy to the recent meeting between Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari and French President Nicolas Sarkozy. All that France has offered in the nuclear arena is cooperation to ensure the safety of the nuclear installations in Pakistan, they added. "Nuclear energy is a special form of energy due to links between civilian and military uses. India's was a very special case. A series of safeguards have been incorporated," said the sources while seeking to set the record straight on Pakistan's assertions that France had offered to cooperate in the field of nuclear energy.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/20/stories/2009052060181200.htm>

### [US lawmakers debate creating panel on nuclear waste](#)

**Reuters, 20 May 2009**

U.S. lawmakers on Tuesday debated amendments for a bill that would establish a national commission to study options for disposal of radioactive wastes from nuclear power plants. With the Obama administration essentially shelving the long delayed nuclear waste dump site at Yucca Mountain, the bill would set up an 11 member federal advisory panel that would conduct a two-year analysis and recommend alternatives to Congress for managing nuclear waste. Earlier this year, Energy Secretary Steven Chu said he planned to create a blue ribbon panel to come up with a comprehensive plan to handle nuclear waste. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chairman Jeff Bingaman, however, said his bill would mandate that the committee be independent and bipartisan and study a variety of waste management methods.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINN1931653920090519>

### [DAE to increase human resource for its units](#)

**The Hindu Business Line, 20 May 2009**

Keeping in mind the country's growing nuclear power programme, the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) is planning to increase the number of fresh engineers and post-graduate students for their training schools by at least 100 starting this year. Currently, around 400 engineers and post-graduate science students undergo a year-long training at DAE's training schools at Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in Mumbai, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research at Kalpakkam, Tamil Nadu, Nuclear Power Corporation and Ramanna Centre for Advanced Technology. After the training, DAE inducts them into its different units including BARC and NPCIL. "We are planning to increase the number by at least 100 to meet the demand for country's nuclear power programme," said Prof RR Puri

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/blnus/14201610.htm>

### [Nuclear submarine's nine radioactive leaks in 12 years](#)

**Telegraph, 20 May 2009**

Following a parliamentary answer to a question by the shadow defence minister Julian Lewis, the Royal Navy has disclosed the most recent leak happened at the submarine pen in Devonport, Plymouth. Radioactive water escaped from HMS Turbulent while the reactor's discharge system was being flushed at the naval dockyard in March, the Navy admitted. "A small quantity of water leaked on to the submarine casing," an MoD spokesman said. "The leak was contained to the casing." The second leak that has been admitted by the MoD came when Trafalgar leaked radioactive coolant at sea on 30 January 2006. "There was no radiation leak into the environment and no crew member was exposed to a radiation hazard," the MoD said.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/onthefrontline/5349814/Nuclear-submarines-nine-radioactive-leaks-in-12-years.html>

### [Canada eyes arms sales to Pakistan](#)

**Toronto Star, 20 May 2009**

Canada is considering ending its 11-year embargo on the sale of military technology to a nuclear-armed Pakistan, Defence Minister Peter MacKay says. The development comes as Pakistan's army prepares to take its fight against Taliban militants into the tribal region bordering Afghanistan. In a telephone interview from Islamabad, MacKay, who recently called Pakistan the "most dangerous country in the world," said he's impressed with Pakistan's resolve in taking on the Taliban. "Doing military business in the future, and trade in particular, is something that is under consideration," MacKay said after meeting with Pakistani President Asif Zardari. However, he added, "We're not there yet."

<http://www.thestar.com/news/world/article/636699>

### [AIIMS to be readied for nuclear emergency](#)

**The Times of India, 20 May 2009**

AIIMS Trauma Centre and Army Hospital will be developed as main centres for emergency medical response to any chemical, biological, radioactive or nuclear (CBRN) casualties during the upcoming Commonwealth Games 2010. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), National Disaster Management Association (NDMA) along with AIIMS will be training doctors in how to deal with

CBRN casualties. The training of second batch started at AIIMS Trauma Centre on Wednesday. "In the given threat scenario, it is important to be prepared for nuclear emergency. Since it is the doctors who will treat the patients exposed to harmful radiations or bio-chemical threats, it is important to train them. Exposure to harmful radiation could be due to an attack or accident. The biological casualties can happen in a well-monitored laboratory while developing a vaccine," said Dr W Selvamurthy.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Delhi/AIIMS-to-be-readied-for-nuclear-emergency/articleshow/4557193.cms>

### **[U.S. says aid won't go to Pakistan nuclear program](#)**

**Reuters, 20 May 2009**

The Obama administration is confident that Pakistan will not use a planned sharp increase in U.S. aid to strengthen its nuclear arsenal, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said on Wednesday. The New York Times this week reported U.S. lawmakers were told in confidential briefings that Pakistan is rapidly adding to its nuclear capability while fighting a Taliban insurgency, stoking fears in Congress about diversion of U.S. funds. Militant violence in Pakistan has surged over the past two years, raising doubts about its stability and anxieties about the security of its nuclear arsenal, which is believed to comprise at least 25 to 50 warheads. The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs on Wednesday approved tripling U.S. economic aid to Pakistan to about \$1.5 billion a year for each of the next five years, including money for Pakistani schools, the judicial system, parliament and law enforcement agencies.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/vcCandidateFeed1/idUSN20538027>

### **[IAEA Governors to Consider Nuclear Fuel Bank Proposals](#)**

**Global Security Newswire, 20 May 2009**

The International Atomic Energy Agency's 35-nation governing board appears set next month to consider at least one proposal for establishing a multilateral center for production and distribution of civilian nuclear power plant fuel, the Associated Press reported. The proposed international nuclear fuel bank is intended to provide reliable access to civilian reactor fuel for nations that agree not to pursue capabilities that could produce weapon-grade nuclear material. The concept has circulated for decades, but it gained momentum in 2003 when Iran announced its intention to enrich uranium. While the Middle Eastern state has insisted it would only use the process to produce nuclear fuel for peaceful purposes, Western powers fear Tehran might tap the process to generate nuclear-weapon material, a move that could prompt other nations to seek similar capabilities.

[http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw\\_20090520\\_6166.php](http://www.globalsecuritynewswire.org/gsn/nw_20090520_6166.php)

### **[UAE nuclear energy plant seen ready in 2015-IAEA](#)**

**Reuters, 21 May 2009**

The United Arab Emirates would have its first nuclear power plant ready in 2015, an official from the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Thursday. "They are on a fast track to developing the plant, and we have been giving technical advice and so far they have been responsive," Ali Boussaha, a director at the IAEA, told reporters on the sidelines of a conference in Dubai. "UAE will have a nuclear energy plant in 2015."

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINLL29916620090521>

### [Shanghai forum concerned over Pakistan's nuclear arms](#)

**The Hindu, 21 May 2009**

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) voiced concern over the situation in Pakistan and the risk of its nuclear weapons falling into terrorist hands. "The situation in Pakistan, which possesses nuclear weapons, is the cause of growing concern of the SCO member-states," said a senior Russian security official. "The situation in Pakistan is growing more explosive, with authorities controlling less and less territory," said Deputy Secretary of the Russian Security Council Vladimir Nazarov, briefing the media on a meeting of the SCO security chiefs in Moscow on Wednesday. "The SCO states have legitimate worries that nuclear weapons in Pakistan may fall into the hands of terrorists," he said. The SCO security chiefs also urged Pakistan to eliminate the terrorist-training camps on its territory.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/21/stories/2009052160441000.htm>

### [Pakistan vows to maintain security of nuclear assets](#)

**China View, 21 May 2009**

Pakistan on Thursday said it would maintain the security of its nuclear deterrence especially in the light of changing regional environment. Addressing the weekly news briefing here, the Foreign Office spokesman Abdul Basit said nuclear deterrence is the corner stone of Pakistan's security and enjoys complete national consensus. "Pakistan is committed to maintaining a strong, effective and multi-layered command and control and nuclear security system. It also continues to support international non-proliferation efforts," said Abdul Basit. He said no amount of coercion, direct or indirect, will ever force Pakistan to compromise on its core security interests. He said that the nuclear deterrence in the region is an indispensable factor of stability in south Asia.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/21/content\\_11414566.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/21/content_11414566.htm)

### [India wants to move forward on nuclear deal](#)

**The Times of India, 22 May 2009**

India has assured US industry that the India-US civil nuclear deal was very high on the priority of the new government and it would very much like to move forward on it. Noting that the US did the "heavy hitting" in getting the nuclear deal through, Indian Ambassador Meera Shankar told the US-India Business Council (USIBC) on Thursday that India was keen at commercial deals with US manufacturers for building nuclear reactors. To facilitate the process, New Delhi was looking at speeding up negotiations on arrangements to give effect to India's right to reprocess US origin spent fuel and wanted to pursue this vigorously. New Delhi was also looking at expediting joining the international nuclear liability convention, another issue of concern for US nuclear suppliers, she said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India-wants-to-move-forward-on-nuclear-deal/articleshow/4563253.cms>

### [Russia signs nuclear deal with Jordan](#)

**The Times of India, 22 May 2009**

Russia on Friday signed an agreement with Jordan to build nuclear power plants, desalination and research and training facilities in the West Asian kingdom. The 10-year deal signed here by Russia's RosAtom nuclear corporation CEO Sergei Kiriyenko and Jordanian Atomic Energy Commission chairman Khaled Toukan also stipulates

cooperation in the production and use of nuclear materials. "This agreement is the beginning of major strategic cooperation between the two countries. We intend to cooperate in the construction of nuclear power plants...and plan to build four plants in Jordan in the coming decades," Kiriyenko was quoted as saying by RIA Novosti news agency.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/-Russia-signs-nuclear-deal-with-Jordan-/articleshow/4566766.cms>

### **[Pak ready to phase out nuclear arms, If India does the same](#)**

**Press Trust of India, 22 May 2009**

Stating that Pakistan's nuclear weapon is a "deterrent" against India, the country's top diplomat to the US today expressed willingness to enter into an agreement with New Delhi to phase out all atomic arms possessed by the two countries. Appearing on the CNN to make a public appeal to the Americans to donate USD five each through cell phone for the refugees of Swat Valley, Pakistan Ambassador to the US Hussein Haqqani insisted that the nuclear weapons of his country are safe and there should be no concern about their security. "Everybody in the US Government who knows anything about nuclear weapons knows that Pakistan has a very secure nuclear programme. It's a very limited nuclear programme to maintain deterrence vis-a-vis our neighbor," Haqqani told the CNN in an interview.

<http://www.ptinews.com/pti%5Cptisite.nsf/0/00523430D16A004D652575BF001CF0E0?OpenDocument>

### **[US military chief says Iran closer on nuclear weapons](#)**

**Agence France-Presse, 24 May 2009**

Iran is clearly moving closer to acquiring a nuclear weapons capability but military strikes to counter the program would have serious unintended consequences, the top US military officer said Sunday. "I think the unintended consequence of a strike against Iran right now would be incredibly serious, as well as the unintended consequences of their achieving a weapon," Admiral Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said. "That's why this engagement, dialogue is so important," he said in an interview on ABC television, referring to President Barack Obama's aim to engage Iran diplomatically. Mullen said the United States would approach Iran "with all options on the table." "So that would leave a pretty narrow space in which to achieve a successful dialogue and a successful outcome, which from my perspective means they don't end up with nuclear weapons," he said.

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jTmMoHcZvsAXgRfHDcN\\_8gxSBI0w](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jTmMoHcZvsAXgRfHDcN_8gxSBI0w)

### **[The Test Ban Treaty \(Editorial\)](#)**

**The New York Times, 24 May 2009**

Nearly 17 years ago, after more than 1,000 explosions, the United States conducted its last underground nuclear test. President George H. W. Bush, following Russia and France, announced a voluntary moratorium and the other major nuclear powers — Britain and China — made the same pledge with more or less enthusiasm. Since then, 180 countries have signed the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. That's all very good news. The bad news is that the test ban treaty, which would go beyond the voluntary moratorium and legally bind states to not test, has never come into force. That is because the United States and eight other nuclear-capable states whose participation is required — China, North Korea, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iran,

Israel and Egypt — have not ratified it.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/25/opinion/25mon1.html?\\_r=1&ref=opinion](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/25/opinion/25mon1.html?_r=1&ref=opinion)

### [North Korea Defies International Warnings with Nuclear Test](#)

**VOA News, 25 May 2009**

North Korea says it has successfully conducted an underground nuclear test, defying international warnings and raising concerns over its nuclear weapons program. Pyongyang said Monday's test was more powerful than the country's first test two-and-a-half years ago. South Korea's Yonhap news agency also reports that North Korea test-fired a short-range missile just hours after the nuclear test. U.S. President Barack Obama said early Monday that the reported tests are a "matter of grave concern" and warrant international action. He said in a statement, "By acting in blatant defiance of the United Nations Security Council, North Korea is directly and recklessly challenging the international community." Russia's envoy to the United Nations said the U.N. Security Council will hold a special meeting Monday to discuss the issue.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-05-25-voa8.cfm>

### [After nuclear test, North Korea test-fires missile](#)

**The Economic Times, 25 May 2009**

North Korea appeared to have test-fired a short-range missile Monday after it conducted a nuclear test, a media report said. The 130 km-range missile was fired from its Musudanri missile base in Southern Hamkyung province, South Korea's Yonhap News Agency said. "The US and South Korean authorities are working together to assess the missile launch," Yonhap said, quoting sources. DPA adds: North Korea said Monday it "successfully" conducted a nuclear test, following up on earlier threats issued after the UN Security Council criticised a rocket launch by the Stalinist state. "According to the demand of our scientists and technicians, our republic has successfully conducted another underground nuclear test on May 25... as part of measures to strengthen its nuclear power in self-defence," the state-run Korean Central News Agency said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/News/PoliticsNation/After-nuclear-test-North-Korea-test-fires-missile/articleshow/4574491.cms>

### [Japan sets up crisis taskforce after NKorea nuclear test](#)

**The Times of India, 25 May 2009**

Japan's government Monday set up a taskforce in the office of Prime Minister Taro Aso after North Korea said it had staged a nuclear test, a spokeswoman in the premier's office said. "At 11:45 am, concerning the information that North Korea conducted a nuclear test, the government set up a taskforce at the crisis management centre of the prime minister's office," a spokeswoman in the premier's office said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/Rest-of-World/Japan-sets-up-crisis-taskforce-after-NKorea-nuclear-test/articleshow/4573910.cms>

### [Oil falls towards \\$61 on N.Korea nuclear test](#)

**Reuters, 25 May 2009**

Oil prices fell toward \$61 a barrel on Monday, shedding some of the previous session's gains, on risk aversion after North Korea said it had conducted an

underground nuclear test. Still, prices hovered around a six-month high, as a weak U.S. dollar and expectations the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) would keep its official production targets unchanged during its meeting on Thursday limited oil's losses. U.S. crude futures for July delivery fell 29 cents to \$61.38 a barrel by 0729 GMT (3:29 a.m. EDT). The contract settled up 62 cents at \$61.67 a barrel on Friday, boosted by data showing a big increase in Chinese demand, along with a weak dollar. London Brent crude fell 38 cents to \$60.40.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/businessNews/idUSSP42558220090525>

### **[India voices serious concern over NKorea N-test](#)**

**The Indian Express, 25 May 2009**

India on Monday voiced its worries over the underground nuclear test carried out by North Korea, saying it is a "development of serious concern". "It is a development of serious concern. India is against nuclear proliferation," Defence Minister A K Antony told reporters soon after taking charge of the Defence Ministry for a second term. He was asked how India viewed the announcement by North Korea that its has "successfully" conducted one more underground nuclear test on May 25 as part of the measures to bolster its nuclear deterrent for self-defence. The first nuclear test was conducted by North Korea in 2006, triggering widespread international consternation and slapping of sanctions against it. Antony, 68, also spoke of the security situation in India's neighbourhood.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/india-voices-serious-concern-over-nkorea-ntest/465419/>

### **[NPT: India is in a category of its own \(Manpreet Sethi\)](#)**

**The Tribune, 25 May 2009**

At the third NPT preparatory conference, the last of the PrepComs before the NPT Review Conference in May 2010, the US Assistant Secretary of State voiced her country's fundamental objective as "universal adherence to the NPT" and called upon the four non-signatories to the NPT (India, Israel, Pakistan and North Korea) to join the treaty. No sooner had the call been made than heckles were, expectedly, up in India. The NPT has never been a favourite of the country and is embedded in public perception as a discriminatory treaty that made India a victim of technology denials. The US statement has variedly been interpreted in strategic circles as "end of the promise of Indo-US strategic partnership heralded by the nuclear deal", "downgrading of India's position in US calculations", or "certainty of India's subjection to immense pressure by the Democrat administration".

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2009/20090525/edit.htm#6>

### **[Making North Korea see reason \(Rajaram Panda\)](#)**

**The Tribune, 25 May 2009**

The launch of a rocket by North Korea on April 5, capable of reaching Alaska and Hawaii in the US and Japan, has sent shivers across the world, which is determined to eliminate nuclear weapons. In doing so, Pyongyang has defied the international community and stirred a chorus of worldwide criticism. It feels it is within its sovereign rights to strengthen its defence capabilities and the international community must not sit in judgement over its actions. Far from exercising restraint, North Korea has vowed to end all talks on dismantling its nuclear facilities and indicated that it might restore nuclear facilities disabled under previous accords and "actively review" building a light-water reactor. Pyongyang feels that it is left with no

choice but to strengthen its nuclear deterrent in light of "additional military threats by hostile forces".

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2009/20090525/edit.htm#7>

### [China talks tough after Korea blast \(Jane Macartney\)](#)

**Times, 25 May 2009**

China's condemnation of North Korea's nuclear test contained some of the strongest language it has ever used against an ally once described as close "as lips and teeth". The Foreign Ministry said: "The Chinese Government expresses its resolute opposition. The Chinese side vehemently demands North Korea abides by its denuclearisation promises, stop any actions that may worsen the situation and return to the six-party talks process." Beijing regards the six-party talks, which it instigated and nurtured to try to bring peace to the Korean peninsula, as the only viable solution to the crisis. It said: "The Chinese government calls on all sides to calmly and appropriately deal (with the situation)."

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/asia/article6359387.ece>

### [A test too far by North Korea \(View\)](#)

**Telegraph, 25 May 2009**

We have become wearily familiar over the years with North Korea's delinquent behaviour, but yesterday's underground nuclear test – its second in three years – confirms that Pyongyang has become recklessly provocative. The nuclear test follows the firing of a ballistic missile, the ejection of UN nuclear inspectors and the recommissioning of a plutonium production plant. Kim Jong-il seems to be on a mission to convince President Obama that North Korea is every bit as dangerously unpredictable as George W Bush maintained when he identified it as part of an axis of evil. The nuclear test breaches UN Security Council resolution 1718, which was tabled immediately after North Korea's first nuclear test in October 2006.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/comment/telegraph-view/5383910/A-test-too-far-by-North-Korea.html>

### [North Korea: radioactive diplomacy \(Editorial\)](#)

**Guardian, 25 May 2009**

North Korea uses a nuclear bomb in the same way the rest of the world uses an alarm clock. And its nuclear test yesterday may well have been intended as a wake-up call for Barack Obama's ears. This is the second time in three years that Pyongyang has sent tremors not just through north-east Asia but the White House itself. In 2006 a blast one-tenth as big as yesterday's underground explosion caused George Bush to throw his lumbering pantechnicon of sanctions into reverse, and spark an intensive round of diplomacy. So the working assumption today is that the firing of rockets and the detonation of an ever more powerful nuclear device are precursors to fresh hard negotiations.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2009/may/25/north-korea-nuclear-testing-editorial>

### [Tested Early by North Korea, Obama Has Few Options](#)

**The New York Times, 25 May 2009**

Facing the first direct challenge to his administration by an emerging nuclear weapons state, President Obama declared Monday that the United States and its

allies would "stand up" to North Korea, hours after that country defied international sanctions and conducted what appeared to be its second nuclear test. Mr. Obama reacted to the underground blast as White House officials scrambled to coordinate an international response to a North Korean nuclear capacity that none of his predecessors had proved able to reverse. Acutely aware that their response to the explosion in the mountains of Kilju, not far from the Chinese border, would be seen as an early test of a new administration, Mr. Obama's aides said they were determined to organize a significantly stronger response than the Bush administration had managed after the North's first nuclear test, in October 2006.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/26/world/asia/26nuke.html?\\_r=1&hp](http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/26/world/asia/26nuke.html?_r=1&hp)

### [US seeks "strong resolution" from UN on DPRK's nuclear test](#)

**China View, 26 May 2009**

The United States on Monday sought "a strong resolution" from the UN Security Council in response to the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK). The statement came as U.S. Ambassador to the UN Susan Rice was speaking to the press here at the end of the closed-door Council consultations, which were held at the request of the Japanese Mission to the United Nations. "The U.S. thinks that this is a grave violation of international law and a threat to international peace and security and the United States will seek therefore a strong resolution with strong measures," Rice said. "The (Council) meeting was brief and everybody spoke and everybody essentially took the same view," she said.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/26/content\\_11434499.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/26/content_11434499.htm)

### [CTBTO chairman expresses concern over DPRK's nuclear test](#)

**China View, 26 May 2009**

Peter Shannon, chairman of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) for 2009, expressed serious concern over the nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Monday. According to CTBTO's statement released on Monday, Ambassador Shannon said that DPRK's nuclear test is "a clear challenge to the international community's efforts to advance global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation." Shannon urged DPRK to adhere to the calls of the international community and to avoid steps that will have major international repercussions. DPRK conducted its first nuclear test on Oct. 9, 2006.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/25/content\\_11432918.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/25/content_11432918.htm)

### [Nuclear tests provoke press anger](#)

**BBC News, 26 May 2009**

The UK press is united in horror at the underground nuclear tests carried out by North Korea. It was, for the Times, "a blast that shook the world", while the Independent declares it a "nasty surprise". "Recklessly provocative", the Daily Telegraph remarks. The Daily Express says "it gave the world the jitters". The Guardian speculates the test may have been intended as a wake-up call for US president Barack Obama as he gets to grips with diplomatic affairs. Once again the Telegraph focuses on MPs' expenses, its lead story appearing under the headline "The MP, her husband and the ministers' tax returns". The Sun, meanwhile, leads with a demand to end what it calls the Brussels "gravity train". It says the system lets "grasping" MEPs claim "fortunes" from taxpayers.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk\\_news/8067627.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/8067627.stm)

**[Diplomatic fallout rains on Pyongyang from a blast that shook the world](#)**  
**Times, 26 May 2009**

It was a blast as powerful as those that destroyed Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In the Chinese city of Yanji, 130 miles (210km) away, they felt the rattle at 9.54am, and earthquake-monitoring equipment picked up the shock wave in laboratories on the other side of the Pacific. From any other country in the world there would have been stories of the shaking of the Earth and the deep subterranean rumble. What ordinary North Koreans made of their country's second nuclear test, as about anything else in their cruelly circumscribed lives, we may never know. Within two hours the state-controlled Korean Central News Agency was putting out the official version of a glorious event.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/world/asia/article6356931.ece>

**[North Korean Nuclear Blast Draws Global Condemnation](#)**  
**The Washington Post, 26 May 2009**

North Korea's detonation of a nuclear device Monday appears not to have been a significant technical advance over its first underground test three years ago. But it has triggered a swifter, stronger and more uniform wave of international condemnation, most notably from the isolated nation's historical allies, China and Russia. The U.N. Security Council moved quickly in an emergency meeting Monday to condemn the test, saying it constituted a clear violation of a 2006 U.N. resolution barring the communist state from exploding a nuclear weapon. The council's speedy response contrasted with protracted discussions that followed North Korea's April 5 launch of a long-range missile and reflected what analysts called deep displeasure by Russia and China.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/25/AR2009052501672.html?hpid=topnews>

**[Seismic Readings From North Korea Blast Appear to Point to a Small Nuclear Test](#)**

**The New York Times, 26 May 2009**

Initial seismic readings from the underground blast in North Korea were consistent with a relatively small nuclear test, but it will be days or weeks before the United States and international organizations can determine whether it was a nuclear detonation and how successful it might have been, experts said Monday. Scientists can judge the size of an underground nuclear blast by how violently it shakes the earth, although this method is not foolproof because conventional explosives can mimic the rumble. Experts can confirm the atomic origin by detecting the signature of radioactive gases and particles that a nuclear blast emits. The United States Geological Survey reported that Monday's episode had a magnitude of 4.7, which would make it slightly larger than the one that the North Koreans generated in October 2006.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/26/world/asia/26threat.html?ref=asia>

**[No Crisis for North Korea \(Editorial\)](#)**  
**The Washington Post, 26 May 2009**

North Korea's detonation of a nuclear warhead in an underground test yesterday is, of course, cause for serious concern -- particularly as the blast appears to have been

considerably larger than the regime's first test nearly three years ago. It is certainly cause for swift action by the U.N. Security Council, which issued a statement condemning Pyongyang's blatant violations of previous council resolutions, and promised to prepare yet another resolution -- though, as always, the prospect that truly tough sanctions will be adopted is not bright. What Kim Jong II's latest provocation should not cause, however, is the response he is seeking: a rush by the Obama administration to lavish attention on his regime and offer it economic and political favors.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/25/AR2009052501505.html>

### [What to Do About North Korea \(Dan Blumenthal and Robert Kagan\)](#)

**The Washington Post, 26 May 2009**

The North Korean launch of its Taeopodong-2 missile and its second nuclear test have laid bare the paucity of President Obama's policy options. They have exposed the futility of the six-party talks and, in particular, the much-hyped myth of China's value as a partner on strategic matters. The Obama administration claims that it wants to break with the policies of its predecessor. This is one area where it ought to. After decades of diplomacy and "probing" Pyongyang's intentions, one thing is clear: Kim Jong II and his cronies want nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them. What will dissuade them? Isolation and more punitive sanctions would make sense if China and Russia would go along. But they haven't, and they won't.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/25/AR2009052501391.html>

### [A Fast Way to Lose the Arms Race \(John R Bolton\)](#)

**The New York Times, 26 May 2009**

President Obama has called for a world without nuclear weapons, not as a distant goal, but as something imminently achievable. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton followed up, saying that American and Russian "leadership" in arms control and nonproliferation was "at the top of the list" of her priorities. Although the administration may be counting on the eyelid-lowering effect of arms-control terminology to minimize Congressional and public scrutiny, its plans are deeply troubling for America. First, the administration's bilateral objectives with Russia play almost entirely to Moscow's advantage, as in arms-control days of yore. Hurrying to negotiate a successor to the second Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty by year's end, which Secretary Clinton has committed to, reflects a "zeal for the deal" approach that benefits only Russia.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/26/opinion/26bolton.html?ref=opinion>

### [India's nuclear plants improve power generation](#)

**Business Standard, 26 May 2009**

India's nuclear power reactors, which were running at only 40 per cent of their capacity, have now improved their generation with increased availability of uranium in the country. The 12 reactors of Nuclear Power Corporation were now operating at 70 per cent of their capacity with improved production of uranium from Jaduguda and Turamdih mills in Jharkhand. "The 12 Pressurised Heavy water Reactors of 220 Mw each are running at 70 per cent of their capacity due to improvement in the production of uranium from Jaduguda and Turamdih mills. They are currently producing 2,000 Mw," Department of Atomic Energy sources said here. However,

Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) unit 2 and Narora Atomic Power Station (NAPS) units 1 and 2 are not operating and waiting for fuel.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/india%5Cs-nuclear-plants-improve-power-generation/62868/on>

### [India, Canada to finalise nuclear agreement soon: Gavai](#)

**The Times of India, 27 May 2009**

India and Canada will soon finalise the civilian nuclear cooperation agreement that will pave the way for new opportunities for both the countries, a senior Indian diplomat has said. "Both the countries have already exchanged the draft agreement. An expert Canadian team was in Mumbai last week to workout, with the Atomic Energy Commission of India, final technical details and conditions under which business can be done," S M Gavai, Indian high commissioner to Canada said. Gavai, commending Canada's efforts to sign a nuclear pact with India, said: "We want to make sure that the proposed Canada-India nuclear agreement is equitable and non-discriminatory and both the countries work on the same wavelength."

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/India/India-Canada-to-finalise-nuclear-agreement-soon-Gavai-/articleshow/4582515.cms>

### [Nuclear North Korea raises the ante \(C. Uday Bhaskar\)](#)

**Reuters, 27 May 2009**

Nuclear armed North Korea's announcement (May 27) that it has abandoned the long and uneasy truce agreement of July 1953 that formally ended the hostilities of the Korean War will increase tension in the already charged Northeast Asian strategic grid. The immediate provocation for Pyongyang's dramatic truce move is the South Korean decision to join the U.S.-led Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) -- which in turn was prompted by the not so unexpected nuclear test carried out by North Korea on May 25. In short, the Cold War chickens that took flight during the Korean War (1950 - 53) are coming home to roost -- with many tangled and complex security and strategic implications. With the successful May 25 nuclear test behind it, North Korea is now the world's 'n'th de facto nuclear weapon power...

<http://in.reuters.com/article/southAsiaNews/idINIndia-39919320090527>

### [10,000 men protecting N-assets: official](#)

**Dawn, 28 May 2009**

A senior official of the country's premier defence nuclear establishment has said that a large force of nearly 10,000 people is in place to ensure security of Pakistan's nuclear arsenal and western fears about the safety of the weapons are unfounded. Air Commodore Khalid Banuri, who is director of arms control and disarmament affairs at the Strategic Plans Division (SPD), said that Pakistan's 'command and control structure' for the weapons was better than that of many other nuclear states, and many countries and their experts had officially acknowledged this. In a rare interview with DawnNews, Air Commodore Banuri described as 'preposterous' western media reports that Pakistan's nuclear weapons might fall into wrong hands — terrorists or other non-state actors. 'The intent clearly appears to be mala fide,' he said.

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/pakistan/13+10000+men+protecting+n-assets+official-za-09>

### [Pakistan has 60 N-warheads: US Congressional report](#)

**Business Standard, 28 May 2009**

Two weeks after Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the US Senate that Pakistan has been expanding its nuclear arsenal, a US Congressional Research Service (CRS) report released on Wednesday has estimated that Pakistan has 60 nuclear warheads. Previous estimates pegged the number of warheads at 80-100. The report -- Pakistan's Nuclear Weapons: Proliferation and Security Issues -- said: "Pakistan's nuclear arsenal consists of approximately 60 nuclear warheads. It continues fissile material production for weapons, and is adding to its weapons production facilities and delivery vehicles." The report notes that India is clearly the only country Pakistan's "minimum credible deterrent" is directed against.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/pakistan-has-60-n-warheads-us-congressional-report/63052/on>

### [Another nuclear anniversary \(Pervez Hoodbhoy\)](#)

**Dawn, 28 May 2009**

Once upon a time making nuclear bombs was the biggest thing a country could do. But not any more; North Korea's successful nuclear test provides rock-solid proof. This is a country that no one admires. It is unknown for scientific achievement, has little electricity or fuel, food and medicine are scarce, corruption is ubiquitous, and its people live in terribly humiliating conditions under a vicious, dynastic dictatorship. In a famine some years ago, North Korea lost nearly 800,000 people. It has an enormous prison population of 200,000 that is subjected to systematic torture and abuse. Why does a miserable, starving country continue spending its last penny on the bomb? On developing and testing a fleet of missiles whose range increases from time to time?

<http://www.dawn.com/wps/wcm/connect/dawn-content-library/dawn/news/pakistan/16-Another-nuclear-anniversary-hs-12>

### [How a jilted Karachi woman saved Pak N-programme](#)

**The News, 28 May 2009**

As the nation celebrates the eleventh anniversary of Pakistan's nuclear tests today (May 28), a shocking 30-year-old secret has been exposed. It reveals how a young woman college lecturer, feeling betrayed after a romance with a nuclear scientist of the Karachi Nuclear Power Plant (KANUPP), had given a lead to the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in 1978, which in turn had led to the dramatic arrest of 12 Pakistani scientists and engineers, planning to sabotage Pakistan's nuclear sites at the behest of a superpower. The startling spy ring was exposed by this female college lecturer of a Karachi Memon family to the then head of ISI Sindh Brig Imtiaz Ahmed (Operation Midnight Jackals fame), only because she wanted revenge from her lover for being unfaithful.

[http://www.thenews.com.pk/top\\_story\\_detail.asp?Id=22396](http://www.thenews.com.pk/top_story_detail.asp?Id=22396)

### [North Korea Threatens to Attack South](#)

**The Washington Post, 28 May 2009**

North Korea vowed Wednesday to attack South Korea if ships from the North are searched as part a U.S.-led effort to stop vessels suspected of carrying missiles or weapons of mass destruction. It also declared that the truce that ended the Korean War in 1953 was no longer valid. The threat -- unusually broad and bellicose, even

by North Korean standards -- came two days after the communist state was condemned by the international community, including longtime allies China and Russia, for testing a second nuclear device in violation of U.N. resolutions. Since Monday, the North has also launched five short-range missiles into the sea off its eastern coast.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/27/AR2009052701060.html?wpisrc=newsletter>

### **[Nuclear Aims By Pakistan, India Prompt U.S. Concern](#)**

**The Washington Post, 28 May 2009**

Sometime next year, at a tightly guarded site south of its capital, Pakistan will be ready to start churning out a new stream of plutonium for its nuclear arsenal, which will eventually include warheads for ballistic missiles and cruise missiles capable of being launched from ships, submarines or aircraft. About 1,000 miles to the southwest, engineers in India are designing cruise missiles to carry nuclear warheads, relying partly on Russian missile-design assistance. India is also trying to equip its Agni ballistic missiles with such warheads and to deploy them on submarines. Its rudimentary missile-defense capability is slated for a major upgrade next year.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/05/27/AR2009052703706.html?wpisrc=newsletter>

### **[North Korea Will Never Disarm \(B.R. Myers\)](#)**

**The New York Times, 28 May 2009**

Let's look on the bright side: North Korea's latest underground nuclear test should put to rest several misperceptions about the country's motivations. It is no longer possible for anyone to go on claiming that everything Kim Jong-il does is an effort to get America's attention, or that he just wants to go into the next round of disarmament talks with a stronger hand. Nor can anyone seriously argue that all these hugely expensive exercises are aimed at securing more economic aid. In short, it has become obvious that North Korea's nuclear and military provocations and the escalating belligerence of its rhetoric are motivated by domestic political considerations instead. This does not mean that we must now waste time speculating about which of Kim's sons will someday take over, or whether the army and the party are struggling for power.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/05/29/opinion/29iht-edmyers.html?hpw>

### **[Pak moving towards more destructive nuclear weapons: US think-tank](#)**

**The Times of India, 29 May 2009**

Pakistan is moving towards a nuclear weapons program that is more destructive and deliverable, a US think tank said on Thursday. "Pakistan is likely supplementing or replacing its current uranium-based nuclear weapon arsenal with plutonium-based weapons which will be more destructive and deliverable," said Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) in response to a news article in Washington Post published on Pakistan's nuclear program. Washington-based ISIS said The Washington Post called Pakistan's imminent development of nuclear-tipped cruise missiles and perhaps thermonuclear weapons a sign of a "more mature" program, as if to imply that more destructive nuclear weapons somehow lead to a better nation.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/US/Pak-moving-towards-more-destructive->

nuclear-weapons-US-think-tank/articleshow/4591226.cms

**[DPRK vows "further defense measures" if sanctioned for nuclear test](#)**

**China View, 29 May 2009**

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea will take "further defense measures" if the U.N. Security Council sanctions it for its recent nuclear test, the official KCNA news agency said Friday. The DPRK "has the right to test nuclear bombs and missiles, which were proper defense measures for it and not in violation of any international law," the KCNA said, citing an unnamed spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry. The purpose of Monday's underground test was to counter the Security Council's moves against the DPRK's April 5 launch of a rocket that put a satellite into orbit, the spokesman said. "The United States and its followers were to blame for the current situation," he added.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/29/content\\_11453556.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-05/29/content_11453556.htm)

**[Complexities of nuclear risk reduction in South Asia \(Michael Krepon\)](#)**

**The Hindu, 29 May 2009**

The Indian electorate has now voted into office a very strong coalition government led, once again, by the Congress party. Pakistani domestic politics, on the other hand, have produced a weak civilian government that faces extraordinary internal security challenges. In due course, dialogue between Islamabad and New Delhi will resume, but it will be hard for leaders to make significant progress on bilateral disputes given existing disparities in domestic political circumstances and the certainty that new acts of mass casualty terrorism will occur. The strategic calculus facing national leaders in India and Pakistan has changed radically over the past decade.

<http://www.hindu.com/2009/05/29/stories/2009052954910900.htm>

**[India army chief calls for Pakistan nuclear cap](#)**

**Reuters, 29 May 2009**

The world must put pressure on Pakistan to restrict its nuclear capabilities, India's army chief said on Friday, adding that reports of Pakistan stockpiling nuclear arsenal was a matter of serious concern. The New York Times last week reported U.S. lawmakers were told in confidential briefings that Pakistan was rapidly adding to its nuclear capability, stoking fears in Congress about the diversion of U.S. funds. Islamabad dismissed the report, saying Pakistan was determined to maintain a minimum nuclear deterrence as nuclear-armed rival India beefed up its conventional forces. As Pakistan battles a growing Taliban insurgency, reports in U.S. media have raised the nightmare scenario of its nuclear weapons falling into militant hands.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/southAsiaNews/idINIndia-39973920090529>