

News Reports

Month - **August** Year - **1998**

Abstracts of news reports, editorials, comments and features relating to security from English national dailies and magazines from India, the region and the world. Updated daily

The Economic Times 15 August 1998

Exploded bomb not to use it (Political Bureau)

President K. R. Narayanan today said, "I don't think nuclear weapons are necessary for the world...But as a pragmatist I would say they can be abolished not in parts but wholly. Because the weapons in the hands of any one country alone or a group of countries could be dangerous for the world...for the last 10-15 years the world seems to have forgotten that these vast arsenals...exist among the five great powers." He stressed that "nuclear weapons are useful only when they are not used...But they may be a deterrent power in the hands of a nation. I believe that we exploded the bomb not with the intention of using them.

The Economic Times 15 August 1998

Bomb, not bread, is more important (Reuters)

A defiant Nawaz Sharif said today that Pakistan would not give up its nuclear capability in exchange for the lifting of international sanctions, saying the country's security came first. 'Our people know that they are paying a price for their freedom. If anyone thinks that Pakistani people will ever regret the historic decision of May 28, or sacrifice their defence needs for roti (bread)...that is their misunderstanding.

The Times of India 15 August 1998

President justifies nuclear tests (The Times of India News Service)

President K. R. Narayanan has justified the Pokharan tests and does not see any nuclear danger between India and Pakistan. Rather, he is of the view that the possession of nuclear weapons would make them settle their differences peacefully and through negotiations.

INDO_PAK

The Asian Age 15 August 1998

Pak has no aggressive designs, says Sharif (PTI)

It could be said with certainty that Pakistani nuclear tests have averted the dangers of South Asia, faced after India's tests...Pakistan will keep on raising voice in favour of the people of Jammu and Kashmir until they achieve their right of self determination

The Hindustan Times 16 August 1998

CTBT in present form won't be signed

Asserting that India would not deviate from its predetermined path of global disarmament, Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today indicated that the country would not sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) in the present form.

The Hindu 17 August 1998

N-propulsion systems not now: ISRO (S. Ramachandran)

The Secretary, Department of Space, and Chairman of ISRO, Dr. Kasthurirangan has ruled out any intermediate plans for induction of nuclear energy in rocket launchers. A nuclear propulsion system is technically feasible, he told The Hindu but quite complex and expensive.

The Hindu 17 August 1998

Islamic terror groups seeking n-arms (PTI)

Quoting Israeli intelligence sources, The Sunday Times said international Islamic groups based in Afghanistan and Pakistan including the one led by Saudi millionaire, Mr. Osama Bin Laden, were looking for tactical nuclear weapons like the 'suitcase bombs'. Leaders of the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and Bin Laden were suspected to

have paid £ two millions to an intermediate in the former Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan as part of a two-year quest to own tactical nuclear weapons.

The Hindustan Times 17 August 1998

Pak had N-capability in 1984: Gul (UNI)

Gen. Hamid Gul, former chief of Inter-Service Services, "has revealed that his country had acquired nuclear capability to detonate nuclear devices as early as 1984 and the work on digging tunnels for the tests was already in progress in the Chagai area of Baluchistan taking advantage of the Afghan war.

The Asian Age 17 August 1998

Pak will not be coerced into signing the CTBT (PTI)

Pakistan has said it would not be coerced into signing the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) even as it readies for a decisive round of talks with the US later this month on the twin issues of nuclear non-proliferation and economic sanctions.

The Asian Age 18 August 1998

DRDO makes smart anti-tank missiles (Rezaul H. Laskar)

The DRDO has developed "smart" weapons which can penetrate the armour of combat vehicles and tanks by approaching targets from the top where they are the most vulnerable.

The Hindu 18 August 1998

Japan threatens to cut off all loans to India (F. J. Khergamvala)

While India's other interlocutors are engaging the Vajpayee Government quietly, Japan continues its public tirade against it, including a threat to completely cut off soft loans to India if there is an indefinite stand-off on India's subscription to the current nuclear non-proliferation regime.

The Telegraph 18 August 1998

North Korea hiding nuclear complex: US (David E. Sanger, New York Times News Service)

United States intelligence agencies have detected a huge secret underground complex in North Korea that they believe is the central piece of an effort to revive the country's frozen nuclear weapons programme, according to officials who have been briefed on the intelligence information.

The Asian Age 18 August 1998

India forced to go nuclear: Jaswant (PTI)

India has long sought either global disarmament or equal security for all, but could not allow itself to be victimised by a discriminatory nuclear disarmament regime that left it surrounded by two nuclear powers - Pakistan and China, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Jaswant Singh says.

The Asian Age 18 August 1998

US refuse to release LCA gear (PTI)

The United States is sitting tight on the Indian equipment related to the Light Combat Aircraft project which was sent there for testing as part of Washington's attempts to pressurise New Delhi to meet its demand on the nuclear issue. The US has not told India that it is not releasing the equipment but what it has done is to sit tight on repair or other work that needs to be done... indicating 'talk softly but act tough' seems to be the Clinton administration's attitude

The Hindu 18 August 1998

On the horns of a nuclear dilemma (Atul Aneja)

The nuclear tests by India and Pakistan have triggered a major public debate in Japan which goes beyond the condemnation of New Delhi and Islamabad. The Japanese, haunted by the horrors of an atomic attack on two of their important cities, are now looking for a modus vivendi to exorcise their nuclear fears... The clamour for universal disarmament re-ignited by the South Asian tests has, however, placed official Japan on the horns of a dilemma. The demand for disarmament can

hurt Japan, for de-nuclearisation would target the presence of the US nuclear umbrella -the corner stone of its national security... Besides, any rethinking on its deterrent would mean Japan locking horns with the five nuclear powers, including the United States.

The Economic Times 18 August 1998

Both are rotten (S. Ambirajan)

There is a particular class of social critics who have suddenly discovered the evils of nuclear weapons only after the Vajpayee government foolishly detonated a few of them early this year... Yet the chimera of solving our power requirements through nuclear plants is no different from the dream of achieving security of our borders through nuclear weapons.

The Hindu 18 August 1998

How Israel contributed to India's cause (Kesava Menon)

Your mistake was strategic and tactical. even if you wanted to test, to know where the 1974 experiment had taken you, you were too slow, too clumsy and wrong about your timing. So says the veteran Israeli commentator and strategic analyst, Mr. Ze'ev Schiff. While it was refreshing to get an outside opinion on Pokharan II, which did not derive from a moralistic and non-proliferation perspective, it was pertinent to note that the establishment of the one nation-state which could have taken a more favourable attitude did not do so on other considerations. Israel adopted a low profile on the matter, and some claim that Israel helped India behind the scenes but there are some serious points to be pondered.

The Asian Age 18 August 1998

Read the signposts on the nuclear road (M. K. Narayanan)

To try and coerce India into signing the highly discriminatory Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and compel India eschew for all time its nuclear option will be counter-productive. It can only damage whatever chances exist of progressing the non-proliferation regime in the direction of global nuclear disarmament.

The Hindu 19 August 1998

From disapproval to diplomacy (Atul Aneja)

After leading the charge against India after its nuclear tests, Japan is now in a mood to talk. Preliminary contacts for the revival of an Indo-Japan dialogue have been already made. Introspection, activated in large measure by a 'no holds barred' domestic debate on nuclear weapons in Japan has had a sobering effect on Tokyo's disposition towards New Delhi. Diplomacy has now begun to overpower the outpouring of emotion which had characterized Japan's initial response to the tests.

The Hindu 19 August 1998

A special affinity towards India (Kesava Menon)

Just after the sub-continental nuclear tests it was speculated that the tests could have two different kinds of consequences for West Asia. Col. (res.) Ephraim Kam, Deputy Director of the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University, points out that a potential proliferates in West Asia, (Iran and Iraq are the two countries he mentioned) could gain the impression that the U.S. and other governors of the non-proliferation regime were too weak to prevent the spread of weapons technology; b) that Pakistan could transfer fissile material or nuclear technology to West Asian regimes. Israeli analysts now appear convinced that Pakistan, despite the tremendous economic difficulties it has fallen into, is not likely to transfer weapons material or technology. Pakistan's declaration that its bomb was not an "Islamic" one had a significant resonance in Israel.

The Hindustan Times 20 August 1998

N. Korea admits missile exports, seeks damages (PTI)

North Korea, suspected of exporting ballistic missiles Pakistan and Iran, has admitted to the charge and demanded compensation from the United States to stop further proliferation, an American official said here. North Korean officials said they would be glad to stop the proliferation if the US Government was willing to

compensate North Korea accordingly, Peter Brookes, aide to US House of Representative's International Relations Committee Chairman Benjamin Gilman said.

The Hindu 20 August 1998

IAF will induct LCA by 2003: Kalam (Science Correspondent)

Despite sanctions, India's Light Combat Air craft (LCA) will be inducted into the Indian Air force (IAF) by 2003, according to Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, Scientific Adviser to the Defence Minister. He said here today that a minimum 200 LCAs would be inducted into the Air Force by 2010.

The Asian Age 20 August 1998

Pak making nuclear plant gear: A. Q. Khan (ANI)

Pakistan has started manufacturing sensitive equipment used in nuclear plants, according to leading nuclear scientist Abdul Qadir Khan. Speaking at a function here on Tuesday, Dr Wader said that Pakistan is among five or sixth countries of the world which have this capability.

The Pioneer 20 August 1998

3000-km Agni to dwarf Ghauri (Wilson John)

India's New Agni missile will have a range of 3000 km, double that of Pakistan's much hyped Ghauri missile. Though Agni-II will be a delivery system for nuclear warheads, its exact capability is a closely guarded secret. The new range assumes strategic significance in view of the increased threat from India's neighbourhood following the Pokhran blasts in May this Year.

The Hindu 20 August 1998

N-Tests 'no problem' with the ASEAN (P. S. Suryanarayana)

The Union Commerce Minister, Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde, asserted here today that New Delhi's nuclear tests on May had not affected economic and political ties with South East Asian States which 'are convinced that the nuclear test was not aimed at any country'. They were even cognisant of India's 'security concerns' and 'no reservations' were evident in their present interaction with India, he said.

The Pioneer 20 August 1998

India, USA and dual-use technology curbs (Rajiv Nayan)

The curbs on dual-use technology will continue. So far the US has been using its extra-territorial authority to pressurize other member or even non-member countries to abide by the export control guidelines. If other countries, feel that they are not being benefited by the relaxation of curbs on dual-use, they will put pressure on the supplier countries, including the US to follow the export control guidelines. Therefore the solution lies in the rational restructuring of the export control regimes along with the change in the US perspective, otherwise the promises will remain empty words."

The Pioneer 20 August 1998

Evolve politico-military nuclear doctrine (Ashok K. Mehta)

Nearly three months after the nuclear tests, a minimum nuclear doctrine has been articulated by the Government. The military was not consulted. The reason is that nuclear weapons are political; hence outside the military's purview. This is uniquely an Indian strategic thought. Instead of evolving single service strategies, the Governments must produce a politico-military nuclear security strategy. This must be in public knowledge.

The Hindustan Times 20 August 1998

Need for reorienting Indian foreign policy (Jagmohan)

The exercise of the nuclear option, apart from the catering to India's security concern, has not only put the double standards of the members of the nuclear club under public scrutiny but also exposed the unworkability of the policy of exclusivity. India should propagate more forcefully than it has done so far that the policy of exclusivity did not pay in the post-war years and it would not pay now.

The Hindu 20 August 1998

The impact of tests on West Asia (Kesava Menon)

While Israeli strategic analysts say that the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests are not likely to have much implications for West Asia, the tests have nevertheless kindled a re-consideration of the regional nuclear situation. The Israelis have concluded that there is small danger that Pakistan would transfer nuclear material of technology to any of the West Asian states but they do recognize that the tests have certain ramifications which affect the West Asian situation. These concerns focus on the lessons that could be learnt by the other regional states believed to be developing a nuclear capability and the implication that a heightened global concern over proliferation could have on Israel's own nuclear programme.

The Indian Express 20 August 1998

Whining is no strategy (J. N. Dixit)

The world is tired of India's self-righteous didacticism. We should be tired of India's self-righteous didacticism. We should limit ourselves to conveying that India did what it had to do in its own interest, after serious thought. It regrets that the world does not perceive its decision in terms of its rationale and compulsions. It accepts its difference of opinion for now, but is willing to participate in the general endeavour for world disarmament, peace and stability. We should not demand nuclear-weapons status. We need to be self-assured about our status and sustain it as a strategic and material reality.

The Economic Times 20 August 1998

Nuclear policy and political culture (K. Subrahmanyam)

Having become a nuclear weapon power, the country has to be in continuous communication with our two nuclear neighbours China and Pakistan, both at official and non-official levels. Similar sustained dialogues at both levels. Similar sustained dialogues at both levels also need to be sustained with other major nuclear and non-nuclear weapons powers of the world. The long bureaucratic tradition of the dog in the manger which tried to restrict and hamper non-official dialogues must be given up.

The Hindu 22 August 1998

8-nation group plans resolution on India (R. Chakrapani)

A group of eight nations that have vowed to work for a nuclear-free world, are working on a resolution that would ask the three "nuclear-capable" countries- India, Pakistan and Israel -to reverse course from the pursuit of nuclear weapons and their deployment and thereby help the process of nuclear disarmament. The resolution, which will be largely based on a "joint declaration" they issued in the wake of the nuclear tests conducted by India and Pakistan, will also ask them as well as Israel to sign both the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and have them ratified.

The Pioneer 22 August 1998

Jaswant, Talbott to discuss CTBT (Soumyajit Pattnaik)

Break-through would depend upon lifting of economic sanctions imposed against India and accommodating India's status as a de-facto nuclear weapon state in the Fissile Missile Cutoff Treaty (FMCT) for which the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva has already constituted an ad-hoc committee. Sources further added that India would not seek any modification in the CTBT. But its status as a de-facto nuclear weapons state must be recognized in the proposed FMCT.

The Hindu 22 August 1998

Security is an inherent evil, says Ramanna

In the name of security, nuclear bombs, combined with modern ballistic missiles, have provided a saturation destruction capability which have made possible the destruction of the whole planet. Dr. Raja Ramanna, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) and now Member of Parliament, said here on Thursday. Although disarmament had been discussed, no country wanted to give up national

sovereignty, he said.

The Asian Age 23 August 1998

N-Tests possible after CTBT: PM (Bishwanath Ghosh)

Prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on Saturday said that India could carry out more nuclear tests if it perceived any threat to its national security in the future. 'There is nothing new about it. There is a provision in the CTBT also that if any country feels that there is a threat to its national security, it can act outside the provisions of the CTBT,' Mr. Vajpayee...told reporters.

The Indian Express 23 August 1998

BJP cautions Government (Angana Parekh)

In a special resolution on the nuclear tests adopted today by the BJP's National Executive the party has asked the government to exercise caution before signing the CTBT and urged it to review its decision on a unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests if future developments jeopardize national strategic and security interests.

The Asian Age 23 August 1998

Nuclear technology is still slipping into Pak: Germany (Inter Press Service)

The German government believes that Pakistan may still be receiving sensitive nuclear related technology, despite decade-old export controls and sanctions announced in June in the wake of Islamabad's nuclear tests. Germany was one of the earliest countries to announce sanctions against both India and Pakistan after the two rivals conducted underground nuclear tests in May.

The Asian Age 23 August 1998

Second nuclear plant to start next year: Sharif (ANI)

Pakistan will launch its second nuclear power plant next year for peaceful uses of atomic energy.

The Asian Age 23 August 1998

Pak team leaves for meeting on CTBT (AFP)

A high level official team left on Saturday for crucial talks with the United States, which is trying to persuade Pakistan to accede to the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, officials said.

The Pioneer 24 August 1998

Flawed NPT is not acceptable : Jaswant (PTI)

India will not accept a 'flawed' non-proliferation regime as the international norm when all realities conclusively demand the contrary, Prime Minister's special envoy Jaswant Singh had said on the eve of the fourth round of meetings between India and the United States over adherence to Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

The Pioneer 24 August 1998

Germany ratifies CTBT. Asks India, Pak to follow suit (IANS)

Germany renewed its call to the international community to stop nuclear tests with Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel appealing to India and Pakistan to sign and ratify the CTBT quickly and without conditions.

The Hindu 25 August 1998

Pakistan still receiving n-related technology (IPS)

The German Government believes that Pakistan may still be receiving sensitive nuclear-related technology, despite decade-old export controls and sanctions announced in June in the wake of Islamabad's nuclear tests...However, critics note that German technology played an important role in the development of both the Indian and Pakistani nuclear capabilities.

The Hindustan Times 25 August 1998

Delhi hopes to convince NAM on N-tests stance (Apratim Mukarji)

The sub-continental nuclear tests have led to a sharp division of opinion in NAM. While a large number of NAM member countries will not be enthusiastic about pillorying India, in particular, for the tests, South Africa, which takes over the

chairmanship of the 113-member group of the summit, has been stridently critical of New Delhi's decision to go nuclear.

The Indian Express 25 August 1998

Changed India, Pak status will add teeth to NAM character (Jyoti Malhotra)

For the first time since its inception in 1961, a NAM summit will have two nuclear powers in attendance: India and Pakistan. The barometer of interest for the laymen and policywallahs alike rises by the fact that the venue of the summit is a former, closet nuclear weapons power. White South Africa voluntarily gave up its arsenal just before allowing multiracial elections for the first time ever in 1994.

The Hindu 25 August 1998

Su-30s 'fully operational' (PTI)

The Air Chief Marshal, Mr. S. K. Sareen, has declared the top-of-the-line Sukhoi-30 multirole warplanes 'fully operational' after the Russian-made aircraft took part extensively in major combat evaluation exercises.

The Asian Age 25 August 1998

Aero lab devises a missile data system (Jaideep V. G.)

The National Aerospace Laboratories has developed a missile information system for the Defence Research and Development Laboratories. According to sources at NAL, the system will provide comprehensive information on various missile systems and act as a missile archive for use by the defence ministry.

The Indian Express 26 August 1998

Pakistan sets terms for giving up N- weapons (PTI)

Pakistan has demanded settlement of the Kashmir issue to its satisfaction and US to bring its armed forces at par with India's as the price for Islamabad giving up its nuclear weapons and right to their first-use against India.

The Hindustan Times 26 August 1998

Iraq defends India's N-test (Nuke)

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had defended New Delhi's nuclear tests saying "they were within the sovereign rights of India," an Indian embassy release issued in Baghdad said.

The Hindustan Times 26 August 1998

Germany again asks India to sign CTBT (Nuke)

Germany has reiterated its demand that India and Pakistan should sign the CTBT unconditionally. The federal German Government, which has condemned the Indian and Pakistani nuclear tests, demands yet again from India and Pakistan to take into consideration the will of the international community for lasting condemnation of all nuclear tests and to speedily sign and ratify the (test ban) treaty unconditionally.

The Pioneer 26 August 1998

The rise of new missile dangers (Brahma Chellaney)

India's decision to launch the Agni-2 ballistic missile programme is a logical corollary to the rise of new missile dangers and the continued vertical and horizontal proliferation of missiles in its immediate neighbourhood...of equal significance to India's security has been the flow of American rocket technology to China...It is imperative that India substantially boost its investments in these leading-edge sectors in order to build its future security. With real missile power, India could deal with transborder terrorism the way America did last week.

The Hindustan Times 27 August 1998

India committed to nuclear disarmament (UNI)

Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee today asserted that the recent Pokharan nuclear tests in no way detract from India's long standing commitment to global nuclear disarmament and elimination of nuclear weapons in a time bound frame work.

The Telegraph 28 August 1998

Pre-emptive strike at Nam nuke attack (Pranay Sharma)

"In a bid to deflect possible criticism at the coming Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit in Durban for its nuclear tests, India will propose a declaration on nuclear disarmament and the holding of a global nuclear weapons convention. India feels the NAM Summit should take a strong position on global nuclear disarmament.

The Indian Express 28 August 1998

Pakistan ready to sign CTBT (PTI)

Pakistan has conveyed its readiness to the US to sign the CTBT without any preconditions in a bid to ease economic pressure on itself and build up international pressure on India, media reports said.

The Hindu 28 August 1998

India's nuclear agenda at the NAM (C. Raja Mohan)

The challenge before Mr. Vajpayee at Durban is to communicate the policy of nuclear restraint it has adopted, unveil a responsible agenda for international nuclear arms control, and differentiate itself from the nuclear weapons powers in terms of the readiness to accept significant measures to reduce the global nuclear danger.

The Telegraph 29 August 1998

Cong. backs Vajpayee for signing CTBT (Rasheed Kidwai)

In a major policy shift, the Congress plans to support the Vajpayee government if it decides to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), provided the prohibition on import of dual-purpose technology is lifted and a clause inserted that the signing will be subject to ratification by Parliament.

The Telegraph 29 August 1998

Terror-link Pak in CTBT ploy (Pranay Sharma)

Pakistan's readiness to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) may be a diversionary ploy to shift international focus from its terrorist links in Afghanistan.

The Economic Times 29 August 1998

Pakistan may ink CTBT to save face (Political Bureau)

Pakistan's reported decision to accede to the CTBT unconditionally may well have been designed to distract attention from its own troubles while mounting pressure on India. In the process, Indo-Pak relations, Kashmir and CTBT have returned to the top of the diplomacy agenda. India feels Pakistan will probably sign the treaty in return for an economic bailout burdened, as it is with an external debt, already \$30 billion and climbing.

The Hindustan Times 29 August 1998

Myth of deterrence in South Asia (Anirudh Deshpande)

Nuclear weapons have neither changed the character of war in South Asia nor given any of the advantage. However, due to the mentality promoted by nuclear weapons, a cold war will continue to rage bleeding the region of vital resources required for socio-economic development.

The Hindu 30 August 1998

Oman explained rationale behind n-tests (K. K. Katyal)

The Prime Minister, Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, today cited the two components of India's nuclear doctrine—minimum deterrence and no-first-use—to emphasize its role as a force of peace and stability. It showed that just as India's tests were not directed against any country, its deterrent posture was defensive he said. This, according to the Prime Minister, should allay all apprehensions about a nuclear arms race, accidental use or escalation of any sort.

The Asian Age 30 August 1998

A tune to halt the nuclear march (Alexander Downer, International Herald Tribune)

The recent nuclear weapons tests in India and Pakistan caused a level of international outrage that has injected new vigour into the nuclear debate. The

outrage was a catalyst for a historic decision on August 11 by the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva to move a step closer to a treaty banning production of fissile material, the essential ingredient for nuclear weapons. The decision is a strong validation by the international community of the non-proliferation and disarmament norms that were challenged by the South Asian tests.

The Hindu 31 August 1998

Russia not to give up n-projects in India (PTI)

Russia has asserted that it will not compromise on its commercial interests in India, pointing out that its nuclear power projects here are only for production of electricity and have nothing to do with nuclear weapons.

The Telegraph 31 August 1998

Nam backs India on global nuke meet (UNI)

Non-aligned nations today responded enthusiastically to India's proposal for a global conference next year to arrive at an agreement on time bound elimination of nuclear weapons.

The Hindu 31 August 1998

NAM must propose meet on n-weapons convention (UNI)

India today said the Non-Aligned Summit should take the lead by proposing a global conference on a nuclear weapons convention before the end of this century and asked the NAM countries to take a firm stand to combat international terrorism.

The Telegraph 31 August 1998

Among locals (Editorial)

The most important, reason for India's inability to at least secure some indirect mention of China's nuclear and missiles proliferation policies is New Delhi's dwindling status on the economic front. When India was inducted into the ARF with much fanfare in 1995 it was done in part because some Southeast Asian countries saw in India the next great economic hope of Asia. The most vocal advocate of this position, Singapore, has since seen everything from information technology projects to aviation joint ventures wrecked by lumbering Indian officialdom. It has since given up any dreams of India becoming a serious economic contender in the near future. On the other hand, China came through the Asian currency crisis with flying colours.

The Hindu 31 August 1998

The wages of Armageddon-I (C. Rammanohar Reddy)

It is the delivery and the C3I systems and not the costs of the bombs themselves that could form the most expensive part of an Indian weaponisation program. The programs of Britain, France and China-the smaller nuclear powers- which may be closer to an Indian one also do not suggest that these weapons of mass destruction can be acquired cheaply.