

The Hindu, 1 July 2007

Ship officials non-committal on nuclear weapons on board

ON BOARD USS NIMITZ: As the nuclear-powered warship is set to arrive in Chennai, top officials of USS Nimitz CVN 68 refused to either "confirm or deny" the presence of nuclear weapons on board.

The Hindu, 1 July 2007

Mehta allays fears of radiation

Kolkata: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sureesh Mehta on Saturday allayed fears of radiation from the "USS Nimitz," scheduled to dock at the Chennai port next week, saying all set procedures to check against radiation from the gigantic nuclear-powered aircraft carrier have been followed.

The Times of India, 1 July 2007

Japan minister: Nuke attack was inevitable

TOKYO: Defence minister Fumio Kyuma said on Saturday that the dropping of atomic bombs on Japan by the US during World War II was inevitable. "I understand that the bombing ended the war, and I think that it couldn't be helped," Kyuma said in a speech at a university in Chiba, just east of Tokyo.

People's Daily, 1 July 2007

Japanese defense minister apologizes over atomic bombing comments

Japanese Defense Minister Fumio Kyuma apologized Sunday over controversial comments he made Saturday saying that atomic bombing near the end of World War II "could not be helped."

Daily Yomiuri, 1 July 2007

Abe: No plans to seek US apology over atomic bombings of Japan

TOKYO: Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said Sunday he has no plans to seek an apology from the United States over the atomic bombings of Japan during World War II.

The New York Times, 1 July 2007

Bush to Ask Putin's Help In Pressuring Iran

KENNEBUNKPORT: President George W. Bush will seek Russian President Vladimir Putin's support for wider sanctions against Iran over its nuclear program, during weekend talks in Maine where Bush hopes to rekindle a friendship with the Russian leader.

Daily Times, 1 July 2007

IAEA team to visit Iran on July 11

TEHRAN: A team from the UN nuclear watchdog will visit Iran on July 11-13 to discuss how to resolve questions about Tehran's disputed nuclear activities, an Iranian official was quoted as saying on Saturday.

Daily Yomiuri, 1 July 2007

NKorea voices concerns on Japan's participation in nuclear talks

SEOUL: North Korea voiced deep concerns Sunday over Japan's participation in six-

nation talks aimed at ending the North's nuclear weapons program after Tokyo moved to seize the headquarters of Pyongyang's de facto embassy in Japan.

The Hindu, 2 July 2007

Fissile material ban talks inch towards consensus

New Delhi: The United Nations' Conference on Disarmament ended its second session of the year in Geneva on Friday with all 65 members barring Pakistan, China and Iran indicating their willingness to begin immediate negotiations towards the conclusion of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for weapons purposes.

The Hindu, 2 July 2007

Nimitz captain: India free to conduct radiation surveys

ON BOARD THE USS NIMITZ: Late on Monday afternoon, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier of the United States Navy, the USS Nimitz, will anchor off an Indian port for the first time, amid apprehensions of radiation safety and protests by Left parties.

The Hindu, 2 July 2007

"Nimitz coming on India's invitation"

New Delhi: The United States on Sunday said its aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, whose arrival in Chennai is being objected to by Left and other parties, was visiting India on India's invitation and sought to downplay fears over nuclear weapons on board as a "non-issue".

Deccan Herald, 2 July 2007

Indian scientists designing thorium reactor

Bangalore: A team of scientists at a premier Indian nuclear facility has made a theoretical design of an innovative reactor that can run on thorium "available in abundance in the country" and will eventually do away with the need for uranium. But the success of the project largely depends on the US playing ball.

The Hindu, 2 July 2007

Nimitz captain: India free to conduct radiation surveys

ON BOARD THE USS NIMITZ: Late on Monday afternoon, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier of the United States Navy, the USS Nimitz, will anchor off an Indian port for the first time, amid apprehensions of radiation safety and protests by Left parties.

The Indian Express, 2 July 2007

Hypocrisy is an N-letter word

The outrage over Nimitz highlights our chattering class's self-serving obfuscation on nuclear issues. These talks about inscrutable talks People who live in glass houses should not be throwing stones.

The New York Times, 2 July 2007

Pakistan Loosens Some Restrictions on Disgraced Nuclear Scientist

ISLAMABAD July 2: Pakistan has eased some restrictions on the disgraced scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan, the developer of the country's nuclear bomb, who confessed to

having run an illicit global nuclear-proliferation network, officials and news media reports said Monday.

Daily Times, 3 July 2007

Dr Khan still under house arrest

ISLAMABAD: Nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan said Monday that he remains under house arrest but that he hopes the authorities will ease the restrictions.

Hindustan Times, 3 July 2007

USS Nimitz sails into Chennai

Chennai, July 03: Unmindful of sporadic protests in Chennai, the American nuclear-powered aircraft carrier USS Nimitz sailed into Indian waters and laid anchor 3 kms away from the Chennai harbour on Monday.

The Times of India, 3 July 2007

Nuclear Bluster

The purveyors of selective indignation have struck again. This time their cause celebre is the USS Nimitz, a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier docking two nautical miles off Chennai for three days.

Asia Times, 3 July 2007

Disarming the nuclear genie

Some said Kim Jong-il was crazy. Others declared that he was canny. When the North Korean leader pushed his country through the door of the nuclear club last October with the explosion of an atomic device of unknown size and technical capability, he certainly shook up the international community.

The Washington Post, 3 July 2007

N. Korea puts new demand, may delay nuclear shutdown

WASHINGTON: North Korea has said it wants to get promised shipments of oil before shutting down its Yongbyon nuclear reactor, delaying again a key obligation under a February nuclear agreement, U.S. officials said on Monday.

The Hindu, 3 July 2007

Spain reveals nuclear contaminated land

Madrid: The year was 1966, the height of the Cold War and the final years of the Franco dictatorship, when an American B-52 bomber carrying four thermonuclear bombs collided with a supply plane above the village of Palomares in south-eastern Spain.

Asia Times, 4 July 2007

US naval call gives India sinking feeling

NEW DELHI: The port call of a US nuclear-powered aircraft carrier to Chennai in southern India has provoked strong protests from a spectrum of political parties, trade unions, peace groups and environmentalists.

Daily Times, 4 July 2007

Scrap nukes, reduce army: Asghar

ABBOTTABAD: Air Marshal (r) Asghar Khan said on Tuesday Pakistan should scrap its nuclear weapons and reduce its army strength to achieve domestic progress and peace with its neighbours.

The New York Times, 4 July 2007

North Korea: Hints of Nuclear Cooperation

In rare remarks on the issue, North Korea's leader, Kim Jong-Il, indicated that he was ready to begin dismantling his country's nuclear program, China's official Xinhua news agency reported. "Recently some signs of easing on the Korean Peninsula have appeared," Kim was quoted as saying in a meeting with China's visiting foreign minister, Yang Jiechi.

The New York Times, 4 July 2007

U.S. and Russia to Cut Nuclear Arms

WASHINGTON, July 3: The United States and Russia pledged Tuesday to reduce their stockpiles of long-range nuclear arms "to the lowest possible level."

The Japan Times, 4 July 2007

Thoughtless nuclear-bomb remarks

Defense Minister Fumio Kyuma has resigned over the remark that the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the United States at the end of World War II "could not be helped." His comments on Saturday had offended Japanese people, the world's first victims of nuclear weapons.

Deccan Herald, 4 July 2007

The balancing act over Iran

Diplomatic arm-twisting on the Iranian nuclear crisis is continuing to undermine the emerging Indo-US strategic partnership. Richard Boucher, Assistant Secretary of State for South Asian Affairs, said recently: "We are unhappy with the proposed Iran-Pakistan-India \$7 billion gas pipeline project. There could be consequences for countries investing in Iran."

The Washington Post, 4 July 2007

U.S. and Russia Vow Further Cuts In Nuclear Arms

The United States and Russia vowed yesterday to keep reducing nuclear warhead stockpiles to "the lowest possible level" even after a key treaty expires in 2009, and they agreed to work together to help other countries develop civilian nuclear power without spreading weapons.

The Hindu, 5 July 2007

Nimitz sailors needed no clearance in India

CHENNAI: Sailors from the United States' nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, USS Nimitz, needed no clearance when they landed on Indian soil. No one at the Port security asked them for any special permit as they walked out of the gates of the Chennai Port Trust and interacted with the local population.

The Hindu, 5 July 2007

Between the Nimitz and the deep blue sea

In exchange for "help" in becoming a "world power" India is being called upon to do all it can to ensure the 21st century becomes the century of America in Asia. Enhancing military interoperability and access rights are the first steps in this process.

The Times of India, 5 July 2007

India to join ITER to boost nuclear fusion technology

NEW DELHI: With an aim of boosting its capabilities in nuclear fusion technology, India on Thursday decided to join the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project at an estimated cost of Rs 2500 crore.

Deccan Herald, 5 July 2007

N-deal almost final: US

New Delhi: India and the United States are "nearing the end" of civil nuclear negotiations as they get ready for another round of talks on a bilateral civil nuclear cooperation pact on July 16, US envoy David C Mulford said here on Wednesday.

Deccan Herald, 5 July 2007

Is the Indo-US N-deal dead?

Much like the philosophy in the slogan, the King is dead - long live the King, wherein the death of the incumbent king does not mean the end of the monarchy, similarly an inglorious death of the US - India civil nuclear deal will not mean the end of US - India relations.

Deccan Herald, 5 July 2007

Japan, US to hold first joint missile defence drill

Tokyo: The exercise, which will follow Japan's scheduled launch of an Aegis radar-equipped destroyer carrying interceptor missiles in December, is expected to be conducted in the Sea of Japan using a scenario of a North Korean missile attack.

The Japan Times, 5 July 2007

Koike takes defense helm, condemns '45 A-bombings

Newly appointed Defense Minister Yuriko Koike pledged Wednesday to further strengthen the Japan-U.S. military alliance but also denounced the 1945 U.S. atomic bombings of Japan as "unacceptable from a humanitarian viewpoint."

The Times of India, 6 July 2007

India ready to break 123 logjam

NEW DELHI: As national security adviser M K Narayanan prepares to take charge of the nuclear brief, India will present more proposals to US to break the deadlock on the 123 agreement when the two sides resume talks in Washington on July 16. Narayanan and foreign secretary Shiv Shankar Menon will travel with a set of new proposals that will address US' proliferation and other concerns that has held up agreement on the 123 text.

The Hindu, 6 July 2007

ITER project: Cabinet clears participation

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Thursday formally approved India's participation in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project, which aims at demonstrating the scientific and technical feasibility of producing energy by nuclear fusion. India is among the few countries participating in the futuristic project.

Hindustan Times, 6 July 2007

Minister told to stay off Nimitz

The way the government handled the USS Nimitz's arrival in Chennai amid protests from a section of the Opposition and the Left said a lot about pursuing a foreign policy issue on which national consensus has proved elusive. However, the Ministry of Defence recognised the value of its growing strategic ties with the US by not distancing itself entirely from the Nimitz.

The Hindu, 6 July 2007

Nuclear future "is a dangerous pipe dream"

A research group paper says the worldwide nuclear "renaissance" planned by the industry to provide cheap, clean power is a myth.

Daily Yomiuri, 6 July 2007

IAEA: DPRK N-facilities improved after 2002

VIENNA: North Korea had until recently been pushing ahead with upgrades to its nuclear facilities, according to a report made by International Atomic Energy Agency Deputy Director Olli Heinonen, who visited North Korea's Yongbyong nuclear facility last week.

The New York Times, 6 July 2007

Secrecy at Nuclear Agency Is Criticized by Lawmakers

WASHINGTON, July 5: A factory that makes uranium fuel for nuclear reactors had a spill so bad it kept the plant closed for seven months last year and became one of only three events in all of 2006 serious enough for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to include in an annual report to Congress.

The Hindu, 7 July 2007

Discuss nuclear deal in Parliament: Vajpayee

NEW DELHI: The former Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has demanded an assurance from Prime Minister Manmohan Singh that no Indo-United States agreement on nuclear cooperation would take place without a thorough discussion in Parliament.

Daily Yomiuri, 7 July 2007

Missiles DPRK launched were ballistic

The government has confirmed that short-range missiles launched by North Korea into the Sea of Japan and the Yellow Sea on May 25 and June 7 were ballistic missiles, as were those launched on June 27, The Yomiuri Shimbun learned Friday.

The Tribune, 7 July 2007

Power of fusion

While tough negotiations towards bringing the Indo-US nuclear deal to fruition continue, India is on its way to consummating one of the items of the July 18, 2005 agreement between the two countries.

Hindustan Times, 7 July 2007

India, Vietnam deepen defence, nuclear ties

New Delhi, July 06: India and Vietnam have agreed to raise bilateral relations to the level of a broad-based "strategic partnership" that they believe will better enable them to deal with the evolving economic and security environment in the region.

The Times of India, 8 July 2007

Treaty to curb nuclear terrorism comes into force

UNITED NATIONS: The International Convention for Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which aims to protect nuclear power plants and nuclear reactors from terror attacks, came into force on Saturday.

The Tribune, 8 July 2007

"India not keen to join arms race"

New Delhi, July 7: Days ahead of the crucial India-US talks on the civil nuclear deal, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today said "India does not wish to engage in an arms race with anyone" and would continue to maintain the highest standards of non-proliferation controls.

The New York Times, 8 July 2007

IAEA to Send Team to N.Korea This Month: Yonhap

SEOUL: The U.N.'s nuclear agency plans to send a team to North Korea as early as next weekend and keep two staff there to supervise and verify disarmament of the North's atomic programme, Yonhap News reported on Sunday.

The Hindu, 9 July 2007

Iran, IAEA set to hold fresh talks

DUBAI: Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) are set to hold fresh talks in order to chart out a plan to defuse tensions surrounding Tehran's nuclear programme. The deputy director general for safeguards at the IAEA, Olli Heinonen, is expected to begin a three-day visit to Tehran on July 11.

The New York Times, 10 July 2007

Iran Slowing Down Uranium Enrichment Work: ElBaradei

VIENNA: Iran has slowed the expansion of its disputed uranium enrichment program, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Monday, after Western powers threatened to hit Tehran with harsher sanctions.

The New York Times, 10 July 2007

Satellite Images Suggest New Tunnels Near Iranian Nuclear Plant

WASHINGTON, July 9: Commercial satellite imagery shows Iran is building a new tunnel complex inside a mountain near a major nuclear site - a possible attempt to protect sensitive uranium enrichment activity from aerial attack, nuclear analysts said Monday.

The Washington Post, 10 July 2007

Poll: Iranians Support Nuclear Weapons

WASHINGTON: Small majorities of Iranians say their country should develop nuclear weapons and they would feel safer if Tehran possessed such arms, according to a rare public opinion poll of that nation's citizens. The poll has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The Washington Post, 10 July 2007

Italy Premier: Iran Must Not Get Weapons

JERUSALEM: Italian Premier Romano Prodi said Monday that Iran must be prevented from acquiring nuclear weapons and called on Gaza's Hamas rulers to release a captured Israeli soldier.

The Washington Post, 10 July 2007

Report: NKorea Nuclear Talks Next Week

SEOUL: International disarmament talks on North Korea's nuclear program will resume in Beijing next week, a news report said Tuesday, as the U.N. nuclear watchdog prepared to oversee Pyongyang's promised shutdown of its reactor.

Daily Yomiuri, 10 July 2007

NORTH KOREA'S NUCLEAR THREAT / Japan has 1 minute for interception decision

Thursday marked the first anniversary of North Korea's test-firing of seven ballistic missiles. In the first of two installments in this special feature of the "North Korea's Nuclear Threat" series, we examine how Japan should deal with its "threatening neighbor."

The Tribune, 11 July 2007

Caught between Big Two

Relations between Russia and the US have always been of the deepest concern to India. Its own relations with each of them have been among the foremost priorities of India's foreign policy, and its purposes are best served when the bilateral relations between the two are so good that India can pursue its own ends with each of them without causing any offence to the other.

The New York Times, 11 July 2007

A Ring Around Iran

President Vladimir Putin of Russia has made an offer that President Bush cannot refuse - not if Mr. Bush truly wants substantive international cooperation on missile defense.

BBC News, 11 July 2007

Brazil to revive nuclear project

Brazil's president has pledged to revive a long-stalled project to build the country's third nuclear reactor and also a nuclear submarine.

The New York Times, 11 July 2007

IAEA Team Likely to Arrive In North Korea July 14

SEOUL: U.N. nuclear inspectors will likely arrive in North Korea on Saturday to verify a promised shutdown of the country's nuclear reactor and source of arms-grade plutonium, the head of the IAEA said on Wednesday.

Daily Yomiuri, 11 July 2007

North Korea's nuclear threat / Unprepared Japan might panic in missile attack

The following is the second half of this special feature of the "North Korea's Nuclear Threat" series, in which we look at how Japan should deal with its threatening neighbor.

The Indian Express, 12 July 2007

Key players in Washington next week to seal N-deal

NEW DELHI, JULY 11: Looking to attain closure on the 123 civil nuclear cooperation agreement in the upcoming round of negotiations in Washington, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and US President George W Bush spoke over phone today, giving hope that both countries can firm up a bilateral agreement to coincide with the second anniversary of the landmark July 18 agreement.

The Tribune, 12 July 2007

India, Australia sign defence accord

New Delhi, July 11: India and Australia today signed an accord to enhance their defence ties years after the relations between the two countries froze following the Indian Navy's build-up in the 1980s and the subsequent Pokharan nuclear tests.

The Hindu, 12 July 2007

Iran, IAEA begin talks on nuclear issue

DUBAI: Iran and representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) have begun talks to defuse the crisis surrounding the Iranian nuclear programme. The IAEA delegation led by Olli Heinonen arrived early on Wednesday in Tehran for three-day talks.

The Hindu, 13 July 2007

Nuclear deal in "make or break" zone

New Delhi: While nobody on the Indian side expects next week's talks between India and the United States to fully remove the major obstacles standing in the way of the proposed nuclear cooperation (123) agreement, officials here say the interaction will at least provide them with a "clear understanding of the [Bush] administration's intentions."

The Indian Express, 13 July 2007

As complicated as 1, 2, 3

India has support in Moscow, London & Paris for the deal; what it does not have is endless time to stitch it up.

The Hindu, 13 July 2007

The last mile in the nuclear negotiations

A timeline that is arbitrary would only put pressure on the Indian negotiators and may lead to an agreement neither acceptable to the Indian people nor in the national interest.

The Indian Express, 13 July 2007

AQ Khan's network out of business: Boucher

Washington, July 13: The Bush administration has reiterated that the nuclear proliferation network run by Abdul Qadeer Khan is "out of business," while conceding that US officials have been unable to directly question the disgraced Pakistani scientist.

The News, 13 July 2007

Nuclear talks with Iran constructive: IAEA

TEHRAN: International Atomic Energy Agency deputy head Olli Heinonen said talks with Iran on Thursday over its nuclear drive were "constructive" and that some "important steps" were made.

The Times of India, 13 July 2007

'Dirty bomb' licence in 28 days

WASHINGTON: Undercover investigators, working for a fake firm, obtained a license to buy enough radioactive material to build a "dirty bomb", amid little scrutiny from federal regulators, according to a government report obtained on Wednesday.

The New York Times, 14 July 2007

India Seen Sticking to Guns At U.S. Nuclear Talks

NEW DELHI: India is expected to show little flexibility at negotiations with the United States this week over a controversial nuclear energy deal, officials said, amid fears the landmark pact could be running out of time.

The Tribune, 14 July 2007

New missiles cleared

New Delhi, July 13: The Cabinet Committee on Security, in a meeting presided over by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh late-last night, has cleared a Rs 10,000 crore project to develop a new generation medium range surface-to-air missiles for the Indian Air Force.

The Hindu, 14 July 2007

CPI(M) opposes Nimitz visit plan

NEW DELHI: The Communist Party of India (Marxist) on Friday opposed the proposed visit of the American nuclear-powered aircraft-carrier USS Nimitz to the Bay of Bengal in the first week of September to participate in multinational exercises.

Daily Times, 14 July 2007

Iran allows UN to inspect N-sites

VIENNA: Iran lifted its ban on visits to a nuclear facility by UN experts and will now allow them to inspect the site, the International Atomic Energy Agency said on Friday. It

also said Tehran was ready to answer key questions on past experiments that the international community fears could be linked to a weapons programme.

The Times of India, 15 July 2007

US signals readiness to resolve nuke logjam

WASHINGTON: The United States has signalled its readiness to "resolve the remaining outstanding issues" on the India-US civil nuclear deal as a team of senior Indian officials headed to Washington for critical talks on the 123 agreement.

Hindustan Times, 15 July 2007

India will not budge on spent fuel

New Delhi: India is going to stick to its stand on the key issues of reprocessing spent nuclear fuel and the creation of a strategic fuel reserve, senior Government officials said ahead of next week's talks with the US on the civilian nuclear cooperation deal.

The Indian Express, 15 July 2007

'Big US cos set for a campaign to bless N-deal'

New York, July 15: Major American companies like GE and Boeing as well as a prominent trade body are ready to launch a big lobbying campaign to persuade the Congress to bless the Indo-US civil nuclear deal as soon as any compromise between the two governments is nailed down, according to a media report.

The New York Times, 15 July 2007

North Korea Reactor Shut, U.S. Says

TOKYO: North Korea confirmed it has shut its nuclear reactor that provides the secretive state with material to make weapons-grade plutonium, China's Xinhua news agency quoted a North Korean official as saying on Sunday.

The New York Times, 15 July 2007

N. Korea Seeks Concessions From U.S.

SEOUL: North Korea said Sunday it is ready to permanently disable the nuclear reactor it just turned off if the United States lifts economic sanctions on the impoverished nation and strikes it from a list of terrorism sponsors.

The New York Times, 15 July 2007

North Korea Says U.S., Japan Hold Key to Disarming

WASHINGTON: North Korea cautioned after closing a nuclear reactor that produces weapons-grade plutonium that further disarmament progress would require the United States and Japan to end "hostile policies."

The New York Times, 15 July 2007

Inspectors Check North Korean Nuclear Reactor

United Nations inspectors checked the main North Korean nuclear complex today to verify an announcement that the weapons-making facility there had been shut down, as the United States and South Korea welcomed the North Korean move as a significant step toward dismantling the regime's nuclear weapons program.

The New York Times, 15 July 2007

Russia Suspends Arms Agreement Over U.S. Shield

MOSCOW, July 14: President Vladimir V. Putin, angered by American plans to deploy a missile shield in Eastern Europe, formally notified NATO governments on Saturday that Russia will suspend its obligations under the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty, a key cold war-era arms limitation agreement.

The Washington Post, 15 July 2007

Russia Halts Participation In Arms Pact For Europe

MOSCOW, July 14: Russia on Saturday formally suspended its participation in a conventional arms treaty dating from the last years of the Cold War that limits NATO and Russian military deployments in Europe. The Kremlin said in a statement that the 1990 pact was suspended "due to exceptional circumstances in relation to the treaty's content that affect the security of the Russian Federation and require immediate measures."

The Indian Express, 16 July 2007

N-deal: CPI says don't rush, protect India's interests

New Delhi, July 15 : Ahead of a key Indian side reaching the US for what is expected to be the closure talks on 123 agreement for finalising the nuclear deal, the CPI today said "clever formulas and tricky solutions that avoid clear answers should not be allowed to stampede the Indian Government into signing the agreement".

The Tribune, 16 July 2007

Indian core team leaves for 123 talks

New Delhi, July 15: A core Indian team, headed by National Security Advisor M. K. Narayanan, left for Washington today, for addressing the last mile problem in operationalising the Indo-US civilian nuclear cooperation agreement.

The Tribune, 16 July 2007

N-deal: Ball in US court

Washington: As a team of Indian negotiators prepares to begin crucial talks in Washington this week in the hope of clearing seemingly insurmountable hurdles in the civilian nuclear agreement, analysts say the ball is now firmly in the US court.

The Tribune, 16 July 2007

Success in N. Korea

The process for defusing the North Korean nuclear crisis in a way began with its agreeing earlier this year to undo its controversial plans to produce nuclear weapons.

The Japan Times, 16 July 2007

Japan cool to nuclear suspension by N. Korea

The government's reaction was lukewarm Sunday to North Korea's claim it has shut down its main nuclear facilities, with a senior Foreign Ministry official calling it "no more than the first step."

Daily Times, 16 July 2007

Nuclear friends in need - Teresita C Schaffer

The US and India have plenty of work to do expanding trade and ensuring security cooperation, as well as implementing agreements on high-technology and civil-nuclear cooperation. Both nations need to develop the institutions to integrate Asia and the world.

The Times of India, 17 July 2007

Nuke deal to go to White House via Pentagon

WASHINGTON: The road to finalising the US-India civilian nuclear deal now appears to pass through the portals of the Pentagon.

Hindustan Times, 17 July 2007

Reprocessing rights likely, but fuel supply a stumbling block

Ahead of key discussions in Washington between high-level Indian and American officials to resolve details of the 123 Agreement, government sources said India's concerns over the right to reprocess spent fuel were likely to be resolved.

The Economic Times, 17 July 2007

Don't lose it to low-probability concerns

Negotiations over the India-US nuclear deal enters a decisive phase in Washington this week. There are two crucial issues that need to be resolved. One is India's right to reprocess US-origin spent fuel from reactors. India has come up with an out of the box proposal, which envisages building a fully safeguarded plant to reprocess US-origin spent fuel.

Daily Times, 17 July 2007

"Pakistan's nuclear crown jewels safe in military's custody"

WASHINGTON: A Pakistani nuclear safety expert has claimed that the country's "nuclear crown jewels" are safe in the hands of the army and cannot fall under the control of extremists or terrorists.

The New York Times, 17 July 2007

Five Years Later in North Korea

North Korea's decision to shut down its plutonium-producing reactor and admit international inspectors was only the first of several steps it needs to take under the deal it made with the United States and five other countries in February. But that initial progress, confirmed officially yesterday, shows that real nonproliferation diplomacy can produce real results.

The New York Times, 17 July 2007

North Korea Talks - Now Comes The Hard Part

BEIJING: After securing the shutdown of a North Korean nuclear reactor, negotiators gathering in Beijing on Tuesday face the much harder task of coaxing Pyongyang to give up a trove of atomic secrets long guarded as vital for its survival.

The Washington Post, 17 July 2007

Earthquake Spills Water At Japanese Nuclear Plant

A small amount of water used to cool radioactive spent fuel rods at a Japanese nuclear reactor leaked into the Sea of Japan as a result of a massive earthquake that struck the country yesterday, though officials of Tokyo Electric Power insisted it posed no danger.

Hindustan Times, 17 July 2007

Tehran to persist with its nuclear activities

Tehran will remain steady in pursuing its disputed nuclear programme, and hopes that the United Nations Security Council would not sanction it for this, said the foreign ministry of Iran on Monday.

The Indian Express, 17 July 2007

Malaysia to build first nuclear monitoring facility in ASEAN

Muadzam Shah, Malaysia, July 16:: Deputy Prime Minister Najib Razak announced that Malaysia will build a nuclear monitoring facility, the first of its kind in ASEAN, at a location in Bukit Ibam near here. The RM 100-million facility will be the 16th of its kind in the world.

The Hindu, 18 July 2007

Brazil, South Africa for civil nuke cooperation with India

New Delhi, July 18: Brazil and South Africa, key members of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), on Tuesday decided to explore ways for cooperation with India in civil nuclear field through "acceptable forward-looking approaches."

The Tribune, 18 July 2007

Nuclear deal "unlikely"

Washington, July 17: An expert attached with a leading American think tank has ruled out the possibility of India and the United States finalising a significant bilateral nuclear deal, in spite of several rounds of negotiations since its signing on July 18, 2005.

Hindustan Times, 18 July 2007

India, US begin hard talks to save nuclear deal

Washington, July 17: Indian and US officials plunged into some hard negotiations to break the logjam over a few ticklish issues that have held up finalisation of the 123 agreement to implement their historic civil nuclear deal.

The Hindu, 18 July 2007

Six-party talks to focus on total de-nuclearisation

Beijing: Negotiators to the six-party talks aimed at dismantling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's (DPRK or North Korea) nuclear weapons programme arrived in Beijing on Tuesday, setting the stage for the latest round of negotiations that will officially begin on Wednesday.

The Hindu, 19 July 2007

"Nuclear deal in last lap"

New Delhi: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Wednesday characterised the India-U.S. negotiations on the civilian nuclear deal as being "in the last lap."

The Hindu, 19 July 2007

"Reprocessing, core of nuclear programme"

New Delhi: The Hyde Act passed by the U.S. Congress last December turned the July 18, 2005 Indo-U.S. nuclear agreement into a "fiction" and it was hard to see how a "123 agreement" meant to operationalise the deal would be able to reconcile these two documents, A.N. Prasad, a former Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, said here on Tuesday.

Hindustan Times, 19 July 2007

Reprocessing rights likely, but fuel supply a stumbling block

New Delhi, July 17: Ahead of key discussions in Washington between high-level Indian and American officials to resolve details of the 123 Agreement, government sources said India's concerns over the right to reprocess spent fuel were likely to be resolved.

The Washington Post, 19 July 2007

N. Korea Nuclear Talks Resume

BEIJING, July 18: Buoyed by their first success, diplomats from six nations resumed talks on North Korean nuclear disarmament Wednesday, warning that a difficult road still lies ahead despite North Korea's closure of its main nuclear reactor.

The Hindu, 19 July 2007

A new start on Iran

Last week's agreement between Iran and the International Atomic Energy Agency on a work plan for the modalities of resolving the few questions that remain about the Islamic Republic's past nuclear activities is a welcome development.

The New York Times, 20 July 2007

Japan Nuclear-Site Damage Worse Than Reported

KASHIWAZAKI, July 18: The Japanese operator of a nuclear power plant stricken by an earthquake earlier this week said Wednesday that damage was worse than previously reported and that a leak of water was 50 percent more radioactive than initially announced.

Indian Express, 20 July 2007

India's n-fuel storage gets US OK

NEW DELHI, JULY 19: India and the US have moved closer on firming up their civil nuclear bilateral cooperation agreement with Washington accepting India's proposal for a dedicated facility to store spent fuel and coming up with 'forward-looking suggestions' to break the impasse on reprocessing rights.

The Hindu, 20 July 2007

Indo-US nuke talks to continue today

Washington, July 20 (PTI): In an indication that the talks on Indo-US civil nuclear deal

has entered a decisive stage, the high-level Indian negotiating team has extended its stay and is expected to continue with its the discussions today.

People's Daily, 20 July 2007

Nuke talks end without disarmament deadline

The six-party talks on the Korean Peninsula nuclear issue ended on Friday with a schedule for the next round of negotiations, but without a disarmament deadline. Delegates attending the meeting decided to convene in early September for another round of talks and the five working groups will meet by the end of August to discuss technical details concerning the disarmament of the nuclear facilities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

New Indian Express, 20 July 2007

India, US closer to nuclear deal after Cheney's push

WASHINGTON: A high level team from India has extended its stay here by a day raising hopes that an agreement on the proposed India-US nuclear deal may be close at hand after a push by US Vice President Dick Cheney. National Security Advisor MK Narayanan and Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon are staying back to take one more crack on Friday morning at the tough issues stalling the so-called 123 agreement to implement the deal, officials confirmed hours after the two met Cheney on Thursday afternoon.

Hindustan Times, 20 July 2007

Indian officials extend stay in US for N-deal talks

In an indication that the talks on Indo-US civil nuclear deal has entered a decisive stage, the high-level Indian negotiating team has extended its stay and is expected to continue with its the discussions on Friday. Foreign Secretary Shiv Shankar Menon and his team were due to depart late on Thursday night while the leader of the delegation, National Security Adviser MK Narayanan was scheduled to leave on Friday morning. Both these departures have now been postponed.

Hindustan Times, 20 July 2007

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The Guardian, 20 July 2007

Japanese nuclear plant may be on quake fault line

The world's biggest nuclear power station faces an uncertain future after it emerged yesterday that it may lie directly above the fault line that triggered Monday's earthquake in which nine people died and more than 1,000 were injured. The Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant - the biggest in the world in terms of output capacity - shook violently when a

magnitude 6.8 earthquake struck Niigata prefecture in northern Japan on Monday morning. The plant was not designed to resist shaking caused by earthquakes of greater than magnitude 6.5.

BBC News, 20 July 2007

North Korea talks set no deadline

International envoys meeting in Beijing have failed to set a deadline for North Korea to complete nuclear disarmament. The chief US negotiator, Christopher Hill, said the envoys broadly agreed on how the next phase will be carried out. Groups of experts will meet to work out technical details for the next phase before a timeframe is endorsed.

New York Times, 20 July 2007

North Korea Talks End, Wrangling to Continue

BEIJING (Reuters) - Grinding talks to end North Korea's nuclear arms ambitions will shift to technical wrangling over disarmament steps, envoys said on Friday as they endorsed a broad plan lacking any deadline. Chinese envoy Wu Dawei, speaking after the latest round of six-party talks, announced that working groups would meet before the end of August to discuss how to press forward a disarmament deal.

Organiser, 20 July 2007

Hyde Act is a charter of slavery

As Rajiv Gandhi was misled by his advisers to believe that LTTE will be disarmed within a week, Dr Singh also appears to have been misled by his chosen advisers. Sometimes a PM should look beyond shoulders of his advisers. The point to be noted is that these hurdles are not created by the Hyde Act but were already there on US statute books before July 2005. In this background, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh was misled by his myopic advisers to believe that President Bush with his declining influence at the Capitol Hill will be able to roll back these statutory limitations on US government to allow India in black and white to reprocess and to detonate without return of US nuclear supplies.

Hindustan Times, 21 July 2007

'Substantial progress in nuclear deal talks'

India and the US on Friday night reported "substantial progress" in official level talks over the civil nuclear deal and decided to refer the issue to respective governments for "final review". In a joint statement issued after four days of intense negotiations, the two sides said they look forward to the completion of the "remaining steps and to the conclusion of the historic initiative".

New Indian Express, 21 July 2007

Breakthrough reached in Indo-US nuclear deal

WASHINGTON: India and the US on Saturday achieved a breakthrough in talks over civil nuclear deal with the two sides reaching an understanding on an agreement that will operationalise the deal but put off a formal announcement till completion of the political process. After four days of intense official level negotiations the two sides reached an understanding on a common text of 123 agreement. "We have basically finalised the text

but the document cannot be divulged," a senior Indian official told PTI.

The Hindu, 21 July 2007

Indian team extends U.S. stay

Washington: Differences over 'many' issues in the civil nuclear deal with India have been overcome and the two sides just need to go the "extra couple of feet", the U.S. said as top officials continued talks to finalise the agreement.

The Hindu, 21 July 2007

Agreement reached on 123 deal text

Washington, July 21 (PTI): India and the US today achieved a breakthrough in talks over civil nuclear deal with the two sides reaching an understanding on an agreement that will operationalise the deal but put off a formal announcement till completion of the political process.

New York Times, 21 July 2007

French-American Venture Plans New Reactors in U.S.

WASHINGTON, July 20: The French national electric utility has signed a partnership agreement to build and own nuclear plants in the United States and Canada with an American company, Constellation Energy, the two companies announced on Friday.

New York Times, 21 July 2007

N. Korea Wants Reactors for Nukes

BEIJING (AP) -- North Korea's nuclear envoy demanded Saturday that his country be given power-generating reactors as a reward for eventually dismantling its own atomic programs.

Japan Times, 21 July 2007

Nuke plant leak laid to procedural lapse

Failure to follow safety procedures was to blame for the latest leak at a nuclear power station damaged in Monday's earthquake in Niigata Prefecture, a top government official said Friday. Tokyo Electric Power Co. said radioactive material was leaking from an exhaust vent as late as Wednesday night, two days after the plant suffered a near-direct hit by Monday's quake, which killed 10 people and injured more than 1,000.

The Telegraph, 21 July 2007

Deal done but under wraps

Washington, July 20: US Vice-President Dick Cheney, the Bush administration's bouncer, took no more than two minutes to give the green light for the Washington round of negotiations on the Indo-US nuclear deal. That green light, and US secretary of state Condoleezza Rice's direct intervention on Wednesday in this week's negotiations here, helped seal the deal two years after it was announced.

Indian Express, 22 July 2007

Time for another mission

The nuclear deal has finally been brokered. But it's two years now since it was first

broached and some key players in the parleys are making way for new actors. The day the negotiators in Washington achieved the all important breakthrough for sealing the 123 agreement, Geoff Wyatt, Charge D'Affaires at the US Embassy in New Delhi, was catching a flight out of India on transfer.

BBC, 22 July 2007

N Korea seeks nuclear alternative

North Korea's envoy at talks on the country's nuclear programme has said it should be given light-water reactors as reward for axing its current programme. Such reactors cannot easily be used for making weapons-grade material, but correspondents say the demand may cause problems for the six-party talks.

New York Times, 22 July 2007

Iran: No Secret Arms Deal With Syria

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) -- Iran's foreign ministry spokesman on Sunday dismissed as a "media game" recent reports of a secret arms deal with Syria allegedly made in return for an agreement that Damascus would not hold peace talks with Israel.

Japan Times, 23 July 2007

Government to let IAEA inspect quake-hit nuke plant

The government has decided to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency to inspect the quake-hit Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear power plant, officials said Sunday. The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, under the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, has informed the IAEA of the decision, the government officials said.

Indian Express, 23 July 2007

What the World is reading

In a special report on Iran (The Revolution strikes back), the July 21 issue of THE ECONOMIST widens the canvas to ask once again a familiar question: how should the West deal with the nuclear challenge posed by Tehran? Time is short. Some American experts say Iran could have a bomb by the end of 2009. Even the more modest estimate put out by IAEA Director-General Mohammed ElBaradei gives it one between three and eight years from now.

New York Times, 23 July 2007

Japan OKs IAEA at Quake - Hit Nuke Plant

TOKYO (AP) -- Japan will allow investigators from the U.N. nuclear watchdog to inspect a nuclear power station damaged last week by a powerful earthquake in order to address international safety concerns, an official said Monday.

Khaleej Times, 23 July 2007

UN to inspect Japan radiation site

TOKYO - Japan will let UN inspectors visit its largest nuclear plant in hopes of easing international concern after an earthquake caused a radiation leak, officials said on Monday. The government has told the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) it can send a mission to the plant around 250 kilometres (150 miles) northwest of Tokyo.

Financial Times, 23 July 2007

US-India talks leave outcome of nuclear deal uncertain

The Indian and US governments are separately grappling with differences that remain over nuclear co-operation after four days of talks in Washington, which officials said had made "substantial progress" without necessarily bridging the thorniest gaps.

Hindustan Times, 23 July 2007

123 countdown to India-US nuclear deal

With the 123 agreement for civil nuclear cooperation between India and the United States finalised, Indian diplomats in Washington are preparing for the next battle to make it a done deal. Details of the accord forged amid high drama after four days of tough negotiations would be there for all to see when the document is made public in the next week or 10 days after India's Cabinet Committee on Security puts its seal of approval on it.

Indian Express, 23 July 2007

Deal is sealed

NEW DELHI, JULY 21: In a significant departure from all 123 agreements that the US has signed with other countries, India has extracted an explicit commitment in its bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement, which was finalised in Washington yesterday, that the US will not hinder the growth of India's strategic weapons programme.

China View, 24 July 2007

U.S. expects full implementation of DPRK nuclear deal in 2008

WASHINGTON, July 23 (Xinhua) -- The United States is trying to realize full implementation of an accord for denuclearization in the Korean Peninsula, top U.S. nuclear envoy Christopher Hill said here Monday. "It would be in 2008 we would really want to wrap this up," Hill told a press conference on his return from six-party talks in Beijing.

Indian Express, 24 July 2007

Big deal. Big heart?

US offered India the nuke agreement. What's India offering its smaller neighbours? That's a great power test As the atomic energy establishment signals its satisfaction with the draft 123 agreement, hammered out in Washington last week after months of nail-biting drama, there will be little political sting left in the national debate on the Indo-US nuclear deal.

Asia Times, 24 July 2007

India's US nuclear deal in last straight

NEW DELHI - A final version of the India-United States nuclear deal, called the 123 Agreement, has been sealed, though the contents of the 30-page document have not been revealed, indicating that there could still be some political space to be covered, even if the technical details seem to have been sorted out.

Hindustan Times, 24 July 2007

India and the US script nuclear deal

It went down to the wire, but after four days of intense negotiations, Indian and US officials have agreed on a text for the 123 Agreement that substantially meets Indian concerns on reprocessing spent fuel, assured nuclear fuel supplies and crucially, the right to test a nuclear device. The agreement will herald the resumption of bilateral civil nuclear collaboration after a three-decade break, after India was outlawed from the international nuclear community for its peaceful nuclear experiment in 1974.

The Hindu, 24 July 2007

N. Korea must shelve nuke programme for normal ties: US

Washington, July 24 (PTI): United States has said that normal relations with North Korea cannot come about unless Pyongyang fully addressed the nuclear issue and Washington will see whether the communist state can be removed from the list of "State Sponsors of Terrorism".

Asahi News, 24 July 2007

EDITORIAL: Fire at nuclear plants

The strong earthquake that damaged Niigata and Nagano prefectures on July 16 has exposed disturbingly poor firefighting capabilities of many nuclear facilities in Japan. The deadly earthquake caused a fire at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Plant operated by Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO). The plant's response to the fire was delayed by various factors. Alarmed by the ineptitude, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which regulates the power industry, ordered electric power companies and related firms to report on their preparedness for fires at nuclear facilities.

Reuters, 24 July 2007

Iran, IAEA set more nuclear talks on Tuesday

VIENNA (Reuters) - Iran will resume talks with the U.N. nuclear watchdog on Tuesday to clarify its atomic activity, an Iranian official said, a process diplomats say has slowed moves to adopt tougher U.N. sanctions against Tehran.

Hindustan Times, 25 July 2007

China selects US-based firm to build nuclear power plants

China on Tuesday signed deals with the US-based Westinghouse Electric Co. to build four nuclear power plants in the country and transfer core technologies for third-generation reactors. The deal between China's State Nuclear Power Technology Corp. Ltd. (SNPTC) and China National Technical Import and Export Corp and the US firm was "a great achievement in international nuclear industrial cooperation", Chinese Vice Premier Zeng Peiyan said at the signing ceremony.

Economic Times, 25 July 2007

Tougher job than 123 deal awaits PM

NEW DELHI : As part of his efforts to ensure consensus for the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh will chair a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs (CCPA) on Wednesday where he will explain details of the 123

agreement and sound out MPs from allied parties. He will also meet CPM leaders Prakash Karat and Sitaram Yechury later in the day for the same purpose.

Indian Express, 25 July 2007

'123 Agreement preserves India's right to reprocess spent fuel... should set at rest concerns of political & scientific communities'

The finalisation of the 123 Agreement between India and the United States marks the culmination of a two year intense effort to structurally transform the relationship between the two countries. Though the finer details of the agreement are still not clear, it appears that most of the outstanding issues have been resolved.

RIA Novosti, 25 July 2007

Iran's Bushehr NPP more than 90% complete - Iranian project chief -1

TEHRAN, July 24 (RIA Novosti) - The nuclear power plant being built by Russians in Bushehr, southern Iran, is more than 90% complete, Iran's official news agency IRNA quoted the Iranian project leader as saying. "The process of building the Bushehr NPP is 93.6% finished, and it will be ready to go on line after nuclear fuel is delivered from Russia," Mahmoud Jafari said.

International Herald Tribune, 25 July 2007

Earthquake stokes fears over nuclear safety in Japan

After a deadly earthquake struck northwestern Japan last week, the nation was stunned when a nuclear power plant near the earthquake's center suffered widespread damage, including minor radiation leaks, ruptured pipes, flooding and a fire that belched black smoke for more than an hour on live television.

Times of India, 25 July 2007

Iran nuclear negotiators heading to Russia for talks: Diplomat

VIENNA: Iranian nuclear negotiators were heading for Moscow for further talks on the crisis over Iran's nuclear ambitions after setting a date with UN nuclear experts for crucial inspections in Iran, diplomats said.

The Hindu, 25 July 2007

◆??U.S. knew India had no flexibility◆??

NEW DELHI: India and the United States were able to finalise the text of their nuclear cooperation agreement ◆?? also known as the 123 agreement ◆?? largely because Washington understood that the Indian side had no more flexibility and shifted gear to accommodate India ◆??s concerns, senior Indian officials told The Hindu.

The Hindu, 26 July 2007

Vajpayee meets Manmohan on nuclear deal

New Delhi, July 26 (PTI): Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today apprised his predecessor Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the salient features of the draft Indo-US nuclear cooperation agreement reached in Washington last week. Vajpayee and his party colleagues Rajnath Singh, Jaswant Singh, Yashwant Sinha, Arun Shourie and former

national security advisor Brajesh Mishra were apprised about the draft agreement when they drove down to the Prime Minister's residence here for a meeting. Earlier, they assembled at Vajpayee's residence to discuss the issue. Former deputy prime minister L K Advani did not attend the meetings as he had left for Singapore.

ABC News, 26 July 2007

India must agree to inspections before nuclear talks: Downer

Foreign Minister Alexander Downer says Australia may sell uranium to India even if it does not sign up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Treasurer Peter Costello wants federal Cabinet to exercise caution when it considers the issue in the next few weeks. Mr Downer says Australia exported uranium to France in the 1980s and early 90s, even though it had not signed up to the treaty.

The Guardian, 26 July 2007

Pakistan Tests Nuclear-Capable Missile

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) - Pakistan said it successfully test-fired a cruise missile Thursday capable of delivering nuclear warheads deep into India. The test will consolidate Pakistan's strategic capability and strengthen national security, a military statement said, without providing details.

Voice of America, 26 July 2007

N. Korean Nuclear Diplomacy Now in the Hands of Technical Experts

Diplomatic efforts to end North Korea's nuclear weapons programs are, for now, in the hands of technical experts. The working groups, as they are known, will spend next month sifting through details and definitions so they can propose the next steps in the negotiations. VOA Seoul correspondent Kurt Achin looks at their main challenges.

Voice of America, 26 July 2007

US Answers Iran's Nuclear Defiance with Call for More UN Sanctions

The State Department says Iran's continued defiance over its nuclear program should be met with more sanctions resolutions in the U.N. Security Council. VOA's Stephanie Ho reports from Washington. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack says U.S. government officials have been meeting with their international counterparts to discuss sanctions on Iran over Tehran's nuclear program.

Financial Times, 26 July 2007

Uranium falls after Japan nuclear leak

The price of uranium, the fuel of the nuclear industry, has suffered its first fall in more than four years after rising more than 10-fold. A radioactive leak at Japan's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa nuclear plant following an earthquake this month has contributed to negative sentiment, with fears that it could spark new public opposition to nuclear power.

Hindustan Times, 27 July 2007

Nuclear deal: India wants all curbs off

India, which had been bound hand and foot by Nuclear Suppliers Group guidelines prohibiting civilian nuclear commerce with NSG nations, wants "unconditional

clearance" from the 45-member group to end its international isolation.

International Herald Tribune, 27 July 2007

Nuclear power plants in Japan to improve preparedness for fire in wake of deadly quake

TOKYO: Nuclear power plants across Japan will acquire chemical fire vehicles and set up a hot line to fire stations to improve preparedness after a magnitude 6.8 earthquake in northwestern Japan severely damaged a nuclear plant in northwestern Japan, raising concerns for safety.

Hindustan Times, 27 July 2007

BJP says it is not fully convinced about pact

Can the Hyde Act enacted by the United States Congress become subservient to the 123 agreement between the Indian and US governments? Top BJP leaders, led by AB Vajpayee, had this query for Prime Minister Manmohan Singh when they met him on Thursday to discuss the just-concluded agreement as part of the civilian-nuclear deal. The PM, who met the Left leaders a day earlier, assured them the deal would not impact India's strategic programme.

People's Daily, 27 July 2007

U.S. supports France-Libya agreement on civilian nuclear power

The United States supports France's plans to build a reactor in Libya on condition that it is not at risk of proliferation, the State Department said Thursday. "We support the peaceful use of nuclear energy and nuclear energy as an alternative to hydrocarbons. But you have to do it in such a way that you are not at risk of proliferation," State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said of France's nuclear deal with Libya.

The Hindu, 27 July 2007

Australia to "negotiate" uranium sale to India

SINGAPORE: Australia on Thursday expressed its willingness to sell uranium to India under safeguards. This follows the latest accord between India and the United States on the finer points of their civil nuclear energy cooperation.

Reuters, 27 July 2007

Pakistan test fires nuclear-capable missile

ISLAMABAD (Reuters) - Pakistan successfully tested on Thursday a cruise missile capable of carrying a variety of warheads, including nuclear, a military official said. The Babur Hatf VII missile has a range of 700 km. It was last tested in March. "It was a successful test," the official said on condition of anonymity.

ABC News, 27 July 2007

Pakistan tests nuclear-capable cruise missile

The Pakistani military says the country has successfully test fired its nuclear-capable radar-dodging cruise missile. A military statement says the indigenously developed Babur (Hatf-VII) missile has a range of 700 kilometres and "near stealth" properties. The missile was last tested in March and first fired in 2005, since then its range has been

increased from 500 kilometres.

Reuters, 27 July 2007

U.N. nuclear monitors head for North Korea

BEIJING (Reuters) - International monitors arrived in Beijing on Friday on their way to North Korea, where they will keep watch over the nuclear complex at the heart of a disarmament deal.

Times of India, 28 July 2007

Keep nukes out of region: ASEAN to nuclear powers

MANILA: Southeast Asian countries want the world's leading nuclear powers to promise not to violate a treaty banning nuclear weapons in the region if they cannot formally accede to it, the countries said in a document. Foreign ministers of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) will review the decade-old treaty to find ways of better enforcing it when they gather for an annual meeting in Manila next week.

Times of India, 28 July 2007

India's offer for new facility made a difference: US

WASHINGTON: The United States has said India's willingness to commit a new state-of-the-art facility for reprocessing under IAEA safeguards was a "fundamental turning point" in the negotiations to finalise the 123 Agreement. Making it clear that the US would seek return of nuclear technology and fuel if India conducts a nuclear test, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns told reporters here on Saturday that Washington would like to see positive cooperation in the realm of civilian nuclear cooperation.

Indian Express, 28 July 2007

Indo-US N-deal deliberately vague: Report

Washington, July 28: Indo-US civil nuclear agreement does not circumvent American law but the language has been kept 'deliberately vague' so that it can be interpreted differently by the two sides, a news report has said, quoting Congressional sources who were briefed by the Bush administration officials.

The Hindu, 28 July 2007

U.S. can seek return of nuclear technology, says Nicholas Burns

Washington: The U.S. on Friday said that it reserved the right to seek return of nuclear technology and fuel if India conducted an atomic test. On the issue of so-called right of return, of course the American President under the Atomic Energy Act has the right to ask for the return of nuclear fuel and nuclear technology if there is a (nuclear) test (by India), Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns said.

The Hindu, 28 July 2007

Between the lines of Kakodkar-speak, support for the nuclear deal

New Delhi: In his own comments on the text of the recently finalised bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement with the United States, the Government's top nuclear man may

have been laconic and understated but his endorsement of the deal rang clear.

The Hindu, 28 July 2007

Nuclear deal is satisfactory, says Kakodkar

New Delhi: Fielding Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Anil Kakodkar but not the text over which its negotiators fought so hard last week, the Government on Friday officially announced that it had finalised the agreement for civil nuclear cooperation with the United States.

Times of India, 28 July 2007

Australia dismisses Pak plea for uranium supply

MELBOURNE: Australia dismissed on Friday a Pakistani plea for uranium to supply to maintain "balance of power" in South Asia, even as Canberra was considering selling the yellow cake to India after New Delhi finalises a landmark civilian nuclear deal with the United States.

The Dawn, 28 July 2007

Australia rebuffs Pakistan over uranium

SYDNEY, July 27: Australia's Foreign Minister Alexander Downer on Friday dismissed a plea from a Pakistani minister to supply uranium to his country, saying the South Asian nation did not have any nuclear power stations. Australia on Thursday said it was considering selling uranium to India after New Delhi finalises a landmark civilian nuclear deal with the United States.

ABC News, 28 July 2007

Experts dismiss concerns over French-Libyan nuclear deal

France has come under fire over its plans to build a reactor in Libya, but proliferation experts have dismissed concerns that the deal is tantamount to handing Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi a nuclear bomb. An official with France's Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) has insisted that international safeguards imposed after Libya scrapped its military nuclear program will prevent any proliferation, and other experts have agreed.

Taipei Times, 28 July 2007

France, Libya close nuclear reactor deal

NEW FRIEND: A day after Tripoli released six foreign medics, accords were signed for military-industrial cooperation, technical assistance and research cooperation. France and Libya on Wednesday inked a deal on the building of a nuclear reactor for water desalination during talks between Libyan leader Muammer Qaddafi and French President Nicolas Sarkozy, a day after the release of six foreign medics.

BBC News, 28 July 2007

Germans attack Libya nuclear deal

Libya has emerged from its pariah status in recent years. German leaders have attacked French President Nicolas Sarkozy over a deal to provide Libya with a nuclear reactor for desalinating sea water.

The Washington Post, 28 July 2007

U.S. and India Finalize Controversial Nuclear Trade Pact

After two years of controversial negotiations, the United States and India yesterday announced a deal on peaceful nuclear cooperation that allows trade in nuclear reactors, technology and fuel, permits India to reprocess nuclear fuel and opens the way for the United States to become a "reliable" supplier for India's energy program.

The Dawn, 28 July 2007

US, India finalise nuclear deal

WASHINGTON/NEW DELHI, July 27: The United States and India said on Friday that they have adopted an operating agreement for a landmark nuclear deal that apparently goes beyond terms approved by Congress. This marks another step in the continued progress that is deepening our strategic partnership with India, a vital world leader, said President George W. Bush.

The Hindu, 29 July 2007

Govt. says nuclear deal 'much better' than anticipated

New Delhi, July. 29 (PTI): The Government today insisted that the civil nuclear deal with the US was "much better" than that "anticipated" but admitted that certain Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) countries could pose some difficulties to the agreement in the 45-nation grouping.

International Herald Tribune, 29 July 2007

North Korea reaffirms commitment to end nuclear program

MANILA, Philippines: North Korea's new foreign minister reaffirmed his country's commitment on Sunday to ending its nuclear weapons program, an official said. Pak Ui Chun, however, did not specify when North Korea would disable its nuclear facilities, Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Claro Cristobal said.

The Hindu, 29 July 2007

No nuclear deal with other countries: U.S.

WASHINGTON: Stating that India was a unique case, the Bush administration has ruled out a similar civilian nuclear deal with any other country including ally Pakistan, and stressed that the very high bar of the Nuclear Suppliers Group on proliferation would prevent other nations from getting the same treatment as New Delhi.

Voice of America, 29 July 2007

N. Korean Foreign Minister Reaffirms Commitment to Nuclear Disarmament

A Philippine foreign affairs spokesman says North Korea's foreign minister has reaffirmed his country's commitment to ending its nuclear weapons program. The spokesman Claro Cristobal said North Korea's Pak Ui Chun has told his Philippine counterpart Alberto Romulo that six-nation talks on Pyongyang's nuclear disarmament have produced good progress and that his country is committed to the process.

The Hindu, 29 July 2007

Benefits outweigh risks in nuclear deal with India: US daily

Washington, July. 29 (PTI): As India and the United States announced the formalisation of the civilian nuclear agreement, a leading daily has said that Washington is betting that the benefits to the US and the world through a strategic partnership outweighs the risks to the non-proliferation regime.

Economic Times, 30 July 2007

CPI-M set to target nuclear deal

NEW DELHI: The Left parties, led by the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M), are set to be quite critical of the ruling United Progressive Alliance (UPA) when the proposed India-US nuclear deal comes up for discussion in the monsoon session of parliament. CPI-M politburo member Sitaram Yechury told the media, "When the issue comes up (for debate in parliament), we will question whether there is an unwritten agenda."

Daily Times, 30 July 2007

IAEA faces nuclear dilemma as it celebrates 50th anniversary

VIENNA: The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) celebrated its 50th anniversary on Sunday, as it continues to face the dilemma of preventing the spread of nuclear technology for military purposes while condoning it for civilian purposes.

Economic Times, 30 July 2007

123 deal: A staggering achievement

The 123 agreement, better known as the India-US nuclear deal, is indisputably Dr Manmohan Singh's finest achievement as PM. The supremely modest PM will doubtless describe it as a collective achievement but there's little doubt that the ending of India's nuclear isolation has been personally driven by Dr Singh. It is not, of course, a done deal. A section of India's strategic community will continue to unearth infractions of India's sovereignty.

Indian Express, 30 July 2007

India's nuclear summer

The challenge is to change the Indian mindset: from rebel to stakeholder in global N-order. Finally, India and the US have a bilateral document on the N-deal other than the joint statement of July 18, 2005. The landmark agreement is an important milestone towards implementing the nuclear deal and it draws hope that it will stand the test of time.

Reuters, India, 30 July 2007

Iran says U.S. is too stretched to attack it

BERLIN (Reuters) - Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki has told a German magazine that the United States has too many problems in Iraq to become involved in armed conflict with Iran. Military action is sometimes discussed in Washington as an option in trying to derail what it sees as Iran's drive to develop nuclear weapons.

Reuters, 31 July 2007

Nuclear inspectors say North Korea cooperating

BEIJING (Reuters) - North Korea has been cooperating fully with nuclear inspectors monitoring the shutdown of its key atomic complex, the U.N. team said on Tuesday. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) staff arrived in North Korea on July 14 to monitor the Yongbyon nuclear complex, which the North closed as part of a disarmament pact reached in six-country talks in February.

The Economist, 31 July 2007

Nuclear-power politics

On July 25th India's cabinet approved a newly agreed version of a long-delayed nuclear co-operation deal with the US. Overturning more than 30 years of US nuclear policy, the agreement is widely expected to form the foundation for a new strategic alliance between the world's two largest democracies. It will also boost economic ties between the two countries. Estimates of the value of the trade deals that will follow are in the tens of billions of dollars.

The Hindu, 31 July 2007

'India understands implications of nuke testing'

New Delhi, July 31 (PTI): The US on Monday said India understands the "political implications" of conducting a nuclear test and noted that New Delhi's ties with Tehran would be "very closely reviewed and scrutinised" by the American Congress members in the context of the civil nuclear deal.

Economic Times, 31 July 2007

Asean adopts SEANFWZ plan of action

MANILA: Asean has adopted the action plan for the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon Free Zone (SEANFWZ) at a meeting of the SEANFWZ Commission here. "In our efforts to secure the region from the threats of nuclear weapons, this road map sets the direction, objectives and collective actions that Asean needs to undertake to strengthen the implementation of the treaty in future," said the Philippines' Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Alberto Romulo yesterday.

Washington Post, 31 July 2007

Speed key to India-U.S. nuclear deal vote, says envoy

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - The United States is confident of getting Congressional backing for a historic but controversial nuclear pact with India, but New Delhi needs to move fast on key steps needed for the vote, Washington's envoy said on Monday.

Voice of America, 31 July 2007

Nuclear Inspectors Visit Iranian Heavy Water Plant

A team of inspectors from the United Nations nuclear agency has visited a heavy water reactor in Iran. Iranian state media reports Monday's inspection of the Arak facility took five hours. The facility will produce plutonium once it is completed.

The Telegraph, 31 July 2007

Iran opens nuclear site to UN inspectors

Iran allowed United Nations inspectors into an atomic reactor site yesterday in an attempt to fend off international sanctions over its nuclear programme. The unexpected move came after months of worsening relations between Iran and the international community over the Islamic republic's commitment to pursuing nuclear energy.