

DNA India News, 1 October 2007

India 'succumbed to US' missing meet on Iran pipeline

India 'succumbed to the US pressure' by not attending the meet finalising the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline deal, CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury has said. "India did not take part at the tripartite meeting at Teheran on September 24 to finalise the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline project, envisaging supply of natural gas via Pakistan, but for US pressure", Yechury alleged in an article in the party mouthpiece 'Ganashakti' on Monday...

New Kerala News, 1 October 2007

Indo-US deal favorable to India: Australian High Commissioner

Extending his full support to the Indo-US civilian nuclear cooperation deal, Australian High Commissioner to India John McCarthy has said the deal would help India in attaining its energy requirements. Speaking at a seminar on continuing economic integration of Asia here, McCarthy said Australia is ready to supply uranium to India, and is waiting for a nod from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in this regard....

Indo-Asian News Service, 3 October 2007

Pranab defends n-deal, growing India-US ties

Even as the communist allies of the Indian government continue to target India-US nuclear deal, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said the deal will pave the way for lifting of global technology restrictions and stressed that New Delhi's growing strategic ties with Washington will not be at the expense of a third country. Underlining the importance of nuclear energy and cutting-edge technologies for a burgeoning economy like India's, Mukherjee stressed that the nuclear deal, which is currently stuck in a political impasse between the Indian government and its Left allies, will open the doors for high technology trade not only with the US but with the world.

Reuters, 3 October 2007

U.S. streamlines high-tech export controls on India

U.S. exporters of high-tech goods with potential military uses will no longer need an individual license to sell to certain trusted Indian buyers, the U.S. Commerce Department said on Tuesday. The new "validated end-user" program recognizes the progress India has made over the past six years in developing an effective export control system, and opens the door for million of dollars of increased U.S. sales in sectors such as electronics, avionics, aerospace and life science, U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez said in a statement...

Indian Express, 3 October 2007

India to US: Your banks coming in, you need to allow ours as well

The internal security establishments over-enthusiasm in claiming that Indian financial institutions are vulnerable to terrorist groups has come back to haunt the Government: six applications from Indian banks, including SBI and ICICI seeking permission to open branches in the US, are pending with the US Treasury department. Government sources said delay in granting permission figured in a meeting between Finance Minister P.

Chidambaram and his US counterpart Henry Paulson in New York last month. In fact, Chidambaram told the US team that India would have to review its policy if Indian banks aren't allowed to open branches in the US..

Times Of India, 3 October 2007

US Under Secretary Burns optimistic on Indo-US nuclear deal

A top Bush administration official has expressed hope that the civilian nuclear deal with India will be done and that Americans, in about twenty years, would be able to look at India as being one of its two or three most important relationships in the world. "The nuclear deal is done. We hope that will happen. I think Americans might be able to say 20 years from now, India is one of our two or three most important partners in the world," Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns said in an interview....

Rediff News, 4 October 2007

Indo-US ties not dependent on N-deal: Pranab

Indo-US bilateral ties will not fall apart if the civilian nuclear deal does not move forward, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee pointed out on Wednesday. "I am afraid that I do not pin hope only on this particular arrangement (nuclear deal), because this arrangement we started talking off... during the visit of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh [Images] to the US.

Rediff News, 4 October 2007

Ties with Iran, US not related: India

Maintaining that India has the 'best' of relations with Iran, External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee has rejected suggestions that New Delhi's closeness with Tehran will impact its relationship with the US, saying its ties with one country is 'independent' of the other. "Our relationship with one country does not depend on our relationship with other countries. It is independent of that," Mukherjee said on the Charlie Rose show on PBS.

New Delhi Television, 4 October 2007

US seeks India's help on Burma

The US expectations from India on the issue of Burma seem to be building up with each passing day. After the Bush Administration, at least two powerful Congressmen, who played a key role in the passage of the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal from the House of Representatives and the Senate last year, said India needs to use its influence over the military junta to get things moving in Burma...

Times Of India, 4 October 2007

N-deal is the way forward: Pranab

The Left parties may be screaming themselves hoarse against a strategic relationship with the US but an unfazed external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee said India and the US shared deepening convergences based on "values and interests." The relationship, he said, was for "mutual benefit," denying the Left stand that India would be strategically squashed by the superpower.

The Hindu, 4 October 2007

VEU proof of enhanced trade ties between India and US'

The recently announced programme to facilitate and increase high-technology trade with India is a sign of improving economic engagement between New Delhi and the United States over the last several years, a senior Commerce Department official has said. Validated End-User (VEU) programme, which will enable US companies to capitalise business opportunities by eliminating individual license requirements on exports of US-controlled items to certain customers in India, was announced yesterday.

Rediff News, 5 October 2007

US Congress fires first salvo against 123 Agreement

On the eve of International Atomic Energy Agency's Director-General Mohammed El Baradei's visit to India next week, three influential US lawmakers have called on the Bush Administration to eliminate any ambiguity over the United States-India civilian nuclear agreement before it goes to bat for New Delhi at the Nuclear Suppliers Group. All the three lawmakers are members of the House Foreign Affairs Committee...

Rediff News, 5 October 2007

Sonia inspired UN resolution on non-violence: US lawmaker

Congressman Jim McDermott, Washington state Democrat, and co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian-Americans, October 2, took to the House floor to laud Sonia Gandhi [Images] for inspiring the UN resolution designating Mahatma Gandhi's [Images] birthday as the International Day of Non-Violence....

Indo Asian News Service, 5 October 2007

US think tank launches major new India programme

The Peterson Institute for International Economics, a leading US economic think tank, has announced a major new programme of research devoted to India, 'one of the most important emerging economies in the world'. Led by Arvind Subramanian, one of the world's leading experts on Indian economy and its role in the world economy, the new programme will, in an initial project, analyse the effects of, prospects for, and modalities for moving over time toward a free trade agreement (FTA) between India and the US...

Hindustan Times, 6 October 2007

Pro-deal NRI lobby to meet Left, BJP

A delegation of Indian-Americans, who lobbied hard in the US for the Indo-US civil nuclear deal, will hold talks later this month with the Left parties. A 10-member team of Indo-American political activists led by United States India Political Action Committee (USINPAC) will meet leaders from different parties, including the BJP, the Left parties and the Third Front. We will try and understand their position, said Robinder Sachdev, director of USINPAC....

Business Standard, 6 October 2007

US trade team to visit Pune

A high-level trade delegation from the United States will visit Pune region on October 14 and October 15 to scout for partners across a spectrum of industries and process operations. The delegation, hosted by the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce, will

comprise of representatives from industries like tool and die-casting, automotive components, lubricants, financial services and law consultancy. The delegates will also visit Nashik, Kolhapur and Aurangabad.

The Daily Star, 6 October 2007

Joint naval exercise: SEATO in new format? (Commentary by Brig. Gen. Shafaat Ahmad, ndc, psc (retd))

Australia, India, Japan, Singapore and the USA held a joint Naval Exercise in the Bay of Bengal in the first week of September 2007. Naval exercises are held around the world all around the year as part of normal defense activities by nations to train their armed forces. But this particular naval exercise has a different significance. This is probably the turning point in India's foreign and defense policies that may have very far-reaching effect on the overall global power equation.....

Times Now News Service, 6 October 2007

IAF to go for Red Flag

After Exercise Malabar, which saw ships of the Indian Navy exercise with US battleships, the Indian Air force wants to go to Red Flag - a tough air exercise in the US. However the Left in India swears by the Red Flag, they wouldn't be too happy with anything American. Staged out of the Nellis Air Force base in Nevada, United States, Red Flag is supposed to be the most realistic air combat exercise and it's held over an area about half the size of Switzerland. The fighters simulate the best tactics used by air forces the world over. Entry to the exercise is by invitation only and till now, apart from the US and NATO countries, few have been given the opportunity to participate...

Rediff News, 6 October 2007

South Asia is India's region, not that of the US: Pentagon

A senior Pentagon official has said that India is the "base of stability" in South Asia and "the United States does not want to get involved in any muddling in India's region." Brigadier General John A Toolan, Jr, of the US Marine Corps, the principal director for South and Southeast Asia at the Department of Defence, declared, "We want to work together, and that's at the heart of that stakeholder concept and that's at the heart of the whole relationship of the strategic partnership between India and the United States..."

International Reporter, 6 October 2007

Govt. firm to honor its commitment of Indo-US Nuclear Deal

External Affairs Mr. Pranab Mukherjee is learnt to have told Left leaders at the meeting of the UPA-Left committee on Indo-US civilian nuclear deal: Apparently to placate Left's concerns, a Department of Atomic Energy statement today said the DAE is not holding any formal negotiations with the IAEA for drafting the safeguards agreement and it had not received any initial draft from the agency...

New York Times, 8 October 2007

Questions About the India Deal, Finally (Editorial)

The Bush administration and the American business community have been hoping for a swift, rubber-stamp approval of their ill-conceived nuclear trade deal with India. Luckily,

some members of Congress, and some American allies, are finally asking questions. Congress was far too uncritical when it gave preliminary approval to the agreement in December. As a next step, Washington must get a change in rules from the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the main providers of so-called civilian nuclear technology around the world. All nuclear trade with India has been banned since it refused to sign the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and tested nuclear weapons.

China View News, 8 October 2007

Indian Sonia Gandhi defends India-U.S. nuclear deal

India's ruling Congress chief Sonia Gandhi Sunday issued her strongest ever comment on the Left critics of New Delhi's nuclear deal with the United States, saying those opposing the accord were enemies of development and peace. "Such elements (the critics of the deal) are not only enemies of the Congress (party), but enemies of peace and development. We should join hands to give them an appropriate answer," she told a public meeting near capital New Delhi.

The Hindu, 8 October 2007

Strategic alliance with US will hurt India: Buddhadeb

On a day External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee and CPI(M) patriarch Jyoti Basu in an apparent bid to soften their stand on Indo-US nuclear deal, West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee yesterday expressed total opposition to the strategic alliance with the US. "We are totally opposed to the strategic alliance. We have been asking the government not to go ahead with the strategic alliance. It will hurt us economically, politically and militarily," Bhattacharjee said at a public meeting of the National Federation of Postal Employees here.

The Hindu, 8 October 2007

Indo-US nuclear deal 'rather complicated'

A veteran Chinese diplomat has described the Indo-US nuclear deal as "detrimental" to global nuclear non-proliferation regime which could impact the settlement of the Korean and Iranian nuclear issues as well as the Middle East situation. "China is fully aware that India is in dire need of energy for its economic development," former Chinese Ambassador to India, Zhou Gang, told PTI here while describing the Indo-US nuclear deal as "rather complicated."

Rediff News, 8 October 2007

Indian-American developing system to detect possible terrorists

United States security officials may soon have much more than intuition to depend on to determine the answers of the questions which they pose to people every day to ferret out possible terrorists. Computer and behavioural scientists at the University of Buffalo are developing automated systems that track faces, voices, bodies and other biometrics against scientifically tested behavioural indicators to provide a numerical score of the likelihood that an individual may be about to commit a terrorist act.

India Post News, 8 October 2007

India, US agree to cooperate in development of medical tech

India and the United States agreed to enhance cooperation in development of low-cost diagnostic and therapeutic medical technologies. At the India-US Summit on Translational Health Sciences, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the US and the Department of Biotechnology issued a joint statement to expand collaborative research, particularly in the medical research cluster in the vicinity of the national capital. "The focus will be on infectious diseases, trauma, maternal and child health and chronic diseases like diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases," Roderic Pettigrew, Director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, told reporters here.

Rediff News, 8 October 2007

No rethink on N-deal, ready to sacrifice govt: Minister

A day after All India Congress Committee President Sonia Gandhi [Images] strongly defended the nuclear deal with the United States, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Sriprakash Jaiswal said that there was no going back on the 123 Agreement. He added that if necessary, the Congress was ready to sacrifice the United Progressive Alliance government. "We are even ready to sacrifice the UPA Government," the senior Congress leader told reporters in Hyderabad on Monday.

Defence News, 9 October 2007

India, U.S. to Sign C-130J Deal Soon: Indian AF Chief

India soon will finalize its plans to purchase six Hercules C-130J cargo aircraft from the U.S. Contracts will soon be signed for six Hercules C-130Js, Air Chief Marshal Fali Major, commander of the Indian air force, said in his Air Force Day address at Hindon Airport near here. Although negotiations to buy the C-130J have been underway with the U.S. for several years, this is the first time the air chief has categorically said a contract is to be signed.

The Hindu, 9 October 2007

Nuclear deal may make India an easy victim of U.S. blackmail, says CITU

The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) working committee has noted with serious concern the governments insistence on going ahead with the India-U.S. nuclear deal despite widespread opposition by the Left parties and other political forces. The opposition has come from a majority in Parliament, said a resolution passed at the end of the three-day working committee meeting that concluded here on Monday.

The Hindu, 9 October 2007

U.S. markets opened up for Indian investors

Indian investors can now own global blue chip stocks, thanks to ICICIDirect.com launching overseas trading in tie-up with the U.S.'s fourth largest clearing and broker-dealer firm, Penson Financial Services. ICICIDirect.com on Monday became the first online trading portal in India to offer buying and selling of equities listed on the U.S. stock market, following RBI's guidelines allowing individuals to remit up to \$200,000 annually in current and capital account transactions, including equities...

Rediff News, 10 October 2007

Will help India get some N-deal steps cleared: US

The United States on Wednesday said that it would support India's effort in getting some of the steps cleared for the finalisation of the India-United States civil nuclear agreement, but those steps have to be taken by India first. "There are a number of different steps that will need to be taken in order to finally conclude all aspects of this agreement. It's going to be up to the Indian government to go through some of those steps on their own," US State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said...

PressTrust of India, 10 October 2007

India-American new deputy treasurer of US state of Illinois

An Indian-American legal professional has been appointed as the Deputy Treasurer for Policy and Programmes of Illinois, making him the highest-ranking South Asian to serve the state administration. Raja Krishnamoorthi, 34, is currently a partner concentrating in commercial litigation at Kirkland and Ellis LLP, the 1,000-attorney global law firm based in Chicago...

Indo-Asian News Service, 10 October 2007

No deadline for India to conclude N-deal: US

The United States says it supports India in its efforts to complete the remaining steps to conclude their civil nuclear deal, but will leave the timing to New Delhi. Apparently mindful of the crisis facing the Indian government over opposition to the deal from its communist allies, a US official sought to downplay reports that India had not yet approached the International Atomic Energy Agency to get its nod...

Indo-Asian News Service, 10 October 2007

Himachal Pradesh invites US investment

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh has invited American entrepreneurs to set shop in his hill state that he painted as an ideal investment destination for hydro-electric power and information technology projects. With a single window clearance system the state had cleared 665 projects worth \$4.253 billion in the last few years, he told a meeting hosted here Tuesday by the US India Business Council (USIBC) representing 250 major US companies seeking to do more business with India...

The Hindu, 10 October 2007

India to formally join TAPI pipeline project next month

India will formally join the US-backed Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan gas pipeline project next month for importing natural gas from the Central Asian nation to meet its growing energy needs. Besides formally including India in the project, the Steering Committee meeting called by project sponsor ADB on November 28-29 in Islamabad would also see the four nations signing Project Heads of Agreement and a Gas Pipeline Framework Agreement, official sources said.

Business Standard, 10 October 2007

USA to open consulate in Hyderabad

To cope with the ever-increasing rush of visa seekers from India, the United States of America (USA) would open a new consulate general in Hyderabad. Disclosing this here

today, a top official of the Bush government said that one-third of the visa seekers from the southern region were from Andhra Pradesh and hence the decision to open this facility. Maura Harty, assistant secretary, Bureau of Consular Affairs, who is currently visiting India said Indians comprised one of the largest chunk of visitors to USA...

Indo-Asian News Service, 10 October 2007

Haryana CM woos American investors

Haryana Chief Minister Bhupender Singh Hooda is on his first visit to North America to invite foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's fastest growing state. He is leading a high-level delegation of state officials and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) leaders on an eight-day trip that started in New York Monday. The delegation, including Hero group chairman Brij Mohan Lall Munjal and Haryana irrigation minister Captain Ajay Singh Yadav, is scheduled to visit Washington, Los Angeles and Toronto for two days each...

Times Of India, 11 October 2007

US visa demand grew 61% in '06

NEW DELHI: The demand for US visas in India is the highest in the world, registering a growth of 61% in the last year alone, with a 55% growth just from New Delhi. More businessmen and tourists travelled to the US from India than virtually any other country, she said. "In India, our four consulates processed 725,000 visas in fiscal year 2007, an increase of 58% over 2006. More than half of these were for B-1/B-2 visas. We issued almost 80% more B-1/B-2 visas this year than last." ..

Times Of India, 11 October 2007

US wants India to sign treaty on child abduction

The United States wants India to sign a multilateral treaty on child abduction that will help tackle cases where parents' non-compatibility leads to child trauma and forcible separation from one of his or her parent - at times across continents. Citing about 45 instances in which children were allegedly forcibly brought to India from the US, American Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Maura Harty, drew the attention of Indian law ministry officials to the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction during her recent visit here.

IBN Live News, 11 October 2007

MPs attend Ivy league school to learn leadership

Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut is one of America's top Ivy League schools and this top school is for the first time, hosting a group of Indian MPs who will attend lectures on issues like Democracy and the Secular State, and Game Theory for the Politician....

India Express, 12 October 2007

Steps taken to expedite processing visa for US

Acknowledging Kolkata as an important destination for visitors from the United States, Assistant Secretary of US Bureau of Consular Affairs Maura Harty said several steps had been taken at the city's US consulate to make the visa application and processing

procedure less time-consuming and taxing. We have expanded our facility here, renovated the waiting area at the American Center, new officials are being hired and efforts are on to reduce waiting-time for visa application-related interviews, said Harty. Renovations at the American Center in Kolkata are expected to double the workspace in the next year...

Times Of India, 15 October 2007

N-deal is not on, govt will tell US soon

This is the final confirmation, if any were needed, that the UPA government has put the nuclear deal on hold in favour of keeping the government alive. Top government sources said India will soon formally tell the US that it will not be able to take the next step on the nuclear deal...

Times Of India, 15 October 2007

Kalam to deliver presentation on 'space' at Rice University

The Indian American community in Texas are eagerly awaiting the visit of former President A P J Abdul Kalam, who will deliver a presentation on "space science and technology" at Rice University in Houston on October 18. The presentation is part of Rice University President's lecture series and is co-hosted by James A Baker III Institute of Public Policy and Rice's Chao Centre for Asian Studies...

Rediff News, 15 October 2007

PM to brief Bush on N-deal developments

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh [Images] is expected to brief United States President George W Bush [Images] on the developments about the India-United States nuclear agreement in the wake of stiff opposition by the Left parties. In his telephonic conversation, Singh is likely to apprise Bush about the hurdles faced by his government in taking the next steps to operationalise the deal.

Indian Express, 16 October 2007

Difficulties in n-deal operationalisation, Singh tells Bush

Four days after he said it would be a disappointment if the Indo-US nuclear deal does not come through though he didn't think it would be the end of life, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today told President George W Bush that there were difficulties in operationalising the deal. The Prime Minister explained to President Bush that certain difficulties have arisen with respect to the operationalisation of the India-US civil nuclear cooperation agreement, stated a release issued here by Prime Minister's Office...

Sahara Samay, 16 October 2007

Mulford, Pranab discuss N-deal

US ambassador to India, called upon the External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee to discuss India's stand on the controversial nuclear deal as uncertainty loomed over the pact. Mulford is understood to have sought to know India's mind on the future of the agreement. The two held talks for around 45 minutes last night. Mukherjee is understood to have conveyed to Mulford the political compulsions the UPA government has in not going ahead with the deal for now. He, however, expressed the determination to push it through at later stage...

Bloomberg News, 16 October 2007

India's Doha Concerns Confined to Farming: Singh

India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told U.S. President George W. Bush that the South Asian country's concerns over the Doha round of trade talks are confined to agriculture. "India can by and large live with what is on the table and has concerns only on agriculture," Singh told Bush in a telephone conversation last night. "We will try to help in reaching a compromise." Singh will instruct Trade Minister Kamal Nath to work on these lines, said a release issued by the Indian government after the conversation between the two leaders....

India Infoline News Service, 16 October 2007

Bank of America injects US\$83mn to boost India operations

Bank of America announced an infusion of US\$83mn (Rs3.3bn) into its India operations. This capital injection will not only boost the capital base of the bank and further strengthen its capital adequacy ratio, but also help to position the bank for further growth in India. With this infusion, the Tier I capital of the banks India branches has now increased to US\$466mn (Rs18.51bn) and boosted its total capital base to US\$510mn (Rs20.29bn)....

Rediff News, 16 October 2007

US Inc slams Left for scuttling N-deal

The US industry majors, who invested much time and energy and money hiring one of the top lobbying firms in the country to lobby Congress to approve the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, are incensed over the Communist allies of the Indian government scuttling the agreement that has led to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh throwing in the towel. While US-India Business Council President Ron Somers was trying to be diplomatic, even while expressing his disappointment that the deal may very well be down the tubes.....

Rediff News, 16 October 2007

Don't let radical view hijack N-deal, US lawmaker to India

Influential US lawmaker Gary Ackerman, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia, has exhorted the people of India not to be "bullied," by a "radical view," that seeks to torpedo the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal. The Congressman's remarks came even as Prime Minister Manmohan Singh [Images] on Monday informed President George Bush [Images] that there were difficulties in operationalizing the deal following opposition from the Communist allies of his government....

Economic Times, 16 October 2007

US still hopeful on implementation of nuclear deal

With India virtually putting the Indo-US nuclear deal on hold in view of the Left's reservations, Washington has hoped that New Delhi would continue its efforts to implement the agreement "in a time that is appropriate for both sides". Without disclosing the details of the conversation US President George W Bush had with Prime Minister

Manmohan Singh on Monday, the State Department said the deal was "positive" and "good" for both the countries as well as for the broader efforts of non-proliferation....

Indian Express, 17 October 2007

N-deal: Mulford meets South Block officials for talks

Amid growing sense of disappointment among supporters of the nuclear deal in Washington, US Ambassador to India David Mulford on Tuesday had another round of meetings in South Block to get a clearer picture on where matters stand and the options available before both sides. It's learnt that while US is keen to conclude the deal before the Bush Administration finishes its term, there is an appreciation of India's internal political processes. After all, sources said, the US too faced its share of domestic political challenges to the deal when the Hyde Act was being debated in Capitol Hill....

Times Of India, 17 October 2007

Deal can go ahead at right time, hopes US

In spite of India virtually putting the Indo-US nuclear deal on hold in view of the Left's reservations, Washington is hopeful that New Delhi would continue its efforts to implement the agreement "in a time that is appropriate for both sides". The state department said the deal was "positive" and "good" for both the countries as well as for the broader efforts of non-proliferation. This came hours after PM Manmohan Singh, currently in Nigeria on an official visit, called up US president George W Bush to convey to him India's inability to hold safeguard negotiations with IAEA...

AFP, 17 October 2007

US says nuclear deal with India 'not dead'

The United States still thinks a landmark nuclear accord with India can be salvaged even though Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh admits facing trouble pushing the controversial agreement within his coalition government. "It's not dead," White House spokesman Tony Fratto said after Singh explained to President George W. Bush that "certain difficulties" had arisen in implementing the India-US civilian nuclear cooperation agreement.

Economic Times, 17 October 2007

US crestfallen, mystified by N-deal development

A day after India formally conveyed to the US difficulties in continuing with the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal, a disappointed US was left hoping that India would continue efforts to push through the deal. The US was clearly taken aback by the government's sudden turnaround on the deal with US ambassador to India David C Mulford frantically making rounds to South Block to understand how things went so wrong for the nuclear deal. The ambassador met with joint secretary (Americas) Gayatri I Kumar and in the last couple of days has met with external affairs minister Pranab Mukherjee and foreign secretary Shiv Shankar Menon...

CNN-IBN, 17 October 2007

Stalling of N-deal deprives US of foreign policy success

There is disappointment in Washington DC as the nuclear deal with India was

increasingly being seen as the single foreign policy success of the Bush administration. The Bush administration is very frustrated with the turn of events, says US Strategic Affairs Analyst, Robert Einhorn. Following the discontent, there's little visible on the horizon to mitigate the blunders in Iraq and Afghanistan....

Muslim World News, 17 October 2007

Pakistan says Indo-US atomic deal could fuel nuclear escalation

Voicing deep concern over the Indo-US nuclear deal and India's massive acquisition of arms, Pakistan said Tuesday that these developments could jeopardize the efforts to promote stability in South Asia and lead to fueling nuclear escalation in the region. We are equally concerned by assertions of India's right to conduct further nuclear weapons tests, Ambassador Masood Khan told the UN General Assembly's main committee, which opened its general debate on disarmament-related agenda items on Monday.

Times Of India, 18 October 2007

From Oct 27, US to allow turbans at airports

In a major relief for American Sikh community, Transportation Security Administration on Tuesday announced a new security screening policy that will be put into effect at US airports starting October 27 and apply to all religious head coverings. Under the new procedure, a Sikh traveller's turban will be accommodated during the screening process and there would be additional options to satisfy the security requirements...

Business standard, 18 October 2007

US treasury secretary to visit India

US treasury secretary, Henry M Paulson Jr is scheduled to visit India from October 29 to 30, the first visit by a US treasury secretary in nearly two years. He will be the first high-level US official to visit India after the Indo-US nuclear deal seemed heading for cold storage. Confirming the visit, a US embassy spokesperson said Paulsons agenda was still being firmed up.

Foreign Affairs, 18 October 2007

America's Strategic Opportunity With India (commentary by Nicholas Burns)

Summary: The rise of a democratic and increasingly powerful India is a positive development for U.S. interests. Rarely has the United States shared so many interests and values with a growing power as we do today with India. By reaching out to India, we have made the bet that the future lies in pluralism, democracy, and market economics. R. NICHOLAS BURNS is U.S. Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.

Daily India, 18 October 2007

Indian-American leaders to lobby India on nuclear deal

An Indian-American delegation led by the head of the U.S. India Business Alliance will travel to India this week in a bid to build support for a troubled nuclear deal between the two countries. Sanjay Puri, the president of the business group and chairman of the influential U.S. India Political Action Committee, said Indian-American business and community leaders would meet with government and opposition leaders in India who have pressured Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to back away from the deal...

India News, 19 October 2007

US conveys displeasure to India over uncertainty on Indo-US nuke

The United States is understood to have conveyed its displeasure to India over uncertainty created on the issue of Indo-US nuclear deal by issuing conflicting statements by the Indian leadership. It may be mentioned here that during the last two months, due to stiff opposition, particularly from the Left parties, the Indo-US nuke deal is facing uncertainty because of the conflicting statements emanating from the government quarters.

Rediff News, 19 October 2007

'The nuclear deal was never a fait accompli'

Notwithstanding the completion of negotiations of the bilateral 123 agreement for the civilian nuclear co-operation between the United States and India, the nuclear deal between the two countries was never a fait accompli and its consummation was contingent upon completion of provisions contained in the Henry J Hyde United States-India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act of 2006, say senior administration and Congressional officials...

Rediff News, 19 October 2007

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Sahara Samay, 19 October 2007

Govt not averse to law similar to Hyde act to allay Left concerns

the Government has indicated that it was open to enactment of a law similar to the Hyde Act to allay Left parties' concerns on safeguarding India's strategic interests in the event of operationalising the nuclear deal with the US. Highly-placed sources said the Government was open to such a suggestion but the Left parties should tell the government about it.

The Peninsula, 19 October 2007

India-US ties steady despite N-impasse: Experts

It was hardly the stuff of which a staunch US ally is made. Opposition in India to a landmark nuclear deal sparked vocal anti-Americanism from leftist parties, who said the country was in danger of becoming a US poodle. That rhetoric may be further emboldened by the government's apparent climb-down on the deal....

The Hindu, 19 October 2007

Left parties will not allow India to be junior partner of U.S., says Karat

CPI (M) general secretary Prakash Karat said here on Thursday that the Left parties were

firmly against the India-U.S. nuclear deal and would not allow India to be a junior partner of the United States. Mr. Karat told a public meeting that the deal that could hurt India on every count, would not go through so long as the Left parties were around and their support to the UPA government would last till the coalition stuck to the Common Minimum Programme.

Times of India, 22 October 2007

Nuke deal not in India's long-term interest: Study

In the backdrop of the UPA-Left talks on the controversial Indo-US nuclear deal on Monday, a study conducted by the Canada-based Simons Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Research has warned that the agreement may not be to India's advantage in the diplomatic and security arena. The study says, "The long-term danger of the Indo-US nuke deal is that American leaders may behave...."

New Delhi Television, 22 October 2007

Nuke-deal: Indian-American team to meet left leaders

A seven-member delegation of Indian Americans is in India to meet the leaders of the Left parties on their opposition to the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal. The delegation is led by Sanjay Puri, founder and chairman of the US India Political Action Committee, the Washington-based Indian-American policy advocacy group which lobbied hard for the deal at the Capitol Hill last year...

Daily News and Analysis, 22 October 2007

Brajesh Mishra says deal can be rescued

Amid growing concern that bilateral ties could be hit if the Indo-US nuclear deal is abandoned, former National Security Advisor (NSA) Brajesh Mishra has suggested that some of the opponents of the deal should do a rethink if the government addresses their concerns about the fate of India's nuclear weapons programme....

Indo Asian News Service, 22 October 2007

US turns real, braces for 'argumentative' India

With the Leftist allies blocking the nuclear deal and a vigorous argument raging in the country on this issue, the US has turned real and is bracing itself for a 'healthy but sometimes argumentative friendship with India'. 'First, it is critical that that Americans consider their future with India realistically, guarding itself against undue optimism and excessive expectations,' says US Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns in an article in Foreign Affairs

Rediff News, 23 October 2007

Don't give up on N-deal: US senator tells PM

US Senator John Cornyn, the founder and co-chair of the Friends of India Caucus in the US Senate with Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, has exhorted Prime Minister Manmohan Singh not to throw in the towel on the US-India civilian nuclear deal. Cornyn also urged Dr Singh to try and resurrect the deal from the life-support it is on now...

Rediff News, 23 October 2007

Bush administration blundered in selling N-deal: US lawmaker

Congressman Frank Pallone, the founder and former co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on India and Indian Americans, believes the Bush Administration and Congress blundered by selling the US-India civilian nuclear agreement as a nuclear and not as an energy deal. Pallone also argues that the deal was projected as a sign of the burgeoning strategic partnership between India and the US, which raised the hackles of the Leftists in the government.

Earth Times, 23 October 2007

White House confident it can get the N-deal done

Even as the Indian government put its landmark civil nuclear energy deal with the US on hold, the White House expressed confidence that it can still get it done. 'I think it's too early to express disappointment. I think we have some work to do and I think we can get it done,' White House spokesman Tony Fratto said Monday as India's ruling coalition ended another round of inconclusive talks with its communist allies opposed to the accord.

Press Trust India, 23 October 2007

US says 'too early' to express disappointment over n-deal

Amid continuing uncertainty over fate of the Indo-US nuclear deal, the US has said it is "too early" to express disappointment and held out hopes that the two sides "can get it done". White House spokesperson Tony Fratto said the Bush administration remained committed to the civil nuclear agreement despite signs that the Manmohan Singh government may balk due to opposition at home from Left parties. "We don't believe we can close the book on that yet. I think there's still some work to do. We want to work with India," he said....

Rediff News, 24 October 2007

N-deal will still go through: Burns

A top Bush administration official on Tuesday said he is not pessimistic about the developments over the Indo-US bilateral civilian nuclear cooperation agreement despite the deal being put on hold. "It is a dramatic situation over there in India, but no one said the deal is dead," said Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns while addressing the Council on Foreign Relations on Tuesday morning in New York.

Times of India, 24 October 2007

US sets year-end deadline for N-deal

In a development that underscored the lengthening odds against the nuclear deal, the Bush administration on Tuesday set a year-end deadline for the Manmohan Singh government to wrap up negotiations with IAEA and the Nuclear Suppliers Group. The reminder that the Indian government does not have an indefinite time frame to finish the pending business with IAEA and NSG came from the US undersecretary for political affairs, Nicholas Burns, and belied the claim made by the government that it had time till the middle of next year to send the deal to the US Congress...

Earth Times News, 24 October 2007

Indian Prime Minister Committed to the U.S.-India Nuclear Deal

Today Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh warmly greeted the U.S. India Political Action Committee (USINPAC) delegation, consisting of Indian-American business and community leaders led by Chairman Sanjay Puri, and thanked them for making the trip to New Delhi at this critical moment in Indo-U.S. relations. Prime Minister Singh went on to praise the work done by USINPAC on behalf of the Indian-American community and U.S.-Indian relations for the past five years, calling it their "labor of love."..

Indo Asian News Service, 24 October 2007

US official to push for a more open India

US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson embarks on a trip to India Sunday to push New Delhi for a fundamental economic shift to being more open to and compatible with the global economy. His schedule in India includes meetings with Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia and an appearance at a conference in New Delhi on India's rise as an economic power....

Daily News and Analysis, 25 October 2007

Nuke deal important part of Indo-US relationship

Expressing commitment to the Indo-US nuclear deal, the US has said the historic agreement is an important part of the bilateral relationship and is beneficial to both countries. "This agreement will bring India into the nuclear non-proliferation mainstream, providing access to technology which can help it reach its economic and environmental objectives. The US remains committed to this agreement," US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said ahead of his visit to India this week...

Times Now News Service, 25 October 2007

Nod for Indo-US military co-operation

In an announcement that is guaranteed to raise the hackles of the Left, Defence Minister A K Antony, today (October 25) has given 'in principle' clearance to military co-operation with the United States whilst the Left in turn has opposed the Red flag exercise. This essentially means that despite the Left's opposition, the Indian Airforce could now go ahead with the highly valued Red Flag exercises with the United States...

Indian Express, 25 October 2007

PM to Defence top brass: Deal about energy security, not US

While he may have said that failure of the nuclear deal does not mean the end of life, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh today again underlined that energy security holds the key to the future and this was why his government wanted to go ahead with the next step of negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG)...

India Daily, 25 October 2007

PM Manmohan Singh talks strongly about completing the nuke deal with US but in reality the deal is dead in waters till the next election

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh told US India Political Action Committee (USINPAC), who met him late on Tuesday, that the nuclear agreement was the best way

forward for India, the United States, and the world, a statement from the group said on Wednesday. But sources from New Delhi says that PM office has officially told the Left parties that Indian Government has abandoned the implementation plan of the 123 agreement with US. It is up to the next elected Government to look into the matter and do what is necessary...

Economic Times, 25 October 2007

Indo-US lobbyists meet Left, BJP on N-deal

A group of Indian American lobbyists on Wednesday met Left and BJP leaders in a bid to understand their opposition to the Indo-US civilian nuclear deal. The eight-member delegation led by chairman of US India Political Action Committee (USINPAC) Sanjay Puri met CPI leader D Raja, who explained the Left parties opposition to the deal. We wanted to genuinely understand what the objections are...

News Post India, 26 October 2007

US Hopes India Would Not Go For Iran Pipeline

The US is hoping that India would not move forward with the Iran-Pakistan-India gas pipeline project as Washington has imposed more sanctions on Tehran citing links to terrorism and weapons proliferation. 'With regard to the Iran pipeline issue... We're hoping that India won't move forward on this,' a senior official said at a briefing Thursday ahead of US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson Paulson's four-day trip to India starting Sunday....

Times of India, 26 October 2007

US to strive to make Indo-US nuke deal reality

Dismissing speculations that the Indo-US nuclear deal was "dead", the Bush administration has said that Washington will continue to work for making the landmark deal a reality. "We are still very supportive of the deal. We still would like to see it move forward, but the Indian government and the political system is engaged in a debate, and we'll see what the outcome out of that debate is," US States Department spokesman Sean McCormack said.

The Daily Telegraph, 26 October 2007

US to Advani: Your deal too

US ambassador David Mulford is believed to have reminded BJP leader L.K. Advani that the nuclear pact is your deal, too. At a meeting between the two yesterday, sources said, Mulford was critical of the role the BJP also played in stalling the nuclear deal, considering the party had started the process when it was in power. It is your deal, too, a source quoted Mulford as telling Advani...

Times of India, 26 October 2007

'Deal fiasco won't hit military ties with US'

The Left may have forced the UPA government to put the civil nuclear deal on the backburner but there are simply no full-stops as far as the expanding Indo-US military ties are concerned. Indicating the government's resolve not to succumb to the Left's demand to scale down military ties with the US, defence minister A K Antony on

Thursday declared "military interaction with US will continue" in the future....

Times of India, 26 October 2007

Q&A: 'N-deal will widen the base of Indo-US relations'

Phillips Talbot worked as India correspondent for Chicago Daily News before partition and in the early years after freedom. What do you think of the India-US nuclear deal? I believe the nuclear deal will benefit both the countries. The deal can add new dimensions to the expanding relationship between the world's two largest democracies. For the US there may be gains in access to the Indian nuclear market but the crucial impact for it, as for India, will be the widened base of their relations. Should the deal fail, both countries will suffer.

Television 18 Network, 26 October 2007

Left be left, Forces are behind Indo-US military ties

No going back on military ties with the US, and if it sends the Left into convulsions, it's just too bad - that was the message from the UPA Government on Thursday. We have military interaction with the US and that will continue, said Defence Minister A K Antony. The Government justified the stepped-up defence ties in terms of national interest and plain common sense...

The Hindu, 26 October 2007

Indo-US nuclear deal to benefit power sector: APCAC

The Indo-US civil nuclear deal, which is facing political opposition in India, would benefit the power sector in the South Asian nation and strengthen its relations with the US, Asia Pacific Council of American Chamber of Commerce (APCAC) said on Thursday. "I do not see any direct link of Indo-US deal with industrial sector or investment being made by both the nations," APCAC Chairman Landis Hicks told a press conference. He was heading a meeting of the executive board directors of the council here...

The Hindu, 26 October 2007

US hopes India not close to rejecting nuclear deal

Amid stiff opposition from the Left to the Indo-US nuclear deal, the US has hoped India was not close to rejecting the pact and said it would be a "smart" move to get it back to the Congress for final voting in January next before the presidential elections. "One message that the US is articulating very clearly to India was that this is an opportunity that doesn't come around often. They ought to take that opportunity," US Under Secretary for Political Affairs Nicholas Burns said...

Economic Times, 27 October 2007

Failure to seal N-deal significant: Expert

Terming opponents of the Indo-US nuclear deal as being unable to "grasp the magnitude" of policy change Washington was making for India, a leading expert on South Asia has said in order to end New Delhi's "nuclear pariah status", it could not avoid the "relatively modest conditions embodied in the agreement with the US". Teresita Schaffer, who heads the South Asia programme of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, also

warned.....

The Hindu, 27 October 2007

No adverse impact of nuclear deal uncertainty: US trade body

The US trade organisation, Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (APCAC), has ruled out any adverse impact of the Indo-US nuclear deal not coming through on the relationship between the two countries. Even the processes which led the two nations to the threshold of signing the agreement were major positive developments, it said. As such, APCAC, which met for the first time in India here on Thursday to deliberate on issues critical to improving bilateral economic relations....

The Hindu, 27 October 2007

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Hindustan Times, 27 October 2007

US pushes India for bolder reforms despite political risks

The US wants India to open its economy to foreign investment and move forward aggressively with reforms, despite political risks, as also work for successful conclusion of the Doha Round world trade talks. "It is in the best interest of India, the United States and the world for India to continue and even accelerate the pace of economic reforms and openness," US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said on Wednesday ahead of a trip to India next week....

The Hindu, 29 October 2007

US committed to nuclear agreement: US official

The historic agreement on civilian nuclear co-operation is an important part of Indo-US relationship which would provide India access to technology while helping it achieve its economic and environmental objectives, a top US Government official said. "The US remains committed to this agreement," Secretary to the US Treasury, Henry M Paulson, said at the US-India CEO Forum, being held here Monday. Both the countries share the challenge of ensuring secured and clean energy supply, he said...

Daily News and Analysis, 29 October 2007

Manmohan determined to end India's nuclear isolation

The Indo-US nuclear may have been put on the backburner for the time being, but it has certainly not been buried. This is the message a visiting delegation of British MPs of Indian origin got from Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Sunday. The Prime Minister gave clear signals to the team that his government was trying hard to forge a political consensus to end for good India's nuclear isolation and make the N-deal operational. He, however, did not detail how he planned to achieve the Herculean task without risking

the UPA government.

The Hindu, 29 October 2007

Nuke deal will be beneficial: Kakodkar

Defending the Indo-U.S. civil nuclear deal, Atomic Energy Commission Chairman Anil Kakodkar on Sunday said it could help in fulfilling growing energy requirements of the country. To meet growing energy needs, we must have nuclear power. The civil nuclear cooperation with the United States will be beneficial for the country, he told reporters here. Such an agreement could be implemented without affecting domestic and strategic nuclear programmes of the nation, Mr. Kakodkar said.

Times Of India, 29 October 2007

Top US official pushes N-deal with Buddha

CPM general secretary Prakash Karat may have rallied the entire party behind his stand on the Indo-US nuclear deal, but policymakers in the US are not giving up hope. US treasury secretary Henry Paulson came down to the city on Sunday to curry favour with CPM's public face and West Bengal CM Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee on the contentious deal. "The chief minister and I discussed the civil nuclear deal. The US believes it will help India meet its energy and environmental objectives"

United Press International, 30 October 2007

Paulson praises India's progress

Visiting U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson praised India's economic progress, while urging the government not to restrict the flow of capital. Speaking to Indian and U.S. business executives in India's financial capital Mumbai, the former chairman of Goldman Sachs credited the country's economic reforms for its remarkable growth, The New York Times reported Tuesday.

Money Control News, 30 October 2007

No scope for re-negotiation on nuke deal: US to India

The Centre seems to be in a spot over the Indo-US nuclear deal. While the Left parties continue to oppose it, the US has made it clear that there is no scope for re-negotiation. The US made its stand clear in a telephonic conversation between External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee and US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Monday. While the US is keen on moving ahead with the deal, US State Department spokesperson Sean McCormack says neither side has given any consideration to re-negotiating the deal so far...

Hindustan Times, 30 October 2007

Rice speaks to Mukherjee on Indo-US nuke deal

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on Monday spoke to External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee over telephone on bilateral nuclear deal as Washington ruled out renegotiation of the agreement. During the conversation, Rice conveyed to Mukherjee that the US was keen on moving ahead with the civilian nuclear deal, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said.

Gulf Times, 30 October 2007

India must liberalise markets further: US

US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson yesterday urged India's policy makers to avoid curbs on foreign investment into the financial markets as they could hurt efficiency and become ineffective. We understand that Indian officials are concerned that greater capital flows associated with a financial centre could add to inflationary pressures, destabilize domestic financial markets or add to exchange rate volatility, Paulson said at a seminar in Mumbai....

Times of India, 30 October 2007

Freezing N-deal to undermine India's credibility: Tharoor

Former UN Under Secretary General Shashi Tharoor criticised the government for putting the Indo-US nuclear deal in virtual freeze and said it will "seriously undermine" India's credibility in international arena. "When you send your negotiators out to achieve frankly what many thought was impossible to achieve and they achieve it and then we are unable to sell it in our system, it is a pretty damn indictment of the way it functions in Delhi", Tharoor said during an interactive session at the launch of his latest book here...

Times of India, 30 October 2007

Nuke issue: Advani rebuffs Kissinger

Last-ditch vigorous lobbying by the US for BJP's support on the nuclear deal ran into a stern negative reply on Monday with leader of Opposition LK Advani as well as party chief Rajnath Singh repeating their strong opposition to the agreement teetering on the brink of collapse. The BJP's "no" was forcefully articulated by Advani at a meeting with Henry Kissinger, the influential former US national security advisor who has lately turned a vocal advocate of India, here on Monday...

Times of India, 30 October 2007

India must follow processes on N-deal: US

India needs to follow its political processes to resolve internal disputes over a nuclear energy deal with the United States, US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said in New Delhi on Tuesday. Paulson said the US valued the fact that India was "a vibrant democracy" and said democratic processes needed to work for the country to come to a conclusion on the nuclear deal...

Times of India, 31 October 2007

India more important to us than Pakistan: US

United States has said that broad-based partnerships between America and India are critical and more important as compared to Pakistan, as New Delhi is growing as a potential power with global influence. "The US-India strategic potential is very, very profound," Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for South and South East Asia James Clad told online journalists and bloggers during a conference call from the Pentagon.

Rediff News, 31 October 2007

'Be prepared for Rs 38 a dollar'

As foreign fund flows have lifted the rupee to record highs against the dollar, the

commerce ministry has started telling exporters to prepare for the Indian currency rising further to 38 against the dollar by December. The strong rupee is already hurting India's exporters, with companies cutting jobs and scaling back expansions. A further appreciation may have even worse consequences for sectors like textile, infotech and automobile.

Rediff News, 31 October 2007

No word from India on N-deal last two days: US

The United States government has no high-level contact with New Delhi on the Indo-US civil nuclear agreement, after Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice spoke to her External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee on Monday. State department spokesman Sean McCormack gave this information while commenting on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's reported remark that the agreement was delayed, but not yet dead.

Zee News, 31 October 2007

US-India Business lobby seeks cooperation in Energy and Security

With the India-US civil nuclear deal stalled, a business lobby has suggested that the two countries focus on cooperation in other areas of energy security even as they work to put it back on track. "The nuclear deal represents a watershed event that would lead India out of its nuclear isolation," Sanjay Puri, president of the US-India Business Alliance (USIBA), Tuesday told a US House panel on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment....