

## NUCLEAR SOUTH ASIA CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS IN 2005

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### **DECEMBER 2005**

#### **28 December 2005**

*The News* reports that India successfully tests its nuclear-capable, short-range Dhanush ballistic missile. (*The News*, 28 December 2005)

#### **27 December 2005**

The Pakistani government classifies the control lists of goods, technologies, materials and equipment related to nuclear and biological weapons and their delivery systems, which will be subject to strict export controls. (*Dawn*, 28 December 2005)

### **OCTOBER 2005**

#### **12 October 2005**

*Daily Times* reports Pakistan and India stating that their nuclear warheads and installations were safe after the weekend's devastating earthquake which caused major casualties on both sides. (*Daily Times*, 12 October 2005)

#### **7 October 2005**

*The News* reports Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva, Ambassador Masood Khan stating in the First Committee of the General Assembly in New York that Pakistan maintains a credible minimum nuclear deterrence and will not use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states. (*The News*, 7 October 2005)

#### **5 October 2005**

India calls for total elimination of nuclear weapons in a "progressive and systematic manner" under the global and "non-discriminatory" regime to guard against further proliferation. at the UN General Assembly. (*The Tribune*, 6 October 2005)

#### **3 October 2005**

India and Pakistan signed an agreement making it obligatory for either country to notify the other at least 72 hours before testing ballistic missiles within a 40-km radius of the International Boundary and the Line of Control (LoC). (*The Hindu*, 4 October 2005)

#### **2 October 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz states that Pakistan's nuclear capability ensured peace in the South Asian region as no weak nation can guarantee peace with strong partners in any particular region. (*The News*, 3 October 2005)

### **SEPTEMBER 2005**

#### **15 September 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz states that Pakistan is against nuclear proliferation, but it recognizes that every country has a right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes under the IAEA safeguards. (*Daily Times*, 16 September 2005)

#### **9 September 2005**

The Pakistani ambassador to the United States, Jehangir Karamat, states that Pakistan should have the same access to US civilian nuclear technology that President George W Bush has proposed for India. (*The News*, 9 September 2005)

The *Daily Times* reports the US Institute for Science and International Security (ISIS) claiming that both India and Pakistan have built new centrifuge plants which could be used to enrich uranium for power plants. (*Daily Times*, 9 September 2005)

#### **8 September 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz reiterates that Pakistan would maintain minimum credible deterrence as a guarantee of peace in the region. (*Islamic Republic of Pakistan*, 9 September 2005)

## **AUGUST 2005**

### **24 August 2005**

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf confirms that disgraced nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan provided North Korea with centrifuge machines and their designs. (*The Hindu*, 25 August 2005)

### **21 August 2005**

Scientific advisor to Defence Minister, M Natarajan states that the cruise missile Hatf VII Babur test-fired by Pakistan on August 11 was subsonic and not a supersonic missile. (*Daily Times*, 22 August 2005)

### **20 August 2005**

Pakistan informs India that it intends to test ballistic missile next week in accordance to a newly minted agreement on advance notification of such tests. (*The Times of India*, 21 August 2005)

### **19 August 2005**

*Daily Times* reports a study published by the Non-proliferation Centre of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace stating that by the end 2005, Pakistan will have produced enough weapons grade uranium to manufacture 50 to 110 nuclear weapons against India's 75 to 110. (*Daily Times*, 19 August 2005)

### **15 August 2005**

Pakistan states that it carried out the first nuclear capable Ground Launched Cruise Missile (GLCM), Babur, last week in response to the testing of Brahmos cruise missile by India and to restore the "disturbed" balance. (*The Hindu*, 16 August 2005)

### **14 August 2005**

Pakistan vows to improve its nuclear and missile capabilities while asserting that the resolution of the Kashmir issue was "a must for durable peace" in South Asia. (*The Indian Express*, 15 August 2005)

### **13 August 2005**

Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee states India's indigenous guided missile programme was on schedule and progressing without glitches. (*The Indian Express*, 14 August 2005)

### **13 August 2005**

*The Hindu* reports Professor Yuri Galenovich of Russia's Institute of the Far East forecasting that the test firing of a cruise missile by Pakistan will spur the arms race in Asia and increase the risk of its nuclear arms falling into the hands of Islamic radicals. (*The Hindu*, 13 August 2005)

### **12 August 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz states that the risk of a nuclear exchange and a conventional arms race in the South Asian region would decrease if India accepted Pakistan's offer to set up a strategic restraint regime. (*Daily Times*, 13 August 2005)

### **11 August 2005**

President Pervez Musharraf states that the successful test of the indigenously built cruise missile Babur would improve the existing military balance in the region. (*Daily Times*, 12 August 2005)

Dr Samar Mubarakmand, Chairman National Engineering and Scientific Commission of Pakistan discloses that the indigenously developed first cruise missile of Pakistan Hataf-VII Babur will be in serial production by next month and the batteries of the same would be handed over to the armed forces accordingly. (*The News*, 12 August 2005)

Pakistan's Minister for Information and Broadcasting Sheikh Rashid Ahmad states that the successful firing of Cruise Missile Hatf-VII Babur is a great tribute to the Pakistani scientists for their ability and has further strengthened the country's defence. (*The News*, 12 August 2005)

The US State Department states that Pakistan's latest missile test was neither

threatening nor provocative. (*Dawn*, 12 August 2005)

### **11 August 2005**

Pakistan test fires its first cruise missile, named Babur, capable of carrying nuclear and conventional warheads, and did not give advance warning to India. (*The Hindu*, 11 August 2005)

### **8 August 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz states that Pakistan is against nuclear proliferation by any country and its nuclear programme is under a strict command and control regime. (*Dawn*, 9 August 2005)

### **6 August 2005**

India and Pakistan agrees to notify each other of ballistic missile tests in a structured format and operationalise a hotline between the Foreign Secretaries next month to prevent "misunderstandings." (*The Hindu*, 7 August 2005)

### **6 August 2005**

*Daily Times* reports the head of India's Strategic Forces Command (SFC), Air Marshal Ajit Bhavnani stating in an interview that his force had been authorised not only to control but also select the targets to be attacked and to give orders to deliver the nuclear weapons. (*Daily Times*, 6 August 2005)

### **5 August 2005**

India and Pakistan reviews the progress made so far on nuclear confidence building measures (CBMs) as both sides began their third round of two-day talks here on Friday. (*Daily Times*, 6 August 2005)

India and Pakistan holds a third round of experts-level talks on nuclear confidence-building measures (CBM) in New Delhi with extensive interaction on the issue of pre-notification agreement on missile tests. (*Dawn*, 6 August 2005)

Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman, Muhammad Naem Khan expresses hope that the ongoing nuclear confidence-building

measures talks with India would yield positive results. (*Dawn*, 6 August 2005)

## **JULY 2005**

### **31 July 2005**

*Dawn* reports the Congressional Research Service highlighting the apparent arms race between India and Pakistan as posing perhaps the most likely prospect for the future use of nuclear weapons by states. (*Dawn*, 1 August 2005)

### **26 July 2005**

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf states that it was not easy for India to implement its recently signed nuclear deal with the United States as it is difficult to separate civilian and military nuclear programmes, which is a requirement under the agreement. (*Hindustan Times*, 26 July 2005)

### **25 July 2005**

Pakistan states the the Indo-US agreement on nuclear expertise worked out during Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to Washington did not amount to recognition of New Delhi's nuclear power status. (*Hindustan Times*, 26 July 2005)

President General Pervez Musharraf declares that Pakistan's nuclear programme was moving 10 times faster than before and there was no external pressure on its leadership to roll it back. (*The Nation*, 26 July 2005)

### **23 July 2005**

President Pervez Musharraf snubs India for speculating about the effectiveness and reliability of Pakistan's command and control structure and said the country's nuclear deterrence was fully operational and continued to consolidate and strengthen with time. (*Daily Times*, 24 July 2005)

The National Command Authority (NCA) expresses 'serious concern' over the Indo-US nuclear and defence framework agreement and decided to take 'appropriate measures' to ensure the defence of the country. (*Dawn*, 24 July 2005)

### **23 July 2005**

Pakistan's President General Pervez Musharraf states that his government would take all necessary safeguards to maintain the country's nuclear deterrence capability. (*Dawn*, 23 July 2005)

### **22 July 2005**

Pakistan dismisses Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's fears that its nuclear arsenal may fall into the hands of jihadis. (*The Telegraph*, 23 July 2005)

### **21 July 2005**

Ambassador Jehangir Karamat states that India is now effectively a part of the "non-proliferation establishment". (*Daily Times*, 22 July 2005)

### **17 July 2005**

Indian and Pakistani experts are scheduled to meet August 5-6 in New Delhi for a third round of talks aimed at building trust on military issues and avoiding the possibility of an accidental nuclear war. (*Dawn*, 18 July 2005)

### **6 July 2005**

*Aljazeera* reports that Pakistan and India have decided to hold nuclear talks on August 2 and 3 in New Delhi. (*Aljazeera*, 6 July 2005)

### **2 July 2005**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh states that India is a responsible nuclear power which has declared no-first-use policy. (*The Tribune*, 3 July 2005)

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh expresses India's willingness is to work with other nations to combat any further unauthorized proliferation of nuclear weapons. (*The Hindu*, 3 July 2005)

## **JUNE 2005**

### **27 June 2005**

Indian Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee urges the United States to lift curbs on nuclear technology transfers to India imposed in the wake of India's nuclear tests in 1998. (*BBC News*, 28 June 2005)

### **2 June 2005**

Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz states that Pakistan adhered to doctrine of minimum nuclear deterrence as guarantee for its security. (*The News*, 3 June 2005)

## **MAY 2006**

### **26 May 2005**

*The Indian Express* reports US Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for non-proliferation, Andrew K. Sammel, in a statement to the 2005 review conference on NPT saying that the US wants India and Pakistan to "eventually" become non-nuclear weapon states, but recognizes that it is an impossible goal now. (*The Indian Express*, 26 May 2005)

### **23 May 2005**

President A.P.J. Abdul Kalam states that India was a responsible nuclear state and would never be a proliferator of weapons of mass destruction even though it was not a signatory to the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty. (*The Hindu*, 24 May 2005)

### **17 May 2005**

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh reassures the international community that India is a responsible nuclear power and it will not be a source of proliferation of sensitive technologies. (*The Hindu*, 18 May 2005)

### **13 May 2005**

Parliament approves the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Bill, 2005 that seeks to prevent transfer of weapons of mass destruction and their technology from India. (*The Hindu*, 14 May 2005)

### **12 May 2005**

'Prithvi' missile test-fired from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Chandipur-on-sea. (*The Hindu*, 13 May 2005)

### **4 May 2005**

Pakistan's permanent representative to UN Munir Akram states that will join the Non-Proliferation Treaty only as a recognized "nuclear weapons state". (*The News*, 4 May 2005)

**2 May 2005**

The chief of UN nuclear watchdog urges the inclusion of India and Pakistan - the three nations who are not a party to Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) - in talks on nuclear disarmament. (*Dawn*, 4 May 2005)

**2 May 2005**

Pakistan reiterates that it would not join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) as a non-nuclear weapons state. (*Daily Times*, 3 May 2005)

**APRIL 2005**

**21 April 2005**

India denies purchasing electronic equipment for its nuclear programme from Asher Karni, an Israeli middleman who was recently arrested in the United States. (*Dawn*, 22 April 2005)

**21 April 2005**

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf refuses IAEA inspectors to inspect the country's nuclear facilities. (*Dawn*, 21 April 2005)

**12 April 2005**

Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao states that Beijing's nuclear cooperation with Pakistan was fully compliant with international anti-proliferation norms and dedicated to peaceful purposes. (*The News*, 13 April 2005)

**11 April 2005**

The Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) appreciates the steps taken by Pakistan for the establishment of a Nuclear Export Regime (NER) and its commitment to nuclear non-proliferation. (*Daily Times*, 12 April 2005)

**11 April 2005**

Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG) delegation begins negotiations with Pakistan on matters about the sale and export of nuclear equipment. (*Daily Times*, 11 April 2005)

**10 April 2005**

Pakistan rejects media reports as 'malicious' and 'unfounded' that Islamabad had tried to illegally buy nuclear devices from US companies. (*Dawn*, 11 April 2005)

Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission member, Javed Iqleem, states that the country's nuclear power plants are environment-friendly and safer than other power plants in the world. (*Daily Times*, 11 April 2005)

**10 April 2005**

Experts from 44-member Nuclear Suppliers Group arrives in Pakistan. (*Daily Times*, 10 April 2005)

**8 April 2005**

US federal prosecutors investigating the smuggling of nuclear technology discloses that Humayun A. Khan, South African businessman had pleaded guilty to arranging illegal exports of American-made equipment both to Pakistan and India. (*The Indian Express*, 9 April 2005)

Dr Ishfaq Ahmed, special adviser to the prime minister on strategic programme, states that Pakistan would build more nuclear power plants after the Chashma Nuclear Power Plant Unit-2 (CHASNUPP-2) to achieve its target of generating 8,800mw by 2020. (*Dawn*, 9 April 2005)

**7 April 2005**

Japan's Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura requests Pakistani counterpart, Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri for information about Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan's links to North Korea. (*The News*, 8 April 2005)

**6 April 2005**

Chinese Prime Minister Wen Jiabao expresses readiness to cooperate with Pakistan in generating nuclear power after the completion of the second phase of the Chashma Nuclear Power project. (*Daily Times*, 7 April 2005)

**5 April 2005**

Pakistan vows to maintain both nuclear and conventional deterrence with India while launching the joint production of JF-17 fighter aircraft with China. (*The Indian Express*, 6 April 2005)

**5 April 2005**

*Hindustan Times* reports that the US wants the upcoming review conference on the NPT to reaffirm that India and Pakistan join the treaty only as non-nuclear weapon states. (*Hindustan Times*, 5 April 2005)

### **3 April 2005**

*The Times of India* quotes Pakistani weekly *Friday Times* reporting that Pakistani nuclear scientists A Q Khan and Sultan Bashiruddin Mehmood had held meetings with Osama bin Laden and other al-Qaeda leaders, exchanged letters with militant groups like Lashkar-e-Toiba and attended their gatherings and rallies. (*The Times of India*, 3 April 2005)

## **MARCH 2005**

### **31 March 2005**

The Indian Ministry of External Affairs decides to ratify the Convention on Nuclear Safety. (*The Tribune*, 1 April 2005)

Pakistan successfully test-fires short-range, nuclear-capable Hataf II, or Abdali missile. (*Daily Times*, 1 April 2005)

Pakistan and India fails to reach a consensus on missile test alerts. (*The News*, 1 April 2005)

India's Prime Minister Manmohan Singh welcomes United States offer to sell warplanes, nuclear reactors and missile systems. (*The News*, 1 April 2005)

### **31 March 2005**

*The News* reports the Pakistani Government denying any impact on Pakistan's nuclear know-how or any threat to its nuclear assets, if it shared the "contamination" of its centrifuges with the IAEA. (*The News*, 31 March 2005)

### **30 March 2005**

Ambassador Jehangir Karamat, states that the US supply of the F-16 jets to Pakistan will not alter the government's decision to have any direct access to Dr. A.Q. Khan. (*The Hindu*, 31 March 2005)

### **29 March 2005**

Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri states that "old and useless parts of outdated centrifuges" were being sent to the IAEA for inspection following a request from Iran and the UN. (*Daily Times*, 30 March 2005)

Former Defence Minister Jaswant Singh discloses that a former US Ambassador was responsible for spreading paranoia about an impending India-Pakistan nuclear war in the wake of the 1999 Kargil border conflict. (*Hindustan Times*, 30 March 2005)

### **28 March 2005**

India's External Affairs Minister, Natwar Singh proposes a "global no-first-use" of nuclear weapons agreement and moots an accord among the nuclear weapons states that they will not use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapons States. (*The Hindu*, 29 March 2005)

Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri reiterated Pakistan's stand that it would not rollback its nuclear programme claiming that the country's nuclear assets were fully protected under a "perfect" and "multi-layered" control system. (*Daily Times*, 29 March 2005)

### **27 March 2005**

The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) has decided to upgrade and expand the Pakistan Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology (Pinstech) at a cost of Rs2.5 billion. (*Dawn*, 28 March 2005)

External Affairs Minister K Natwar Singh declares that India's security has been undermined by proliferation of nuclear weapons "flowing into or emanating" from its "neighbourhood". (*The Times of India*, 28 March 2005)

### **27 March 2005**

*The News* reports Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed stating that Pakistan is not facing any nuclear threat nor are they going under any sort of nuclear crises. (*The News*, 27 March 2005)

**26 March 2005**

US declares that India and Pakistan became de facto nuclear powers when they tested their devices in May 1998. (*Dawn*, 27 March 2005)

**24 March 2005**

President Pervez Musharraf states that Pakistan is considering to send parts of nuclear centrifuges to Vienna for inspection to end the controversy on the alleged transfer of nuclear centrifuges to Iran. (*Dawn*, 25 March 2005)

Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mehmood Kasuri states that prospects of a nuclear war with India. (*Dawn*, 25 March 2005)

**23 March 2005**

*Daily Times* reports the Bhartiya Janata Party member and former External Affairs minister Yashwant Sinha suggesting the launching of a diplomatic bombardment targeting the International Atomic Energy Agency to punish Islamabad for nuclear proliferation. (*Daily Times*, 23 March 2005)

**22 March 2005**

*Daily Times* reports a *New York Times* news article stating nuclear investigators from the US and other nations believe that the black market network run by Abdul Qadeer Khan was selling not only nuclear technology and blueprints, but also engineering secrets needed to fabricate nuclear warheads. (*Daily Times*, 22 March 2005)

**21 March 2005**

Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission member (Power), Javed Iqleem states Pakistan is the second largest recipient of technical assistance from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). (*The News*, 22 March 2005)

Foreign Office spokesman, Jalil Abbas Jilani that a team of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) will visit Pakistan on April 11 and 12 to discuss matters relating to nuclear non-proliferation. (*The Hindu*, 22 March 2005)

**20 March 2005**

The Nuclear Suppliers Group scheduled to visit Pakistan early next month will not inspect facilities used for making weapons. (*Dawn*, 21 March 2005)

**19 March 2005**

Pakistan successfully test fires Shaheen- II Hatif 6 nuclear-capable missile with a range of 2,000 km. (*The News*, 19 March 2005)

**18 March 2005**

The Nuclear Suppliers Group Swedish Chairman Richard Ekwall, states that experts representing the world's top nuclear exporters will visit Pakistan next month to assess whether controls are in place to prevent illicit exports of sensitive atomic technology. (*Daily Times*, 19 March 2005)

**15 March 2005**

President Pervez Musharraf states that investigations into Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan's activities have not revealed the transfer of any nuclear material. (*Dawn*, 16 March 2005)

**16 March 2005**

The United States Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice states that US may help India build one or more nuclear power plants. (*The New York Times*, 17 March 2005)

Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesman, Jalil Abbas denies recent reports alleging illegal procurement from Pakistan's nuclear programme. (*Daily Times*, 17 March 2005)

**15 March 2005**

*Washington Times* reports the Congressional Research Service stating that neither Pakistan nor India has so far deployed nuclear warheads combined with delivery systems. (*Washington Times*, 15 March 2005)

**14 March 2005**

Information Minister Sheikh Rashid states that the international community must trust the Pakistani government's investigations into the transfer of nuclear technology to other countries. (*Daily Times*, 15 March 2005)

Foreign Office spokesman Jalil Abbas Jilani has states that Pakistan has received no request from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for samples of centrifuges and if asked, the government will not accede to it. (*Dawn*, 15 March 2005)

### **13 March 2005**

The latest congressional report on nuclear threat reduction measures for India and Pakistan suggests that the United States may have been assisting Pakistan to help protect its nuclear sites since October 2001. (*Dawn*, 14 March 2005)

### **11 March 2005**

The Pakistani Parliament plunges into disorder over the statement made by the Information and Broadcasting Minister, Shaikh Rashid Ahmad that the disgraced nuclear scientist, Abdul Qadeer Khan, had provided centrifuges to Iran. (*The Hindu*, 12 March 2005)

### **10 March 2005**

Pakistan's Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Sheikh Rashid Ahmed states that Dr Qadeer Khan had provided centrifuge to Iran in his individual capacity and the government of Pakistan had nothing to do with this. (*The News*, 11 March 2005)

### **9 March 2005**

Pakistan's former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto declares that she personally brought the blueprints from North Korea for her country's missile programme. (*The Times of India*, 10 March 2005)

### **5 March 2005**

*Daily Times* reports Arms Control Association (ACA), a Washington-based disarmament group claiming that Pakistan used the Khan network for 25 years to "obtain technology, components, and materials for its own nuclear weapons." (*Daily Times*, 5 March 2005)

### **4 March 2005**

President Gen. Pervez Musharraf states that the Iranians developed their nuclear programme through assistance from the West, not from Dr AQ Khan, the father of

Pakistan's atomic bomb. (*The News*, 5 March 2005)

### **3 March 2005**

Former Pakistani prime minister Benazir Bhutto says that she finds it hard to believe that Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan would have had indulged in nuclear smuggling to other countries. (*Daily Times*, 5 March 2005)

### **4 March 2005**

Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto states that Pakistan had a nuclear capability when she came into office in 1988, but claims that the government did not assemble the nuclear components then. (*Hindustan Times*, 4 March 2005)

### **3 March 2005**

*The News* outlines a 6,600-word report by the US based Institute for Science and International Security that support Islamabad's argument that the Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan network was not a Pakistani set-up but a gang of international smugglers that sold nuclear technology in the black market. (*The News*, 3 March 2005)

### **28 February 2005**

Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman, Masood A. Khan states that no fresh evidence from any credible source about a leakage from its nuclear programme has been received. (*Dawn*, 1 March 2005)

## **FEBRUARY 2005**

### **27 February 2005**

Pakistan rejects a report in *The Washington Post* that international investigators have produced evidence about a secret meeting between Iranian officials and associates of Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan. (*Daily Times*, 28 February 2005)

*The Washington Post* reports about a secret meeting held in Dubai in 1987 between Iranian officials and associates of Abdul Qadeer Khan's that started both Iran's nuclear efforts and Khan's black market. (*The Washington Post*, 27 February 2005)

### **23 February 2005**



Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud states that Islamabad will not let any foreigner question Abdul Qadeer Khan, the father of the country's nuclear bomb who has admitted leaking secrets to states including North Korea. (*Hindustan Times*, 24 February 2005)

#### **20 February 2005**

*The Hindu* reports that according to the National Intelligence Council and the CIA Pakistan could use nuclear weapons to counter India's larger conventional forces if a war breaks out. (*The Hindu*, 21 February 2005)

#### **20 February 2005**

*The News* reports US Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research Thomas Fingar stating that India and Pakistan have nuclear weapons and the capability to deliver them to targets in the region, but both nations are "friends of the United States and don't threaten" its territory. (*The News*, 20 February 2005)

#### **15 February 2005**

Pakistan foreign office spokesman Masood Khan describes a recent American news report citing a CIA document which alleged that Pakistani nuclear assets were not in safe hands and they were liable to be stolen as a total fabrication and that Pakistan's nuclear assets and programme were completely secured by an elaborate, viable, dependable and infallible command and control system. (*Dawn*, 16 February 2005)

*The Times of India* reports that US investigators have charged a Pakistani businessman, Saifullah Paracha, with urging al-Qaida to acquire 50 nuclear weapons for use against American troops. (*The Times of India*, 15 February 2005)

#### **14 February 2005**

CIA reports that use of stolen or purchased nuclear weapons from Pakistan by terrorists cannot be ruled out within the next 15 years. (*Dawn*, 15 February 2005)

#### **13 February 2005**

*The Sunday Telegraph* reports that Pakistan has 'admitted' for the first time that Dr A Q Khan

passed nuclear secrets and equipment to Iranian officials. (*Daily Times*, 14 February 2005)

#### **11 February 2005**

Washington offers to accept an Indian representative from the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board to spend six months with the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission for learning and exchanging information on how the reactors work and the care being taken to maintain these reactors. (*The Indian Express*, 12 February 2005)

#### **9 February 2005**

India's defense minister, Pranab Mukherjee expresses reluctance to sign deals with US arms suppliers because Washington could re-impose sanctions. (*Daily Times*, 10 February 2005)

#### **7 February 2005**

Pakistan denies that nuclear scientist Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan sold nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries after *Time* magazine reported that the United States was investigating the matter. (*Daily Times*, 8 February 2005)

Pakistan terms as "incorrect" and "unrealistic" a report in the *Time* magazine that the US is investigating whether the disgraced scientist AQ Khan sold nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries. (*Hindustan Times*, 8 February 2005)

Pakistan Foreign Office spokesman, Masood Khan, states that the so-called international nuclear black market network in the country had been dismantled and neutralized and denies US media reports about the 16 cylinders of uranium hexafluoride gas missing from the Khan Research Laboratories. (*Dawn*, 8 February 2005)

#### **6 February 2005**

*TIME* magazine reports that Pakistan's AQ Khan network sold North Korea and Iran with necessary material to build a nuclear bomb. (*Daily Times*, 7 February 2005)

#### **JANUARY 2005**

**21 January 2005:** Pakistani nuclear physicist Parvez Amirali Hoodbhoy discloses that India and Pakistan are maximising production of nuclear weapons even as they talk peace. (*The Times of India*, 22 January 2005)

**19 January 2005**

The Secretary of State designate, Condoleezza Rice, states that the U.S. is "very aware" of the danger of Pakistan's nuclear weapons falling into the hands of radicals and that Washington has a contingency plan to prevent it. (*The Hindu*, 20 January 2005)

**17 January 2005**

Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman, Masood Khan denies providing any data to the United States regarding Iran's nuclear programme. (*The News*, 18 January 2005)

**14 January 2005**

The National Engineering and Scientific Commission (NESCOM) chairman, Dr Samar Mubarakmand, announces that the newly built National Centre for Physics (NCP) will be equipped with a modern atomic accelerator and an experimental nuclear laboratory. (*Daily Times*, 15 January 2005)

**10 January 2005**

The Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission chairman, Pervez Butt states the government is considering building several nuclear power plants in the near future to meet the growing demand for electricity in Pakistan. (*Daily Times*, 11 January 2005)

**6 January 2005**

*Daily Times* reports the US State Department deputy spokesman Adam Ereli stating that it will discuss with the IAEA that detained Pakistani nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan might have supplied nuclear technology to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Syria. (*Daily Times*, 6 January 2005)

**1 January 2005**

Pakistan and India exchange lists of their nuclear installations under an agreement that prohibits the two countries attacking each other's nuclear installations. (*Daily Times*, 1 January 2005)