

Prohibition of Attack Against Nuclear Installations: India & Pakistan (Important) (Download PDF)

(February 11, 2018)

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Map of Nuclear Weapon Status 2005

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- This is the 27th consecutive exchange of such list between two countries after first list was exchanged on 1st January 1992.
- This annual exchange is conducted on 1st January between the two countries.

What is Agreement on the Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear installations?

- The exchange is part of an agreement between the two nuclear-armed neighbours meant to prevent attacks on nuclear facilities by each other.
- It is a bilateral agreement signed between India and Pakistan
- The agreement bars each other from carrying out any surprise attack (or to assist foreign power to attack) on each other's nuclear installations and facilities.
- It was signed on 31st December 1988 and entered into force on 27 January 1991.
- Both countries thus inform each other about their nuclear installations and facilities that need to be covered under the Agreement on 1 January every year.

Why the Need of Such an Agreement?

The need for the agreement was felt against the backdrop of Israel's 1981 bombing of Iraq's Osirak reactor near Baghdad. The strike, carried out by Israeli fighter jets over hostile airspace, set back the Iraq's nuclear weapons programme significantly.

How Many Nuclear Power Plants does India Have?

- India currently has 22 operating nuclear power plants, which have an installed capacity of 6,780 megawatts (MW).

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