India-US Relations: In the context of the 123 Civil Nuclear Agreement

Dr. Uday Pratap Singh
Assistant Professor, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, Iswar Saran PG College, Central University of Allahabad, Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh

Introduction

Cooperation on the nuclear issue with America will remove many technical difficulties of India and will also accelerate the pace of development. Since nuclear energy has an important place in the country’s energy security plan, the agreement made with the US will also help in removing doubts and doubts about India in the western countries. Similarly, America understands India’s technical capabilities. When the sale of supercomputers was rejected by it, India later built a supercomputer itself and included it in its space program. Looking back at history, it comes to the fore that India has never projected itself as a dominant force in the eyes of America. After getting the status of a powerful country, India has always strived for global peace and stability.

But now the question is being asked that if India conducts nuclear tests in future, can Tarapur refuse to supply fuel? In principle the answer would be yes. But the truth is that he has to go through several stages before taking such a drastic step. According to the agreement, America will first have to investigate that if the nuclear test is done in the changing geopolitical environment, then America will not have any objection. In this context reprocessing of fuels supplied for the nuclear program will also continue. Many scientists believe that India will not need to conduct nuclear tests in the future and even if it is needed, it can be done in the laboratory.

When the talks between India and America started, Islamabad requested the US to make a similar agreement with Pakistan. The US categorically rejected his appeal, saying that Pakistan is guilty of secretly providing nuclear weapons...
technology to the Islamic world, especially Iran and Libya. The US also said that Pakistan cannot compare itself with India on the nuclear issue. Over the next few years, there will be debate around the world to understand the nuances of the India-US Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement.

It is clear from the complete details of the 123 Agreement that India has not lost anything but has gained in this much-discussed agreement. Immediately after the agreement, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, while removing the immediate doubts, clearly assured the country about the agreement in the Parliament that this agreement is in the interest of the country. Initially, it was feared in the country that after the treaty in Washington, India would have to stop the nuclear weapons program. In his statement, the Prime Minister cleared many doubts and assured the country that there will be no impact on the strategic nuclear program, fuel supply from America and other sources will be ensured, fast breeder reactors will not come under the supervision of the International Atomic Energy Agency. With these conditions, the independence of the Indian nuclear program is not going to come under any threat.

Opposition to the nuclear deal was seen both outside and inside the country, during which the visit of the then President of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Al Bardei to India was also important. Taking full care of his non-political status and the dignity of office, Adebardei made public statements on the nuclear issue in the interest of India and expressed his faith in India's policy. Commenting on India's four Safeguard Agreements in the past with the International Atomic Energy Agency, he rated it as a model process.

From this it was understood that there was no major obstacle left between the nuclear energy agency and India under the 123 Agreement to finalize the deal, but in view of the heat of internal politics here regarding the nuclear deal, Bardei immediately said when they (Government of India) are ready, only then we will make an agreement with them, political dialogue is going on on this subject.

As for the nuclear energy agency chief, Bardei was one of the prominent people who vehemently advocated the July 2005 agreement. The reason for his support in favor of Bharat was also very clear. India has been harassed by the world nuclear fraternity for more than 34 years after its peaceful nuclear test in 1975 and now it is in everyone’s interest to return to this fraternity. "I want India to be a full participant in the nuclear sector in all respects," Al Bardei said in Delhi. It has its own well-developed domestic nuclear sector, which has the potential to play the role of both a supplier and a consumer of nuclear technology. As a friend of India, I want to see it harnessing nuclear energy to the fullest so that it can keep its 10 per cent growth rate as a compromise.

What the July 2005 agreement achieved towards the global nuclear fraternity and entry into the hi-tech panchayat of the twenty-first century is a matter of objective assessment without prejudice. We must understand the value of this unusual position of India in the nuclear fraternity. It is wrong to say that it will affect the sovereignty and security of India in any way. But today's reality is that India's domestic political debate over the nuclear deal has reached a point where the polarization of public opinion on the issue should be the nature of the relationship between India and the US-led rest of the world. I began to see clearly. What could have been a better opportunity for India, which was separated in nuclear matters for the last 34 years, it was definitely beneficial for India to take advantage of this opportunity by taking the right decision at the time.

Before understanding the advantages and disadvantages of the Indo-American 123 nuclear deal, the implications of this on world politics, the explanation of the controversies that have arisen in Indian politics will also be relevant. During the long process of nuclear deal, there was a lot of noise of opponents inside and outside the Parliament in the country. If India had withdrawn from the agreement, then the credibility of the lawfully elected government of the world's largest democratic country would have suffered a severe blow. As a democracy, we understand our weaknesses, but we are a country that has shown considerable resilience in the last six decades. Which is firmly entrenched as an island of people's strong will and ambitions in an ocean of authoritarian administration, political instability and politics driven by archaic ideology.
After all, we have negotiated this nuclear deal continuously for three years, during which experts and many others in this field did a detailed analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of this deal. It was clear that the retreat would have an adverse effect on India's image in the cross-border countries and also undermined the public's trust in the government within the country. Anyway, our critics believe that India's decision-making ability is weak. Withdrawing from the agreement would have further strengthened his belief.

India was going to make this agreement with the only superpower in the world, which had agreed to change not only in its foreign and security policy, but also acknowledging our strategic weapons capability (which it has been trying to prevent for the last three and a half decades), and also expressed intention to amend our laws to clear the way for partnership in the field of nuclear energy for our development. He did this because he also considers India a 'responsible country'. If we pull back from the agreed-upon agreement, for how long could New Delhi claim to be so ahead?

Failure to implement and implement this Nuclear Cooperation Agreement would have the greatest disadvantage of further increasing our energy deficit in the future, adversely affecting our economic development and poverty alleviation programmes. Any attempt to make up for this shortfall will increase our dependence on thermal power, despite knowing its environmental side effects, and will have to look to the troubled Gulf region for petroleum imports. At the same time, the need for coal will also increase.

With this, our failure to implement the Nuclear Cooperation Agreement is considered as a great victory for the self-masters of nuclear non-proliferation sitting in America and other industrialized countries, who were opposing this treaty from the beginning. It would have at least done so much harm that India's attractiveness to America would have been greatly reduced and we would not be able to remain a 'responsible nation' in its eyes, because our elected leadership would back down after three years of hard negotiations. Given the nature of global politics, there would also be a danger that the world's 'acceptance' of India's nuclear power would begin to lose support on the basis of this agreement. We should not give up on our nuclear power, but the pressure not to pursue it increases, the demand may remain that we do not conduct nuclear tests in the future.

It cannot be denied that the rejection of this agreement would send a message to the world that India wants to build a strategic partnership with China at new levels. In the past too, there has been talk of forming a triangular alliance of China-India-Russia against America and its hypocrisy. Even this may hardly serve the interests of the country and it can limit our foreign policy options by pushing us willingly or unwillingly into the increasing polarization of the world. Failure to take this agreement to its logical conclusion only adversely affects other areas of the Indo-US partnership.

All we can do at this stage is to consider some of the points of the 123 nuclear deal, which are not unanimous, especially since both countries have so much political capital invested in them. Agreement is an essential component of any decision, both for the individual and also for the nation. It is not necessary that a compromise was made, but it is important to see whether the agreement is good or bad. And there is no harm in saying that the 123 nuclear deal comes in the category of good. In the year 2008, on the occasion of Navratri, the festival of worship of Shakti at 6:19 am Thursday, October 2, 2008, India got a significant success in the field of nuclear power, when after seeing a lot of ups and downs for three years, finally the historic moment came when India with 123 On the nuclear deal, the US Senate, after resolving many controversies, voted 86 (13 votes against) in favor of the agreement and approved it, with this it was proved that India has been accepted by the world as a nuclear power and no one can support it. cannot ignore. Earlier, the US House of Representatives, the lower house of the US, approved the agreement with a majority of 298-117. After Bush's signing at the White House, on October 11, 2008, US Secretary of State Kodoliza Rice and Indian Secretary of State Pranab Mukherjee finally signed the agreement, paving the way for its practical implementation.

It is worth mentioning here that on September 30, 2008, just two days before the nuclear deal with America, there was an agreement on civil nuclear cooperation between India and France. India is definitely going to get economic
and political benefits from the agreements. By 2030, India will develop the capacity to generate 30 to 60 thousand MW of nuclear power and by 2030, there will be possibilities of new investment of $150 billion in India. India has since made similar agreements with countries like Canada, Russia, Kazakhstan, Venezuela etc. and as a result the technology prohibition system implemented against India after the Pokhran nuclear tests has been decisively lost. The immediate benefits of these agreements are beginning to emerge, now India's nuclear reactors are getting enough uranium. Importing agreements. In the future, India itself can become a nuclear supplier nation and can keep its claim of becoming a member of Group-8 (G-8) firmly.

Conclusion

America is considering India as a more important nation than Pakistan in the current world scenario, because the distance between China and America is increasing continuously in South Asia. In these circumstances, he feels the utmost need of a nuclear-powered responsible nation like India against China. At the same time, India also sees close relations with America as an option for its energy needs and uninterrupted supply of uranium. Therefore, the positive outlook created in the current Indo-US nuclear relationship is certainly a broad and important subject of study.

Reference


"China says it backs India's N-ambitions". September 6, 2008. Archived from the original on June 18, 2018.


"Asia Times Online: Middle East News, Iraq, Iran current affairs". Atimes.com. Archived from the original on December 4, 2008.