

ABSTRACT

The prime interest of the state is to protect itself. Security of the state depends upon her capability of defence. Invincible defence is maintained only by modern weapons. The discovery of nuclear power has not only included another source of energy but a change in conventional weapons. Man has developed a more lethal weapon with nuclear power, such as 'nuclear bomb. Nuclear bomb has changed the pattern of international politics. It has cautioned the world community that the use of nuclear weapon brings about horrible destruction.

After independence, security dilemma has been a significant determinant in national policies of India and Pakistan. Threat to national security galvanized India and Pakistan to divert civilian nuclear programme towards the nuclear weapon technology. The attainment of nuclear weapon by two traditional rivals has altered the gamut of regional politics. The phenomenon of power disparity in the region has been equalized. Smaller South Asian states find Pakistan as balancer of South Asia. It has also created nuclear deterrence in the region.

However, permanent sense of insecurity brings India and Pakistan toward nuclear arms race. Unconditional US nuclear deal with India has also provoked Pakistan to seek nuclear assistance from any other country like China. US-India nuclear deal expedites regional nuclear arms race. The role of extra regional countries i.e. US and China is critical. The USA and China protect their national interests in South Asia region. However, in the presence of nuclear weapons, they should not play provocative role between India and Pakistan. They should play mediating role to normalize complex relations of India and Pakistan.

Discriminatory actions of nuclear weapon states have failed to convince both India and Pakistan to cap their military nuclear programmes. In the case of nuclear disarmament, China is the main concern of India. It is justified by India that if China is ready to withdraw her nuclear weapon programme then India will sign nuclear disarmament treaties. Pakistan feels herself insecure from Indian side; therefore, Pakistan demands Indian acceptance of disarmament agreements first.