

30/8/22

12

① Should IND return to the use of nuclear weapons as major instruments of great power military strategy?

Introduction -

The recently held 10th review conference on Non-proliferation treaty concluded without any consensus left India in a critical position to review its nuclear weapon policy.

India's nuclear path :

① After nuclear test in May 1998, India announced it as a nuclear weapon country.

② Not a member of NPT due to as it favored only certain countries (US, RUSS, CHN, FRA, UK).

③ NSG was formed against India's nuclear test & heavy sanctions were imposed on India especially US.

④ The IND-US civil nuclear

deal ended India's extended conflict with the NPT sm. But this deal was heavily criticized as experts thought India sacrificing its autonomy of nuclear programme.

IND - nuclear doctrine

* ensures Credible minimum deterrence & no first use policy as it uses only for retaliation.

* 2nd strike capability

made India a responsible nuclear weapon country also it achieved nuclear triad few years ago.

Change in policy

① India's nuclear doctrine was given in 2003, so it won't cope up with current geo-political situation thus it needs immediate changes.

② Though credible minimum deterrence showcase IND as a responsible country it must shift its policy to limited deterrence therefore it could strengthen its military capabilities (eg) IND - CHN standoff in borders.

③ India should increase its stockpiling of nuclear weapons, currently equipped with 160 which is less than its hostile neighbours.

(eg.) CHN — 300 +

PAK — 165 +

④ India should increase its power generating capacity in its nuclear power station as it stuck with the capacity of barely 7,000 MW.

⑤ Revisit the 2010 Civil nuclear liability Act, which is need at the moment to raise the contribution of nuclear power on its energy mix.

⑥ Amidst growing challenge of climate change, nuclear technologies can contribute to address & mitigate climate change results in positive consequences.

Conclusion — Two

must adapt to nuclear weapon as great instrument of military power, thereby reflecting credible side of strategy & define minimum.