

DAILY TRACKER

NUCLEAR ISSUES

1. In what can be considered as a stern warning to China, India successfully test-fired Agni-5 surface-to-surface intercontinental ballistic missile that can strike targets up to 5,000 kilometers away and can strike deep into China. Soon after the Agni-5 missile test, India conducted its tenth test of heavy-duty, Smart Anti-Airfield Weapon (SAAW). This smart weapon has a range of 100 kilometers and can engage ground opponent airfield assets such as radars, bunkers, taxi tracks, and runways.

Source: <https://eurasianimes.com/india-test-its-own-super-bomb-60-years-before-russia-tsar-bom-ba/>

2. President Joe Biden said Saturday that nuclear talks with Iran would resume as he and European leaders warned Tehran that “accelerated” and “provocative nuclear steps” it has taken will jeopardize its return to compliance under a 2015 nuclear agreement. Biden and the leaders of Germany, France and Britain met as Iran continues to enrich uranium to near-weapons-grade levels. The leaders are trying to revive the 2015 deal and restore Iran’s program to where it was under the pact, which kept the Islamic republic at least one year away from the potential to field a nuclear weapon.

Source: <https://apnews.com/article/g-20-summit-joe-biden-business-france-iran-64aa2953ef23a1b201675b18997ed327>

3. The US plans to finalize the Nuclear Posture Review as soon as the end of this year. It is reported that the Biden administration is discussing whether it should put some limits on the use of nuclear weapons, such as the announcement of "no first use of nuclear weapons," or a declaration of "sole purpose" that means nuclear weapons can be used under certain circumstances, including responding to a nuclear attack.

Source: <https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202110/1237769.shtml>

NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION

1. US allies are lobbying Joe Biden not to change American policy on the use of nuclear weapons amid concern the president is considering a “no first use” declaration that could undermine

long-established deterrence strategies aimed at Russia and China. The lobbying — by treaty allies including Britain, France and Germany in Europe, and Japan and Australia in the Indo-Pacific — comes as the Biden administration is in the middle of a “nuclear posture review”, a regular inter-agency process that sets US policy on nuclear weapons.

Source: <https://www.ft.com/content/8b96a60a-759b-4972-ae89-c8ffbb36878e>

2. North Korea's foreign ministry on Sunday accused the United States of "acquiescing" in nuclear proliferation around the world based on "double standards," taking issue with the U.S.' recent submarine deal with Australia and other policy moves. The ministry made the accusations in an article, entitled "Is the U.S. really a guardian of the nuclear non-proliferation regime?," claiming that the international community is paying attention to the U.S.' "systematic" violation of the regime.

Source: <https://en.yna.co.kr/view/AEN20211031004300325>

MISSILES/BIO WEAPONS

1. The Navy received its first P15B stealth guided-missile destroyer from Mazgaon Dock Shipbuilders on Thursday, an official statement said on Saturday. The construction and delivery of this ship -- named "Visakhapatnam" -- is another testament of impetus given by the government and the Navy to the indigenous warship construction programmes, it said.

Source: <https://zeenews.india.com/india/indian-navy-receives-first-mormugao-p15b-guided-missile-destroyer-2406804.html>

2. The contract for four ships of Project 15B, as the Visakhapatnam class ships are known, was signed in January 2011. This project is a follow-on of the Kolkata class (Project 15A) destroyers commissioned in the last decade. Designed by the Directorate of Naval Design, Indian Navy's in-house design organisation, and built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, Mumbai, the four ships are christened after major cities from all four corners of the country, such as Visakhapatnam, Mormugao, Imphal and Surat.



Source: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/indian-navy-receives-first-p15b-guided-missile-destroyer-1871584-2021-10-31>

3. The first ship of the four Project-15B state-of-the-art stealth guided missile destroyers, Visakhapatnam, being built at the Mazgaon Docks Limited (MDL), was delivered to the Navy last Friday. Delayed by three years, the ships will be commissioned very soon. “The 163-metre-long warship has a full load displacement of 7,400 tonnes and a maximum speed of 30 knots. The overall indigenous content of the project is approximately 75%,” the Navy said on Sunday.

Source: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/navy-takes-delivery-of-guided-missile-destroyer-visakhapatnam/article37270547.ece>

UN REFORMS

1. Leaders of the world’s biggest economies made a compromise commitment Sunday to reach carbon neutrality “by or around mid-century” as they wrapped up a two-day summit that was laying the groundwork for the U.N. climate conference in Glasgow, Scotland. According to the final communique, the Group of 20 leaders also agreed to end public financing for coal-fired power generation abroad, but set no target for phasing out coal domestically — a clear nod to coal-dependent countries including China and India.

Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/world/2021/oct/31/g20-make-commitments-on-climate-neutrality-coal-financing-2378036.html>

2. The U.N. secretary general urged Sudan's generals on Sunday to reverse their takeover of the country, a day after a day after tens of thousands of people took part in the largest pro-democracy protest since last week's coup.

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/un-chief-to-sudan-army-reverse-coup-take-heed-of-protests/articleshow/87424221.cms>

3. The U.N. climate summit in Glasgow has formally opened, kicking off two weeks of intense diplomatic negotiations by almost 200 countries on how to tackle the common challenge of global warming.



Source: <https://www.livemint.com/news/world/2week-un-climate-summit-formally-opens-in-glasgow-11635679750277.html>