

Bangladesh

1. Location and Capability of Nuclear Facilities

Research Reactors

Operational –1 (Triga Mark II)

Power Reactors

Bangladesh has been developing efforts to construct a nuclear power reactor for some time. The IAEA is willing to provide consultancy in the installation and operation of a nuclear reactor at the Rooppur plant.

<http://www.antenna.nl/wise/455/4508.html> and <http://www.world-nuclear.org/nb/nb01/nb0134.htm>

2. Fissile Material Holdings

Waste Disposal

Bangladesh has made progress to complete its centralized radioactive waste processing and storage facility. Construction is almost completed and the facility is expected to start operation in the spring of 2004.

<http://www.iaea.org/About/Policy/GC/GC47/Documents/gc47inf-8.pdf>

3. Nuclear Activities

Research Centers

Atomic Energy Centre (AECD), Dhaka

Bangladesh's Atomic Energy Research Establishment (BAERE)

Nuclear Medicine Institute (INM)

Nuclear Medical Centers (NMC)

Beach Sand Exploration Centers (BSEC), Coxbazar

Radiation Testing Laboratory, Chittagong

Rooppur Plant at Pabna

Atomic Energy Research Establishment (AERE).

<http://www.rca.iaea.org/BGD/BAEC%20Latest%20Welcome%20Page%20.htm>

Cooperation

In November 2000, the United States and Bangladesh signed an agreement for cooperation on the peaceful (sic) use of nuclear power. Under the agreement, Bangladesh is to receive technical assistance for its planned Rooppur nuclear plant.

<http://archive.wn.com/2004/01/30/1400/bangladeshpower/>

The Technical Co-operation Department of the International Atomic Energy Agency completed several projects in Bangladesh during 2002. Within the Human Resource Development and Nuclear Technology Support project a fellow was trained in neutron and thermal analyses on the TRIGA reactor, a number of fellowships were carried out for

training on radioactive waste management, and an expert mission offered training on various clinical applications of gamma camera imaging. Other projects covered the issues of agriculture in drought areas, the maintenance of gamma cameras, the nucleonic control system to modernize paper production, arsenic contamination in groundwater.

<http://www-tc.iaea.org/tcweb/achievements/Achievements2002.pdf>

3. International Non-Proliferation Efforts

Treaties Signed and Ratified, date of deposit

APM Convention, 6 September 2000

Biological Weapons Convention, 11 March 1985

Certain Conventional Weapons Convention, 6 September 2000

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, 8 March 2000

Chemical Weapons Convention, 25 April 1997

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 31 August 1979

Outer Space Treaty, 14 January 1986

Partial Test Ban Treaty, 11 March 1985

Bangladesh signed the Additional Protocol, 30 March 2001.

Multilateral Groups

Conference on Disarmament

5. Positions Taken in International Fora on Various Issues of Nuclear Disarmament

Universality and Full Compliance: “The global nuclear non-proliferation regime based on the nuclear non-proliferation treaty faces unprecedented challenges to its credibility and integrity. While universality in the NPT and the entry into force of CTBT remain unaccomplished, proliferation of nuclear weapons states continue to threaten multilateral efforts for nuclear disarmament. [...] While lack of commitment by nuclear weapons states towards a complete elimination of their nuclear weapons remain a prime concern for non-nuclear weapons states, the dangers of use of these weapons by terrorists and non-state actors loom even larger for all.”- **Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhery, Permanent Representative, addressing the First Committee of the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 13 October 2003.**

Moscow Treaty: “Bangladesh welcomes the entry into force in June this year, of the Moscow Treaty (Strategic Offensive Reduction Treaty) between the Russian Federation and the United States. Even though this treaty would not compensate for the scrapping of the ABM treaty, it was an important development in nuclear disarmament in the context of transparency, verifiability and irreversibility.”- **Dr. Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhery, Permanent Representative, addressing the First Committee of the 58th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, 13 October 2003.**

Universalization of the NPT: “As a state party to the NPT, Bangladesh has consciously given up its option to go nuclear. Our unequivocal support for the NPT and commitment to its consolidation and implementation in all its aspects flows from our constitutional obligations to the principles and objectives of general and complete disarmament. [...] Bangladesh remains committed to pursue universal adherence to the NPT. The Treaty is short of only three more accessions to reach universality. We call upon States that are yet to join the NPT to make a renewed commitment towards the goal of universalization of the Treaty and urge them to become parties to the NPT and CTBT without delay and without conditions.” - **Dr. Toufiq Ali, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, addressing the 2003 PrepCom, 29 April 2003.**

CTBT: “We are the first country in South Asia to sign the CTBT. [...] Till such time that the Treaty comes into force, it [is] essential that international moratorium on nuclear testing be maintained.”- **Dr. Toufiq Ali, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, addressing the 2003 PrepCom, 29 April 2003.**

Role of the IAEA: “The IAEA has a significant role in international safeguards and in providing technical assistance and the promotion of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. This dual responsibility of the IAEA, we believe, needs to be further strengthened.”- **Dr. Toufiq Ali, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, addressing the 2003 PrepCom, 29 April 2003.**

Disarmament: "Bangladesh attaches great emphasis on disarmament. We believe that it is closely related to international peace and security. We also believe that it has a direct relationship with development. Bangladesh is party to all international disarmament treaties covering nuclear, biological, chemical and conventional weapons. Seeking general and complete disarmament is our Constitutional commitment. International peace and security, human security and the security of our planet have been the prime considerations in making our policy choices. [...] We have supported all efforts at disarmament. We continue to believe in the value of all measures, even partial at arms control and disarmament. Our conviction has been vindicated by the progress in the control and ban of a number of weapons. The multilateral track including the Conference on Disarmament needs to be revived."- **Morshed Khan, Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, 58th Session of the UN General Assembly, 29th September 2003.**