

November 12, 1986

**Ciphered Telegram No. 342, Embassy of Hungary in
India to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry**

Citation:

"Ciphered Telegram No. 342, Embassy of Hungary in India to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry", November 12, 1986, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Hungarian National Archives (Magyar Országos Levéltár, MOL). XIX-J-1-j India, 1986, 65. doboz, 60-4, 002134/3/1986. Obtained and translated for NPIHP by Balazs Szalontai.
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Summary:

Information from a Soviet diplomat who states that the Soviet Union expects India to become a nuclear power soon and anticipates negative consequences for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY)

Original Language:

Hungarian

Contents:

Translation - English

A Soviet diplomat said that according to their evaluation, it is nearly inevitable that India will become a nuclear power in the near future, Soviet efforts notwithstanding. The main negative consequences of such a development would be as follows:1.) The edifice of nuclear non-proliferation will collapse, many pro-Western countries - including Pakistan, Israel, and South Africa - will openly take the path of nuclear armament. The danger of local nuclear conflicts will increase.2.) A new anti-Soviet campaign will unfold, claiming that India became a nuclear power with Soviet support.3.) The process of nuclear disarmament will become even more complicated.

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