

March 24, 1987

**Ciphered Telegram No. 126, Embassy of Hungary in
India to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry**

Citation:

"Ciphered Telegram No. 126, Embassy of Hungary in India to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry", March 24, 1987, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Hungarian National Archives (Magyar Országos Levéltár, MOL). XIX-J-1-j India, 1987, 58. doboz, 60-4, 002195/1987. Obtained and translated for NPIHP by Balazs Szalontai.
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Summary:

Information from a Soviet source about the potential positive results for Soviet foreign policy should India become a nuclear power.

Credits:

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

Original Language:

Hungarian

Contents:

Translation - English

The counselor heading the foreign policy group of the Soviet embassy confidentially told Comrade Újlaki that if India became a nuclear power, in the formulation of the Soviet standpoint they would take into consideration, aside from the negative factors, that the Indian nuclear potential would essentially strengthen the strategic position of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries. To a certain extent it would also alleviate the military burden weighing on the Soviet Union, since hitherto the latter has been compelled to counter the potential of as many as four nuclear powers. In our view, it is not impossible that the competent Soviet organs are already pondering what standpoint the Soviet Union should adopt, because they realistically reckon with the contingency of India becoming a nuclear power. - 126 - O. -