

55th Anniversary of NPT

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) marks 55 years on 5th March, 2025.

- It was approved by the UN General Assembly on 12th June, 1968 and came into force on 5th March, 1970.
- **About NPT:** It is the **only multilateral binding treaty** for Nuclear-Weapon States (NWS) to disarmament while promoting **peaceful nuclear energy use**.
- Key Provisions: It defines NWS as countries possessing nuclear weapons before 1st January , 1967 (USA, UK, France, China, and USSR/Russia).
 - Non-nuclear states agree not to develop nuclear weapons, while nuclear states pledge not to transfer them.
 - It allows peaceful use of nuclear energy and provides a withdrawal option if national security is threatened.
- Membership: 191 members with 5 NWS (US, Russia, UK, France & China).
 - India is not a member.
- Monitoring: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) monitors compliance.
- India and NPT: India opposes the NPT, calling it discriminatory, as it legitimizes nuclear
 weapons for five countries while denying the same right to others.
 - India follows a "No First Use" (NFU) policy and is committed to global nuclear disarmament.

Treaties Against Nuclear Weapons

Part - I

Nuclear Weapons

- The most dangerous weapons on earth; a **bomb or missile that uses nuclear** energy to cause an explosion.
- Nuclear weapons release energy either by nuclear fission (atomic bombs) or nuclear fusion (hydrogen bombs).
- Even a single weapon is potent of destroying a whole city, potentially killing millions, jeopardising the natural environment and lives of future generations.
- They were used for the first and last time in WW-II by the US in 1945 on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT 1970)



Objective:

- Prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and its technology
- Foster peaceful uses of nuclear energy
- o Further the goal of nuclear disarmament
- Member States:
 - o 191 with 5 nuclear-weapon states (NWS) (US, Russia, UK, France & China)
- Nuclear-Weapon States:
 - Those who manufactured & exploded a nuclear weapon or nuclear explosive device before 1st January 1967
- Significance:
 - o Only binding treaty to the goal of disarmament by the NWS
- India and NPT:
 - India (along with Pakistan, Israel, North Korea, and South Sudan) is not a member
 - Opposes it as a discriminative disarmament policy
 - o India's policy No First Use against NWS and no use against non-NWS
- NPT Review Conference:
 - Undertakes review of the treaty's implementation quinquennially





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