



Indian Council of World Affairs
Sapru House, Barakhamba Road
New Delhi

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Press Release

on

**National Outreach Conference on
“Global Nuclear Disarmament”**

To commemorate the 68th birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Council of World Affairs, convened a National Outreach Conference at Vigyan Bhawan on 21st August, 2012. The Chief Guest was the Hon’ble Vice President of India Shri Hamid Ansari, who delivered an address on “Global Nuclear Disarmament”.

The Conference was inaugurated earlier with remarks by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar, Hon’ble Member of Rajya Sabha and Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Director General of ICWA, who in his opening statement noted that the goal of global nuclear disarmament was noble but not easy to achieve. Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, former Governor of West Bengal and grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, in his Keynote Address at the Inaugural Session, outlined India’s philosophy of non violence, cautioning against an innate tendency towards violence. National Security Advisor, Shri Shiv Shankar Menon, explained India’s policy based on the doctrine of nuclear deterrence.

The conference also included a live debate and subsequent interaction by students, with the panel of experts and the members of Informal Group on Nuclear Disarmament. These were presided over by Shri Mani Shankar Aiyar. There was overwhelming participation from among more than 1300 students from 37 colleges and universities of Delhi NCR region who were present at the event. The debate and interaction saw vibrant and frank exchanges of ideas and views both for and against the proposition of global nuclear disarmament.
