

Japan-India Summit: Prime Ministers Agree on Importance of Nuclear Power

On August 22, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan, who had arrived in India the day before, met with Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh for a summit meeting. The two leaders announced two joint declarations, the first concerning a roadmap for “the next dimension” of a strategic global partnership between the two countries, and the second dealing with strengthened cooperation between the two governments in the fields of environmental protection and energy security.

The joint declaration on the roadmap contained an item on “cooperation in civilian nuclear energy,” with both prime ministers affirming “the shared perception that nuclear energy could have an important role to play as a safe, sustainable, non-polluting energy source that meets the growing energy needs of the world.” Regarding the nuclear cooperation pact signed by the United States and India in July, however, their comments were limited to an expression of the “desire for a constructive debate in international forums” concerning the framework for international civilian nuclear cooperation with India, under appropriate safeguards established by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).”



The declaration also included items on disarmament and nonproliferation, with the two countries stating their recognition of their common intent, as partners, to continue cooperation in the area of disarmament and to stand up against proliferation, with strong concerns remaining about the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of transport.

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