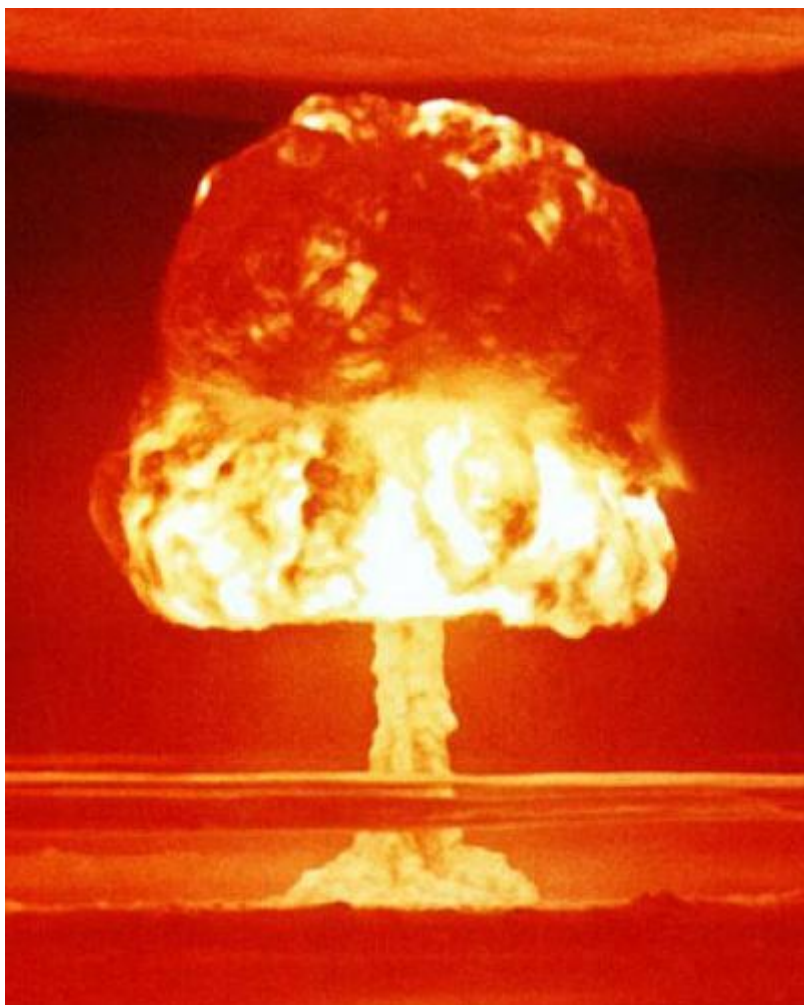


Indian Prime Minister Calls For No First Use of Nuclear Weapons



New Delhi, April 3 (RHC) -- Indian Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, has reportedly advocated for a "no first use" of nuclear weapons in a bid to cut down the nuclear dangers which may also pave the way for the elimination of atomic weapons.

If all states possessing nuclear weapons come together, "we can quickly move into the establishment of a global 'no first use' norm," The Times of India newspaper quoted Singh as saying at a seminar in the national capital Wednesday.

"This can open the way to gradual reduction and finally the elimination of nuclear weapons through a global nuclear convention," he said, reiterating that India already has a "no first use" policy.

"More and more voices are speaking out today that the sole function of nuclear weapons, while they exist, should be to deter a nuclear attack. States possessing nuclear weapons recognize that this is so and are prepared to declare it, we can quickly move to the establishment of a global 'no first use' norm," he added.

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