IN THE WAKE OF SEVERAL REPORTS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BY PAKISTAN, THE INDIAN PRIME MINISTER, RAJIV (GHANDI), ADDRESSING A JOINT CONFERENCE OF SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE, STATED THAT ALTHOUGH INDIA DID NOT WANT TO PRODUCE A NUCLEAR WEAPON, THE GOI WOULD HAVE TO RECONSIDER ITS DEFENSE OPTIONS IF IT WERE FACED WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS ACROSS THE BORDER. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS IN THE INDIAN NEWS MEDIA CONCERNING PAKISTANI TESTING OF AN ALLEGED TRIGGER
SHUTDOWN WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A RECURRENCE
OF THE FUEL ROD VIBRATION PROBLEM WHICH LED TO THE
EARLIER DHARVA SHUTDOWN (CITE III: [NAMES REDACTED] AND [NAMES REDACTED]).

5. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (CITE III: [NAMES REDACTED]), THE SOVIET UNION HAS OFFERED TO PROVIDE TWO VVER-440
ENRICHED URANIUM LIGHT WATER NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS TO
INDIA TO BOLSTER THEIR NUCLEAR POWER PRODUCTION PROGRAM.
IN THE PAST, THE GOI HAS DECLINED THIS OFFER. THERE
REMAIN SOME PROONENTS WITHIN THE GOI WHO APPARENTLY FEEL
THAT THE GOI SHOULD ACCEPT THE OFFER TO HELP OVERCOME
CURRENT AND PROJECTED ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION
SHORTAGES. AN EDITORIAL IN THE "TIMES OF INDIA" ON 30
OCTOBER 86 TOOK THIS LATTER POSITION TO TASK, CALLING THE
SOVIET OFFER "AN UNACCEPTABLE OFFER". IN TAKING THIS
POSITION, THE TIMES CITED THE LACK OF CONSISTENCY WITH
THE GOI'S HEAVY WATER, PLUTONIUM BASED PROGRAM; THE OLD
REACTORS; AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE GOI'S INABILITY TO
PRODUCE ENRICHED URANIUM TO SUPPORT THE SOVIET REACTORS.
THE LATTER FACTOR COULD PLACE THE GOI IN THE POSITION OF
RELYING ON THE USSR FOR FUTURE FUEL SUPPLIES TO SUPPORT
THE REACTOR. IN AN APPARENT PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THIS
ARGUMENT, ON 4 NOV 86, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY
COMMISSION, DR. RAJA (CRAHANNA), DURING A PRESS
CONFERENCE, CONTENDED THAT THE GOI WAS STILL EVALUATING
THE SOVIET OFFER AND WAS IN A POSITION TO PRODUCE AS MUCH
ENRICHED URANIUM AS MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THESE
TWO REACTORS.
SHUTDOWN WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A RECURRENCE OF THE FUEL ROD VIBRATION PROBLEM WHICH LED TO THE EARLIER DHRAVA SHUTDOWN (CITE IIR'S [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]).

AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (CITE IIR [REDACTED]), THE SOVIET UNION HAS OFFERED TO PROVIDE TWO VVER-440 ENRICHED URANIUM, LIGHT WATER NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS TO INDIA TO BOLSTER THEIR NUCLEAR POWER PRODUCTION PROGRAM. IN THE PAST, THE GOI HAS DECLINED THIS OFFER. THERE REMAIN SOME PROponents WITHIN THE GOI WHO APPEARENTLY FEEL THAT THE GOI SHOULD ACCEPT THE OFFER TO HELP OVERCOME CURRENT AND PROJECTED ELECTRIC POWER PRODUCTION SHORTAGES. AN EDITORIAL IN THE "TIMES OF INDIA" ON 30 OCTOBER 86 TOOK THIS LATTER POSITION TO TASK, CALLING THE SOVIET OFFER "AN UNACCEPTABLE OFFER". IN TAKING THIS POSITION, THE TIMES CITED THE LACK OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE GOI'S HEAVY WATER, PLUTONIUM BASED PROGRAM; THE OLD TECHNOLOGY AND QUESTIONABLE SAFETY OF THE SOVIET VVER-440Reactors; AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE GOI'S INABILITY TO PRODUCE ENRICHED URANIUM TO SUPPORT THE SOVIET REACTORS. THE LATTER FACTOR COULD PLACE THE GOI IN THE POSITION OF RELYING ON THE USSR FOR FUTURE FUEL SUPPLIES TO SUPPORT THE REACTOR. IN AN APPARENT PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THIS ARGUMENT, ON 4 NOV 86, CHAIRMAN OF THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, DR. RAJA (RAMANNA), DURING A PRESS CONFERENCE, CONTENDED THAT THE GOI WAS STILL EVALUATING THE SOVIET OFFER AND WAS IN A POSITION TO PRODUCE AS MUCH ENRICHED URANIUM AS MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THESE TWO REACTORS. Comments: