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Nuclear Hazards of Sri Lanka: Myths and Realities

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Sri Lanka's nuclear hazards could be emanating from either internal or external sources. The internal sources are very minimal. The worry is about external sources such as nuclear power plants located near Sri Lanka. Ensuring nuclear safety to non-nuclear states should be the ethical responsibility of the nuclear states. However, according to the researcher's view, it will be very difficult for a nuclear state to offer such a guarantee to a non-nuclear state because human error and organizational failure can occur at any moment of civilian nuclear properties. In such a scenario the aftermath of a nuclear disaster could become the sole burden on the hapless non-nuclear state. Therefore, it is always advisable for a non-nuclear state to be prepared in advance to deal with any possible nuclear disaster. This paper scientifically analyses realistic nuclear security concerns of Sri Lanka, which could be stemming from either local sources or Southern Indian nuclear power plants closely located to Sri Lanka's north and northeast.

Keywords: nuclear safety, nuclear energy, non-nuclear states