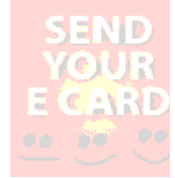




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World News: **US should make a nuclear co-operation with Pakistan**

Posted by: Lenny on Friday, November 17, 2006 - 10:33 PM

**Brussels** - A top Pakistani General said on Thursday that the United States should extend civilian nuclear co-operation beyond India to include Pakistan.

General Ihsahn Ul-Haq said such a move would encourage economic growth that would help defeat extremism and terrorism.

He was speaking in Brussels following a conference organized by the British-based South Asian strategic stability institute.

Ul-Haq accused Washington of being discriminatory in its approach when it offered New Delhi a wide-ranging agreement on civilian nuclear co-operation.

Instead of considering such co-operation with specific countries, the general said it should be open to all countries, which meet specific standards.

Both India and Pakistan are military nuclear powers but Washington has said it will not discuss nuclear co-operation with Pakistan.

Ul-Haq said his country badly needed nuclear energy to feed the surging economy. He said the Pakistani government was targeting a 2,000 percent increase of nuclear energy over the next 25 years.

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-- Richard Brinsley Sheridan

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