

USSR-INDIA:

Concern Over Technology Transfer

The second scandal in India in 14 months involving disclosure of Soviet military technology to the West is likely to prompt increased security measures by Moscow but probably will not deter the USSR from continuing to compete vigorously for arm sales to India. [REDACTED]

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Last year Moscow protested to New Delhi following charges that the US, through agents in the Indian military, had obtained classified documents on Soviet military equipment. The USSR subsequently sent several delegations to prepare a damage assessment and improve security. Nevertheless, the USSR agreed to provide India with MIG-29 aircraft last year. [REDACTED]

Comment: The latest breach of security will strengthen the arguments of those Soviets who are against giving India their most modern military equipment. The USSR, however, values its position as India's primary arms supplier and almost certainly will continue to supply New Delhi some of its latest and best equipment in order to compete with offers of Western arms. [REDACTED]