

## Creating the Perfect Imbalance!

It is heartening that in its recent back-to-back editorials (*Inspection for all*, Friday-October 12 and, *Holding on in Pakistan*, Saturday-October 13) the Blade displayed the temerity of pointing out the basic flaws in the much-touted Indo-US nuke treaty on one hand and not excluding India and Israel from the elite club of nuclear outlaws, on the other. Both countries, whose reasons for declining to sign the Nuclear NPT are well known, have made it hard for the world to believe that their intentions are not nefarious. It would appear that India's undying desire to keep Pakistan under its heels and counter China's growing political dominance in the region was strategically rewarded by the ratification of the nuclear treaty by the Bush administration. Guess what? Even the leftist coalition in the 'largest' democracy is opposed to this deal.

This Indian "only-for-civil-purposes" charade is thinner than a veneer. India has been using the enriched fuel for decades and is suspected to have a sizeable stockpile of thermonuclear bombs, since the first underground explosion in 1974. What one fails to understand is the basis for our bias when it comes to North Korea or Iran (both signatories of the NNPT). Human rights abuse and the innate desire to annihilate their neighbors by these regimes, among other things, have been cited. That makes India and Israel perfectly flawless celestial bodies. Several years ago, a pun in Readers' Digest had defined ego as the gleam in the 'I'. Talk about the gleam in two I's!

Equally baffling is our unilateral belief that if there ever is to be a state in the Middle-East with nuclear power (arsenal) it ought to be Israel - period. By protecting Israel's undeclared nuclear status, the US has only aided in Israel's hubris to systematically eliminate and decimate anything and everything that is oppressed and Palestinian. It is only a matter of time when India would unleash similar persecution techniques on its minorities; it already does it so deftly to its meek and mute brides for not bringing enough dowries. One wonders, why this is not classified as the state-sponsored terrorism by our State Department.

By denying others the same rights as accorded so readily to India and Israel without an iota of guarantee, we have further alienated ourselves and made our foreign policies more suspect.