

India not the problem

Re "India Ready to Muscle In" (March 9) Eric Margolis spends much ink explaining China's defense budget is smaller than America's so we shouldn't worry. He then protests India's expanding military, whose budget is estimated to be one-fifth that of China! India has been attacked four times by neighboring Pakistan and once by communist China. India also has a spotless non-proliferation record and is a democracy. India needs submarine-launched missiles to cope with a potential first strike by its aggressive nuclear-armed neighbors. It's quite a stretch to suggest America should be worried about democratic India's tiny military budget rather than the militaristic Chinese.

Ron Banerjee

Director, Hindu Conference of Canada