

From the Desk of the Editor

It gives me great pleasure to bring to you the Autumn 2013 issue of Scholar Warrior. The stellar role played by our jawans in search and rescue operations in Uttarakhand once again highlighted the undying spirit and devotion to duty of the Indian Army. Day and night, working in extremely challenging conditions in tandem with Indian Air Force and other agencies, our brave soldiers rescued thousands of stranded pilgrims and escorted them to safety. The bravehearts went about their task quietly and with utmost dedication saving precious lives. The daily updates on national media, the ensuing photographs conveyed poignant stories of dedication and bravery.

In this issue, we focus on efforts and steps being taken to strengthen our indigenous defence production base in our strategic issues section. Also, the second article focuses on equipment readiness and sustainability in the coming era. The China section analyses the impact of 2013 Defence White paper on the employment of PLA and the rapid Chinese strides in our neighbourhood with its investment in Sri Lanka. The Pakistan Section gives an insight into its likely relations with Afghanistan post 2014 and the turmoil within, with the election of a new prime minister.

Our regional neighbourhood section traces India's efforts in shaping its external environment with development as a tool of building closer relations with Iran and Afghanistan. Well researched articles on information security and technology form the backbone of our next two sections. Military history provides an analysis of previous battles to learn valuable lessons for future and we highlight the valour of soldiers in our motivation section. The book reviews are an indication of enriched reading by our officers and will go a long way in expanding their professional knowledge base.

We are looking forward to a greater contribution from our readers. We welcome articles on operations post independence undertaken by units along with maps/

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sketches to form part of our military history section. Articles on exceptional acts of bravery will be a welcome addition for the motivation section.

HAPPY READING

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashwani Gupta', with a stylized, cursive script.

Col Ashwani Gupta
Editor
Scholar Warrior