

From the Desk of the Editor-in-Chief



The inaugural issue of 'Scholar Warrior' has received a very positive response from the environment. We thank our readers for the suggestions which they have forwarded, some of which we have tried to implement in this the second issue of the journal.

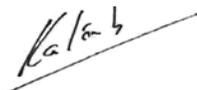
The glare of the media on events in India especially on matters relating to ethical behavior has thrown up a host of issues pertaining to propriety in functioning by the political and civilian leadership of the country. Inevitably, some of the spotlight has been focused on ethical behavior within the Armed Forces too. That the Indian Army is considered by the public at large to be the flag bearers of ethical conduct remains a matter of pride for our men and women in uniform as well as to the veterans. But it remains a subject which needs constant attention and reiteration at all levels of command. We have tried to address some aspects of ethical behavior in the lead article of this journal. An example of ethical conduct on the battlefield has also been poignantly put across by Ameeta Watal in an article on why a brave naval officer chose to go down with his ship. While this can in no way be considered to cover the entire gamut of ethic behavior, it does provide a start point for discussion and exchange of views on a subject of vital importance.

The spirit of questioning what we do as part of military strategy and tactics must also be promoted, not as a routine fault finding activity but as a brainstorming exercise to determine whether we can operate in a more effective manner by changing age old held ideas and beliefs. An analysis of George Tanham's views on India's Strategic thought hence forms part of this issue with the primary focus being to generate an informed discussion on the subject. We have also tried to give a brief input on the spread of Naxalism, which is assuming serious proportions in some parts of the country. At the tactical level, one of the things which we need to question is the utility of laying anti personnel mines like the NM 14. Small anti personnel mines buried in the ground have caused great havoc across the world to friendly troops and populations without giving any worthwhile benefit in the modern battlefield. The negative impact of laying such

mines has been covered in an article to sensitise the environment of this issue. This article could be read in conjunction with an earlier article on the subject published by CLAWS as an Issue Brief in its web site.

The impact of the social media as a means of affecting change in government as seen by events unfolding in the Arab world, both in North Africa and in the Gulf are a pointer to the shape of things to come. While India and Pakistan are not likely to be impacted on this score, there are real fears in China of the influence the social media can have in shaping public opinion. Another issue which merits attention is the growing threat of cyber warfare which can be carried out by both state and non state actors with plausible deniability. The stuxnet virus is a case in point. Both these issues have been dealt with in this issue.

We continue to focus on China, Pakistan and the regional neighbourhood as we have done earlier in our inaugural issue and hope that our officers would find the subjects to be stimulating and of interest to them. As CLAWS is the Indian Army's think tank, we look forward to a much greater interaction between the Officers and the CLAWS research staff. We would be very happy to get your firsthand accounts of battles fought by units which we would publish in the journal. In this issue, the raid on the Mandhol gun position by 9 Para (SF) has been published. Your contributions and feedback would be greatly appreciated. We wish you all 'Happy Reading' and a great professional year ahead.



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Scholar Warrior