

# From the Desk of the Editor

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It gives me great pleasure to bring to you the Spring 2014 issue of *Scholar Warrior*. December 16, 1971, was an important milestone in the history of the Indian Army. The Indian soldier's bravery and indomitable spirit led to a crushing defeat of the Pakistan Army and surrender of 93,000 prisoners of war, the highest in any form of warfare till date. Celebrated as Vijay Diwas every year, it was the Indian Army's finest achievement and can truly be called the biggest victory of the 20th century.

In this issue, we focus on the effects of the US drawdown on the regional security and the changing security dynamics due to the thaw in US-Iran relations in our strategic issues section. The third article focusses on the need for a systematic and time-tested concise procedure to obviate time delays in defence procurement. The China section analyses the impact of the Chinese Air Defence Identification Zone over the Senkaku Islands and China's growing capabilities in exploitation of Rare Earth elements. The Pakistan section gives an insight into the sectarian divide due to the Shia-Sunni conflict. The Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), as a larger than life entity is de-constructed to present a true picture to the readers.

Our regional neighbourhood section traces the future of Tamil nationalism after the provincial elections in Sri Lanka. Chinese inroads into India's neighbourhood, by providing military assistance to Bangladesh, are analysed in the next article of this section. 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 the 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.

**SCHOLAR WARRIOR**

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



**Col Ashwani Gupta**  
Editor  
Scholar Warrior