

Note from the Editor

It gives me immense pleasure to present herewith the Summer 2014 edition of the *CLAWS Journal*. This issue puts together a bunch of articles on a diverse range of security related subjects and deliberates upon the policy options available.

We commence with a heartfelt tribute to India's greatest soldier, Field Marshal Sam Hormusji Framji Jamshedji Manekshaw, in that, 2014 marks the centenary of his birth and in honouring him, we also honour the best in ourselves. Besides, as this summer witnesses India in the midst of a gruelling national election battle, Kashmir is at the crossroads of decision-making as to who should assume the prime role of finding peace in the region. The election pitch in India finds resonance on the systemic crisis in governance while highlighting how citizens belonging to different socio-economic strata feel alienated by the system. The *Journal* also addresses the current trends and road map for conflict resolution with reference to Left Wing Extremism (LWE) arguing that although LWE-related incidents have recorded a declining trend over the last three years, the Maoists retained the ability of carrying out strikes against India's security forces, witnessed recently in the ambush of a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrol in the Bastar division of Chhattisgarh in March 2014.

While addressing the subject of border management with Myanmar, the strategic imperative is highlighted, with Myanmar being the intersection between South Asia and Southeast Asia and a land bridge to Association for Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Above and beyond, this edition also includes an assessment of the realism in Russian foreign policy, with special reference to the developments in Crimea, assessing if Crimea is a validation of the return of Russia's great power status.

In the China-watch section, the case of chemical and biological weapons, the multilateral regimes in place and Chinese compliance and capabilities have been elaborated upon. The current edition also includes articles on the indigenous cryogenic technology and its implications for India's space programme, in addition to regulating satellite remote sensing.

The Editorial Team hopes that this issue of the *CLAWS Journal* will contribute towards the overall thinking regarding the issues elaborated above by furthering enrichment and focus of the discourse. I look forward to your feedback and comments.

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Managing Editor
CLAWS Journal