

Note from the Editor

It is with immense pleasure that I present the Winter 2013 edition of the *CLAWS Journal*—an issue that puts together a bouquet of articles and commentaries on a varied range of subjects impacting India’s security, and debates options for combatting the same.

Cross-border terrorism has long plagued the nation and it is about time that we spell out, in categorical terms, a clear doctrine, a consequence of which would be a strategy to confront the menace. The use of force or threat of use of force must flow from national policy goals and objectives. In the event of conflict, the aim must be to seek an early resolution to conflict, with adequate conflict control mechanisms in place to reduce the risk of escalation. War capability must encompass both the capacity and the will to wage war. The argument becomes far more germane in the contemporary context wherein conflict has assumed an amorphous structure and national boundaries are getting diffused due to modern war asymmetries.

Above and beyond, this edition also includes an assessment of the current political situation in Nepal, in which the nation appears to be on an edge, deciphering the evolving political equations in Pakistan, with the perennial question of whether the civilian leadership will be able to deliver effectively, and the contours of India’s equation with Japan. The *Journal* traces the political history of China’s nuclear bomb and also evaluates the recent trends in Sino-Indian relations with policy and strategic imperatives for India. We present a debate on the endgame in Afghanistan, including the options for India and the Kashmir connect to the post-2014 transition. On space-related issues, the current edition includes pieces on weaponisation and militarisation of space and more specifically, the geographic information systems that enable knowledge-based operations.

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 await your feedback and comments.

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Managing Editor
CLAWS Journal