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1. THE CHALLENGES AHEAD FOR INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY 1

The Foreign Secretary, Shri **Shivshankar Menon** spells out the challenges to foreign policy that India is likely to face in the coming years. He has also emphasised the need to evolve our own vocabulary and lexicon to explain the challenges that can be best dealt with from our own perspective rather than adopting/adapting the concepts from other countries.

2. STRATEGIC REACH - STRATEGIC DEPTH AND THE QUESTION OF THE IAF'S STRATEGIC POSTURE 11

The Indian Air Force is well into a process of transformation even though its modernisation is moving at a slower pace. Expansion of the air force's strategic reach is crucial to meet external contingencies. But Air Commodore **Jasjit Singh AVSM VrC VM (Retd)** argues that the increasing strategic reach of the air force requires the exploitation of India's strategic depth for a significantly enhanced defence capability. This, however, would require a substantive change in the strategic posture of the air force in terms of its basing strategies but would be well worth it in terms of more credible deterrence and combat effectiveness.

3. INDIA'S NUCLEAR DOCTRINE: THE BASIS FOR CREDIBLE DETERRENCE 27

India's nuclear doctrine, from the time a draft was put out in 1999, and a brief formal announcement was made by the government in 2003, has been a subject of debate and (mis)interpretations. Dr. **Manpreet Sethi** covers the key issues and rationale driving the doctrine that is to shape the country's nuclear deterrent strategy for defence.

4. CHINA'S ASAT TEST: IMPLICATIONS AND OPTIONS 57

China created quite a stir when in January 2007 it used a ground-based interceptor missile to destroy its own meteorological satellite in lower earth orbit, raising concerns not only of littering of the most heavily used space segment with debris, but also of security for space-faring nations increasingly dependent on space assets for commercial and defence purposes. Wing Commander **K.K. Nair** examines the diverse implications of the anti-satellite test.

5. FORCE MULTIPLIERS AND TRANSFORMATION OF AIR DEFENCE 75

Most of the time, force multipliers have been viewed and interpreted in the context of air-to-ground warfare and enhancing the combat capability of offensive strike capabilities. Wing Commander **Atul Kumar Singh** VSM, surveys a much broader canvas while focussing on how air defence operations are being shaped by force multipliers for strategic offensive air defence as well as strategic defensive air defence.

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Council at one end and the strategic community in most countries at the other. Threats and the potential of armed conflict by US/Israel against Iran in particular have been a subject of speculation in recent years. Shri **Shelly Johnny** looks closely at Iran's military power and its past strategy of employing it.

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