

# CONTENTS

---

VOL. 1 NO. 2 WINTER 2006 (October-December)

Editor's Note

vii

## 1. A VISION OF INDIA'S MARITIME POWER IN THE 21ST CENTURY

1

In a scintillating address to the officers of the armed forces and the broader strategic community at the Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, on October 11, 2006, Admiral **Arun Prakash** PVSM, AVSM, VrC, VSM, ADC, Chief of the Naval Staff and Chairman COSC, spelt out the direction in which our maritime power should be moving in the coming decades.

## 2. STRATEGIC ROLE OF AIR POWER: HOW WE NEED TO THINK, TRAIN AND FIGHT IN THE COMING YEARS

13

Group Captain **Arjun Subramaniam** in this prize winning essay explores the key issues involved.

## 3. INTERPRETING THE LEBANON WAR OF 2006

33

The war between Hezbollah and Israel launched from Lebanon, in the summer of this year, was unique in many ways. Air Commodore **Jasjit Singh** AVSM VrC VM (Retd) concludes that this portends a new type of war. While Israel made many errors in strategic thinking, the Israeli Air Force performed well under trying circumstances where the short range missiles pose a new type of threat that requires serious attention.

#### 4. LEVERAGING SPACE CAPABILITIES FOR INDIA'S DEFENCE

63

In spite of its space capabilities having achieved remarkable success over the decades, India has paid little attention to their role and employment in the defence of the country. Air Vice Marshal **D.C. Kumaria** VM VSM, outlines his view of a road map for leveraging these capabilities for the future defence of the nation.

#### 5. DEFENCE MANPOWER IN INDIA: SOME SALIENT ISSUES

89

The nature of military tasks and commitments in India requires it to maintain a large manpower-intensive military force. Its voluntary character and longer engagement periods in the context of rising costs demand, according to Brigadier **Gurmeet Kanwal** (Retd), serious attention to evolving a more balanced approach so as to ensure a technologically high quality force for the future.

#### 6. NUCLEAR SECURITY: CRITICAL FOR FUTURE NUCLEAR EXPANSION

109

India's growing civil nuclear power programme for enhanced human development, argues Dr. (Mrs) **Manpreet Sethi**, requires the greatest attention to safety and security of installations and facilities since the margin for error is zero if a catastrophe is to be avoided. Safety standards and practices have developed enormously and would need to be monitored with the greatest care, and implemented meticulously.

#### 7. LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

135

Emphasising the need for sound logistics, Napoleon had once remarked that armies march on their stomachs. Brigadier **Rahul K. Bhonsle** (Retd), citing the examples of some recent wars,

argues that the complexities of modern wars demand the employment of modern techniques and technologies to ensure the best practices in logistics for winning wars

#### **8. HAS IT WORKED? THE GOLDWATER NICHOLS REORGANISATION ACT**

**155**

Two decades after it came into force, Mr. **James R. Locher III**, in an incisive analysis of the Act and its functioning, reemphasises the importance of the higher defence organisation; hence, it deserves continuous and innovative attention. He also concludes that the Goldwater-Nichols Act once again brings to the fore the struggle of each officer to find the right balance between loyalty to the Service and devotion to the larger needs of the nation.