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The Naval War College was established at Mumbai in 1988. It relocated to Goa in 2011 and has evolved into an institution promoting operational and strategic thinking.

The Naval War College Journal is published annually and welcomes articles on maritime affairs, geopolitics, defence and strategy.

**Disclaimer:** *The views expressed in the NWC Journal are those of the individual contributors and do not reflect the views or the policies of the Indian Navy, Indian Armed Forces or the Government of India.*

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**FORMER CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF**  
**INDIAN NAVY**

*Arun Prakash*  
**05 October 2015**



**Rear Admiral Monty Khanna, NM**  
**Commandant**  
**Naval War College**

### **FROM THE COMMANDANT'S DESK**

The Naval War College (NWC) recently celebrated its 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I firmly believe that it's contribution in evolving and educating middle echelon officers of the Indian Navy as well as our sister services on matters strategic and operational has been noteworthy. The Indian Navy's decision to relocate this institute to Goa has unarguably opened up new vistas for the college with speakers across the globe eagerly expressing their willingness to interact with faculty and participants. As only the second Commandant in its new avatar, I am certain that 'Team NWC' is on track to accomplish the objectives set for the institution.

In the last several months, much has happened and more is in the offing. The institution has grown steadily; both in terms of infrastructure as well as its programmes with the prime focus being – to provide an enriching academic journey to the participants. Under the leadership of the Chairman, Advisory Council, the college has embarked upon establishing linkages with renowned institutions, think tanks, and academics, both in India and overseas. Whilst we have strengthened our existing relationship with the U.S. Naval War College (NWC), Newport we have also established fresh linkages with the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), Monterey through the conduct of the maiden Trilateral Workshop in conjunction with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in April this year. The college is now in the process of collaborating with King's College, London and is in dialogue with a few think tanks from East Asia for scheduling interactions with the Naval Higher Command Course (NHCC).

We have been successful in getting renowned national and international speakers such as Nandan Nilekani, C Raja Mohan, Ashley Tellis, Eliot Cohen, Geoffrey Till and Harsh Pant amongst others to interact with us. The benefit of exposing participants to a wide variety of competing views and perspectives through this initiative needs no emphasis. We are indeed fortunate to also have two former Naval Chiefs, namely Adm Arun Prakash and Adm Sureesh Mehta resident at Goa. We have leaned on them extensively and they have supported us in all our endeavours.

After considerable effort, we have succeeded in getting approval to invite resident High Commissioners and Ambassadors of select countries and we hope to have a few of them address the college during the coming year. The college was also privileged to host the First Sea Lord, Royal Navy, Deputy CNO, Australian Navy, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet Commander U.S. Navy.

The NWC was accorded recognition as a research centre for Ph.D by Mumbai University last year. Since then, considerable headway has been made in the form of approval of syllabus by Research and Recognition Committee (RRC), appointment of guides and approval of coursework by Ad-hoc Board of Studies (BoS). Based on inputs by the college, the policy letter governing the conduct of the programme has been issued by IHQ, MoD (Navy). It is planned to kick off this programme in November this year.

Whilst our affiliation with Mumbai University has been on since 2003, the last few months have seen enhanced engagement with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and his staff visiting the college on more than one occasion. We are also in discussions to enter into a MoU with *Sindhu Swaddhyay Sanstha*, the new Maritime Centre of Mumbai University. This will enable us to support each other in a focused manner.

The NWC conducted the Combined Operational Readiness Evaluation (CORE) 2015 programme for 20 officers of the rank of Rear Admiral/ Eqvt from 14 to 19 Sep 15. The participants were provided an insight into a wide variety of politico-military-strategic issues and interacted with some of the top leadership of the country – service and civilians, serving and retired. They included the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee & Chief of the Air Staff, Chief of the Naval Staff, FOCinC (South), GOCinC (South Western Command), CINCAN, Deputy NSA, Dr Anil Kakodkar, senior functionaries from the DRDO and ISRO, and several former military commanders and diplomats.

The content and methodology of our major programmes are now under revision, and would focus on strengthening intellectual pursuit through rigorous research and critical thinking – hallmarks of higher education institutes. We are leveraging advancements in the field of information technology through full operationalisation of the state of the art National Knowledge Network (NKN) and Internet Based Library Network (IBLN) backed by a dedicated 100-Mbps line. The college has set up a video conferencing node for conduct of lectures by eminent speakers who are unable to come down to Goa. One such interaction was undertaken by Prof Toshi Yoshihara, U.S. NWC as part of China capsule. A similar interaction is planned with General Stanley McChrystal, U.S. Army (Retired), former Commander of the Joint Special Operations Command in Iraq, later this year. Finally, it is planned to make a transition towards ‘virtual classrooms’ so as to integrate with other war colleges and universities as also IITs/ NITs through the NKN.

The college has proposed the initiation of a Regional Maritime Security Course (RMSC) for foreign naval officers. It is intended to conjoin this programme with the NHCC for a part of its duration. With regard to augmentation of infrastructure, the case for an entirely new NWC complex with state of the art classrooms, library, auditorium and war-gaming facilities is doing the rounds with the Ministry of Defence.

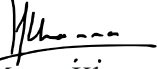
Current limitations of space are being overcome through conversion of the old Mandovi Library into syndicate level war gaming cum discussion rooms.

It is accepted that a well-qualified staff is the essence of an institution of higher learning. Towards this end, the college looks forward to fructification of its proposal for additional manpower essential to set up a functional 'Faculty of Studies (FoS).'

The college strongly believes in its duty to contribute generously towards community development and endeavours to inculcate this sense amongst its participants. This has been demonstrated adequately through beach clean-up programmes, tree plantation and blood donation drives, and spreading the awareness to maintain neat and clean surroundings.

Lastly, the importance of jointmanship needs no reiteration. In the years to come, opportunities for integrated tri-service operational planning and execution are only likely to increase. We strive to promote such an outlook amongst our participants through interaction with Army and Air Force front-line commands, corps and airbases during the forward area tours. Further, the NWC has invited the Commandants of the War Colleges and the CDM for a conclave at Goa later this year wherein mechanisms for coordinating joint service activities and exchange of ideas for better utilisation/ sharing of resources could be formalised for the larger benefit of all our colleges.

I would like to conclude by putting out a thought that crosses my mind often – Is the NWC at the 'cusp' of transformation? Probably, yes.... What do you think? Write in to share your views and ideas at [sncnwc-navy@nic.in](mailto:sncnwc-navy@nic.in).

  
(Monty Khanna)  
Rear Admiral

## **EDITORIAL**

We are back with the 27th issue of the Naval War College Journal. In the academic year 2014-15 gone by, the 27<sup>th</sup> Naval Higher Command Course (NHCC) and 22<sup>nd</sup> Technical Management Course (TMC) graduated successfully from the college, and we are gearing up to receive participants of the NHCC 28.

As has always been the case, the college received a large number of contributions for its annual edition of the journal. The editorial team has done its best to choose from amongst them and provide the readers an eclectic mix of articles from historical to contemporary. It is hoped that these would act as 'primers' and would entice the readers for further in-depth reading on the subject. We sincerely thank all the contributors, though due to space restrictions we have been able to publish only a limited number of articles. It also bears a mention that these articles are the views of the authors and do not in any way reflect the views of the Naval War College or the establishment.

Finally, we welcome your valuable comments and invite suggestions towards improving the quality and style of this journal.

Happy Reading!

The Editorial Team

October 2015