

Error Detection & Grammar

1. Whenever nations embark on reconfiguring their (a)/ security strategies, they must invariably review the use of the various (b)/ equipment of force that are available for exploitation. India's journey (c)/ down those roads have evolutionary rather than transformational. (d)/ No Error.(e)/

2. From a rather diffident power soon after Independence, that perceived the instrument of force as an (a)/ ‘avoidable necessity’, to more assertive expressions of national power over the last five (b)/ decade commenced with the 1971 war with Pakistan, Indian statecraft stands at the crossroads of a new era. (c)/ Operation Sindoor (May 7-10) may well redrawn the contours of India’s unwritten national security strategy. (d)/ No Error.(e)/

3. Here, at its centre, a more assertive (a)/ and proactive strategy that is now willing to explore ‘prevention, pre-emption and (b)/ punishment’ as the new normal against Pakistan, should it continues to support terrorism against (c)/ India as an instrument of the Pakistani state. crisis).(d)/ No Error.(e)/

4. However, what hopefully remain as (a)/ the inviolable edifice of this strategy will be the continuation of 'responsibility (b)/ and restraint' (the hallmark of any response that the Indian state has (c)/ offered whenever faced with a national security. (d)/ No Error.(e)/

5. In the past, an excessively continental mindset, a preoccupation (a)/ with attrition warfare along long and contested borders, and the linkages between conventional operations and territory as a currency (b)/ of military effectiveness, assured that land forces, both military as well as paramilitary, (c)/ occupied pole position in India's national security calculus.(d)/ No Error.(e)/

6. The widespread prevalence of internal armed conflict added to the inescapable necessity for this orientation. (a)/ The reemergence of the maritime domain and its attractiveness to (b)/ double-bank as an instrument of force and diplomacy has lifted the blinkers of centuries of (c)/ sea-blindness and offered options other but a continental mindset to India's national security planners. (d)/ No Error.(e)/

7. However, all was not fine when it came to understanding the competitive (a)/ advantage that air power offered apex policymakers when confronting the dilemmas of climbing the escalation ladder vis-à-vis unpredictable (b)/ adversaries such as Pakistan and matching the capabilities of China (which now appears to have significantly (c)/ widened the conventional gap with India in all realms of military power, especially air power). (d)/ No Error.(e)/

8. It is in this context that the recent offensive-defensive employment of air power in Operation Sindoor pave (a)/ the way for a more nuanced understanding of the importance of military air power in the national security calculus. For over a decade now, (b)/ the non-kinetic capability of the Indian Air Force (IAF) matched the good in the world in (c)/ areas such as tactical and strategic airlift, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations. (d)/ No Error.(e)/