‘Cold Start’ out of the freezer?

New Chief of Army Staff General Bipin Rawat, appeared to drop a bombshell (आकस्मिकता) by acknowledging the existence of the army’s Cold Start strategy.

Many defence analysts presumed the army had abandoned this limited war concept.

Failure to mobilise the army’s Strike Corps in a timely after the Dec-2001 attacks on Parliament was the impetus (प्रेरणा) for Cold Start.

Its official status has been the subject of debate and controversy since- first discussed in 2004.

But- never been formally accepted by the Indian government- denied its existence. (Soft power)

In 2010, the then Army Chief, Gen. V.K. Singh, declared Cold Start did not exist

Mainly used this kind strategy –To create deterrence (pak) their support for militant attacks within India.

This thesis was disproved, however, by the audacious (साहसी) 2008 Mumbai attacks and its aftermath.

Critical shortages of ammunition- raises serious questions about the army’s ability to implement a Cold Start-style operation at all

Requires joint operations with the air force- India in the worst possible strategic position

Limited war strategy has created more problems for India than it has solved.

If reviving Cold Start is part of that effort- escalate tensions in bilateral relations with Pakistan.

It is time for both the army and the government to clarify what precisely its conventional doctrine.

Cold Start doctrine puts South Asia in the unfortunate situation.
Q-What is **Cold Start**?

Ans- It is part of the army’s attempt to develop a useable, conventional retaliatory option that punishes Pakistan for terrorist attacks against India without triggering wider conventional or nuclear escalation.
Stemming the moral rot within

It is time that attitudes changed and the law asserted that all women have an inviolable right to space and untrammeled dignities

Yousuf Karsh

On December 9, 1938, the streets of Songlouli became one of the most dismal places in the country for women of all ages. On New Year’s Day, photographs erupted of women being raped, shot, and burned in public. The, reports described the horrors of mass-annihilation that occurred overnight. This was in a year when China’s Communist Party was in power, and the government was determined to eradicate corruption andbourgeois elements. The Red Army led by Mao Zedong, after a long and bitter fight, had finally reached the Songlouli region. The local government immediately took action in an effort to curb the well-known police brutality and rampant corruption that had been plaguing the area. The government decreed that anyone found raping women would be shot on the spot, and a massive police operation was launched to catch the perpetrators. After the news reached the world, the international community was shocked. This incident became a turning point in China’s history, and Mao Zedong later called it the “Songlouli Massacre.”

In 2014, the government launched a campaign to stem violence against women, and the results were impressive. The incidence of sexual violence in China had decreased by 30% in just one year. The government also introduced new laws to protect women’s rights and ensure their safety. The recent government’s efforts have been praised by international organizations, and it is hoped that these initiatives will continue to make a difference in the future.

A useful tool in curbing sexual violence could be a greater degree of advocacy by gender sensitivity to the government's

Impacts of the building of women’s rights, however, are by no means achieved. In some countries, the law fails to provide adequate protection, and women continue to face violence and discrimination. The need to protect women’s rights is urgent, and the government must continue to take action to ensure that all women have equal rights and opportunities.

Changing priorities of modern society in terms of broader social attitudes, the government has taken action to promote women’s rights. However, much more needs to be done to ensure that women’s rights are fully protected and respected. The government must continue to work towards achieving gender equality in all areas of life, and it is only through collective efforts that we can achieve this goal.
2014 national and State elections, first time women’s safety and empowerment were topics of debate.

In 2015, 194 member states, including India, adopted the SDGs - Gender equality is one of the 17 goals to “transform our world”.

Lack of targeted resources is often stated to be the biggest reason behind the sluggish progress in furthering the gender agenda.

Last year, the World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender Gap Report ranked India 87 in terms of gender equality in economy, education, health, and political representation.

Women’s declining labour participation, under-representation in Parliament, skewed child sex ratio, and prevalent gender-based violence are recognised challenges.

To bridge these gaps, India formally adopted Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in 2005.

Gender budgeting initiatives aim to integrate critical gender concerns into fiscal policies and administration to address disparities.

Every annual budget since 2005 has included a statement that lists out two parts.

Part A, which reflects ‘Women Specific Schemes’ - have 100 per cent allocation for women.

Part B, which reflects ‘Pro Women Schemes’ - where at least 30 per cent of the allocation is for women.

GRB must be viewed as an essential tool to tackle societal inequality – not as a symbolic exercise.

Gender budgeting alone - not sufficient to tackle gender disparities - Central government could, through an incentive - encourage State governments to take up GBR as a priority in their budget layouts.
Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, one of India’s most important African partners, is here in India. He has participated in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit (Q-City) as a special guest.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s African safari in July 2016 took him to South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya.

Diverse sectors in Kenya, such as energy, pharmaceuticals, textiles, agriculture and financial services, will welcome greater involvement of India. Education and health are other promising fields.

Mr. Kenyatta, following his ‘Look East’ policy, has developed close relations with China but he needs other partners too - The bulk of foreign investment now comes from China.

Japan to hold the 6th Tokyo International Conference on African Development Summit in August 2016 in Nairobi - first TICAD summit held in Africa.

Japan and India are committed to enhance long-term collaboration in Africa. By jointly in key infrastructure development projects in Kenya and the surrounding region (China Factor)

Future of East African Community

Comprising Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan, has emerged as one of the most successful of Africa’s Regional Economic Communities.

Having established a customs union, it is building a single market and wants to set up a monetary union.

Africa in Trump era

Mr. Trump’s entry on to the world’s stage, Europe and Asia are under the scanner, but there is hardly any mention of Africa.

Apprehension is that Africa may be sidelined in the first two years of the new administration.

Imperative for India to take a keener interest in Africa. Serious about playing a global role

India should work for - Agenda 2063 - African Union (AU) (Q-estb)- both a Vision and an Action Plan. It is a call for action to all segments of African society.
Vibrant Gujarat is the name given to a biennial investors' summit held by the government of Gujarat in Gujarat, India. The event is aimed at bringing together business leaders, investors, corporations, thought leaders, policy and opinion makers; the summit is advertised as a platform to understand and explore business opportunities in the State of Gujarat. After organizing seven successful Summits, Government of Gujarat is now moving further in its journey towards sustainable long-term growth and inclusive development by organizing the 8th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit from 10th to 13th of January 2017 at Mahatma mandir, Gandhinagar. The central focus of the 8th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit is “Sustainable Economic and Social Development”. The Summit will bring together Heads of States and Governments, Ministers, Leaders from the Corporate World, Senior Policy Makers, Heads of International Institutions and Academia from around the world to further the cause of development and promote cooperation

The African Union (AU) is a continental union consisting of 54 countries in Africa. It was established on 26 May 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and launched on 9 July 2002 in South Africa, with the aim of replacing the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). The most important decisions of the AU are made by the Assembly of the African Union, a semi-annual meeting of the heads of state and government of its member states. The AU's secretariat, the African Union Commission, is based in Addis Ababa.