

CALL FOR PAPERS

SYNERGY: FEBRUARY 2027 ISSUE



**THEME: NATIONAL RESILIENCE IN AN AGE
OF PERSISTENT COMPETITION/CONFLICT**

LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION- 15th OCTOBER 2026

CONCEPT NOTE

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War, as the twenty-first century has redefined it, no longer announces itself with a declaration. It arrives instead as a slow siege, a continuous, undeclared pressure applied through cables cut on the seabed, algorithms weaponised on the timeline, chips withheld from a supply chain, and proxies unleashed at a plausible distance. This is the age of persistent competition: a condition, not an event, where adversaries seek to bleed a nation's strength gradually rather than break it decisively. In such a world, the old metrics of power: divisions, sorties, tonnage, remain necessary but are no longer sufficient. What increasingly determines whether a nation prevails or buckles is resilience, its ability to absorb a cyberattack on its grid and keep the lights on, to withstand a disinformation blitz and keep its citizens grounded in fact, to endure an economic chokehold and keep its factories running, to fight a long war without ever fighting a "big" one.

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Building this resilience is no longer the exclusive preserve of the Armed Forces. It is an enterprise that spans quantum-safe encryption for critical data, AI-driven early-warning systems for infrastructure sabotage, indigenous semiconductor and rare-earth supply chains, autonomous systems that can absorb losses without breaking the fight, and a citizenry inoculated against synthetic media and cognitive attack. Technology here is both the threat vector and the shield, the same AI that generates a deepfake to fracture social trust can be trained to detect it; the same connectivity that exposes a power grid can be hardened to defend it. For India, charting strategic autonomy through this contested decade, the challenge is to weave these threads, military, economic, digital, psychological, and technological, into a single, self-healing fabric of national strength.

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SUB THEMES

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- The Unbreakable Grid: AI and Predictive Defence for Critical Infrastructure Resilience
- The Long War Machine: Structuring Forces and Industry for Protracted, Attritional Conflict
- Grey Zone Gambits: Detecting and Deterring Coercion Below the Threshold of War
- Deepfakes and Defences: AI-Generated Disinformation and the Battle for Cognitive Resilience
- Chips, Chains, and Chokepoints: Semiconductor Security and Supply Chain Resilience
- The Quantum Shield: Post-Quantum Cryptography for National Data Security
- Swarm and Sustain: Autonomous and Attributable Systems for Resilient Force Design
- The Algorithmic Home Front: Civil-Military Fusion Through AI-Enabled Coordination

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- Energy Under Siege: Diversification and Hardening in an Age of Resource Coercion
- Proxy Fires, Real Costs: Managing Hybrid and Sub-Conventional Pressure Points
- The Space-Cyber Nexus: Resilience Across the New Contested Commons
- Atmanirbharta 2.0: Technological Self-Reliance as Strategic Deterrence
- The Resilient Citizen: Psychological Preparedness in the Age of Cognitive Warfare
- Coalitions of Convenience: Technology-Sharing Partnerships in a Fractured World
- Horizon 2047: Engineering a Resilient and Self-Reliant Viksit Bharat

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GUIDELINES

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- Research papers of 3000-4000 words, Font Size 12, Font Style Arial, 1.5 Spacing, and Chicago Style Referencing (in endnotes) are mandatory for review. A short abstract of 200-250 words must be submitted with the paper. Kindly write in British English.
- The paper should be more specific to one of the sub-themes above rather than being loosely related to the larger theme of the journal.
- Refer to: Guideline for Contributors and Write for Us
- Appropriate honorarium will be paid for articles selected for publication after peer review

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