Lt Gen Kamal Davar reviews



and suggests Shaping the Indian Response

China's splendid isolation nurtured a particular Chinese self-perception, Chinese elites grew accustomed to the notion that China was unique---not just a "great civilization" among others, but civilization itself.

Henry Kissinger

Some 200 years back, Napoleon had prophetically expressed that "let China sleep, for when she wakes, she will shake the world." Unquestionably, China has gone far beyond this axiom, and the world acknowledges that. Over the past two decades or so, China has been one of the world's fastest growing economies with foreign reserves now estimated at over \$ 3.4 trillion and fielding what is regarded as the second most powerful armed forces in the world. China is fast catching up with the now economically weary and the strategically fatigued United States of America. China's spectacular rise naturally translates into its ever growing global clout, propelling it to have unbridled geo-political and military ambitions – not only in Asia but world-wide.

China's burgeoning financial, and consequently military might, continues