

# LT CDR K.S. HARIKRISHNAN (RETD.)

PROJECT MANAGEMENT | AVIATION ADMINISTRATION | RESOURCE PLANNING | EX-HELICOPTER PILOT  
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## SUMMARY

Senior Aviation Specialist and Director of Aeronautics Department, with a leadership career of 10 years in the Indian Navy, adept at managing cross-functional teams and coordinating with key stakeholders in India and overseas. Excellent communicator, known for mobilising resources for mission-critical projects and meeting operational demands. Recognized for strategic leadership and exceptional teamwork, effectively orchestrating complex aviation asset deployments and risk mitigation strategies, consistently yielding high success rates. Accrued flying experience of 1400+ hours on Alouette III (Chetak) helicopters, Diamond DA 40 aircraft and Flight Simulators.

**Youngest Officer** to be appointed as Flight Commander of two front-line helicopter units.

**Led Multiple Aviation** expeditions in India (6000+ km of coastline) and overseas deployments in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Australia.

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## KEY SKILLS

Cross-functional Collaboration | Stakeholder Management | Aviation Management | Technical Support | Government Liaison | Flight Safety | Planning | Conflict Resolution | Process Change | Budgeting | Forecasting | Resource Allocation | Training & Mentoring | Competency Mapping | Team Development | Inventory Management |

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## CAREER HISTORY

<b>Flight Commander (Helicopter Unit), Vishakhapatnam</b>	- Aviation Head / Project Head	<b>Dec 2021 – Dec 2023</b>
<b>Flight Commander (Helicopter Unit), Kochi</b>	- Aviation Head / Project Head	<b>Oct 2020 – Dec 2021</b>
<b>Staff Pilot (Aircraft Carrier/ Air Station), Goa and Kochi</b>	- Chief Air Operations Officer	<b>Jul 2015 – Oct 2020</b>
<b>Officer Trainee - Leadership and Training Development/ Flight Training</b>		<b>Dec 2013 – Jul 2015</b>

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## EDUCATION

**Post-Graduate Programme in Aviation Management** | University of Petroleum & Energy Studies, Dehradun, 2024

**Business Management (Finance and HR)** | Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi, 2023

**Bachelor of Engineering, Electronics and Communication** | Nitte Meenakshi Institute of Technology, Bangalore, 2013

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

**Pilot Conversion**, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Uran Academy (IGRUA)

**Helicopter Conversion**, Indian Naval Air Squadron 561, Aarakonam

**Behavioural Leadership**, Centre for Excellence Leadership and Behavioural Studies Kochi

**Naval Orientation Program**, Military Science and Operational Studies, Indian Naval Academy, Ezhimala

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## ACHIEVEMENTS/ AWARDS

- Gold medalist in Business Management (Finance and HR) at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), 2023.
- Commander-in-Chief Commendation for 'Devotion to Duty'
- 'Two Star' Flight Safety Badge from the Flag Officer, Naval Aviation
- Principal crew for major Air Shows and Flypasts
- Samudra Seva Medal
- Published two articles in Navy Aviation Magazine

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### INDIAN NAVY, India

2013 – 2023

#### Technical Project Management | Aviation Administration | Resource Management | Airworthiness

- Led a dedicated team of 22+ professionals, focusing on efficiency in Flight Safety Management, regulations, inventory and stakeholder Management and documentation.
- Realised 110% of mandated flight operation hours, without incidents and implemented key projects to support flotilla of 70+ ships, delivering solutions for air logistics, medical evacuation, Search & Rescue and VIP transfers.
- Achieved 90% serviceability of vintage aircraft by streamlining technical operations and maintenance processes. Secured critical airworthiness clearances, modifications for aircraft and associated systems.
- Spearheaded the execution of equipment trials, coordinated scheduled checks and supervised major inspections in close collaboration with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Naval Aircraft Yard.
- Responsible for making financial business decisions and fund budgeting. Initiated and realized increase in provision of funds by 300% for improvement of aircraft maintenance, spares and facilities through procurement planning and effective vendor management.

#### Joint Operations Projects | International Aviation | Integrated Planning | Risk Management | Compliance

- Steered joint aviation operations during International maritime exercises, overseeing safe and timely execution. Abetted diplomatic relationships with defence force representatives from Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, Vietnam and Indonesia, fostering progressive partnerships for global defence programs.
- Liaised with defence and civil authorities for 150 km aerial survey of Sri Lanka's coastline. Steered the project life cycle, including planning for manpower and material deployment in remote areas. Ensured compliance with international aviation and safety regulations throughout the entirety of the operation.

#### HR and Team Management | Training and Development | Ethical Decision-Making | People Management

- Authorizing Officer for all unit flying operations, responsible for airworthiness and safety of unit aircraft including flying proficiency assessment of subordinate aircrew. Authored and issued Flight Standing Order, ratified SOPs and promulgated Accident Prevention Plan.
- Directed concurrent operations from a warship and air station. Augmented coordination through systematic planning and practical foresight; sustaining peak levels of administrative and operational readiness on both fronts.
- Initiated reports, including performance appraisals of Officers and men for career progression. Conducted assessments of psychological and physical idiosyncrasies through counselling and grievance handling, achieving 33% increase in employee productivity.

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## INTERNSHIP/ VOLUNTEER ROLES

Volunteered as 'Honorary Gunnery Officer' at Freemantle Volunteer Heritage Guides at Perth, Australia.

Organised Walkathon "Green Deck" for Officers and crew of warship, towards promoting Flight Safety awareness.

Interned at Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) in advanced automation for Iron and Steel Plant at Duburi, Orissa.

NCC (National Cadet Corps) Cadet and attended Combined Annual Training Camp at Patwadangar, Uttarakhand.

Volunteered in 'Festival for Tribal Culture' at YMCA, New Delhi.

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

**Date of Birth** - August 2, 1991

**Languages** - Proficient in English, Hindi and Malayalam; Basic knowledge - Spanish