**Rajesh Chaudhary**

**🖂** [Sleekblade78@gmail.com](mailto:Sleekblade78@gmail.com) 🕿 +91-9960988467  [Rajesh Chaudhary](https://d.docs.live.net/ad3b7014612c7c66/Desktop/Freelance/Rajesh/linkedin.com/rajesh-chaudhary)

**Indian Navy Veteran +2 decades of experience**

**Project Management | Human Resources | Flying & Maritime Operations | Humanitarian Mission Ownership | Team Training**

**Resource Optimisation | High-Growth & Turnaround Operations**

*Seasoned professional, rich experience in Indian Navy, Commissioned Officer on a variety of vessels and a Qualified Fighter Pilot. Accredited with driving multi-billion-dollar projects of national prestige while promoting a global perspective and cross-cultural experience to shape operational effectiveness, reach, and impact.*

*Proficient in defining human resources initiatives and operations strategies to drive bottom-line success. Accredited with diligent planning throughout the Navy career leading to Zero accidents/incidents.*

*Experienced in working with high level Government officials, (National and International) on projects and acquisitions of national importance and internationally significant Humanitarian Missions and Projects*

**PROFILE OVERVIEW**

* Excel in leading development projects for induction of Aviation platforms; establishing SOPs and streamlining workflows
* Record of finalising amended contract with reoriented goals towards development of Twin Engine Deck Based Fighter
* Strategically lead all aspects of navy projects within prescribed operational standards and funding parameters
* Architects operational systems, policies and running units as independent war fighting professional units
* Develops Unit Flight Safety Orders and set a culture of safe flying operations in a new induction fighter squadron
* Steers Naval Project to develop an indigenous deck-based fighter at the apex level to promote Indigenisation
* Accomplished in directing staff of +300 for prolonged deployments at sea while managing human resource functions
* Training, motivation and leadership under hazardous conditions in a multi-cultural and dynamic environment
* Leads cross functional teams of over 20 specialist members on high value and cutting-edge technology assets
* Adaptability for diverse job requirements and a Team-based management style for peak individual performance
* Bolsters synergies between interdepartmental activities for highly productive and efficient working environments
* Vital exposure to leading front-line war ships of the Indian navy including in foreign waters for as long as 3 months.
* Front-line warship as Principal Warfare Officer in 2016
* Executive Officer of a Specialised Diving Ship in 2013
* Induction of a frontline fighter aircraft into the Indian Navy as induction crew in 2008
* Crew of a seaward defence boat as Executive Officer in 2004
* Operated and led a state-of-the-art aircraft from the only operational Air-Craft Carrier of the Indian Navy
* Thorough prowess in Piloting Aircraft and facilitating long/short term planning of Aircraft Maritime deployments
* Attained Carrier Qualification, the ability to operate a fighter aircraft from the confines of an aircraft carrier.
* Achieved experience of over 900 hours of flying operations with nil accidents

**HIGHLIGHTS**

* Successfully managed **Maiden Mumbai Navy Half Marathon** with over Five Thousand participants in 2016
* Received multiple commendations
* Commendation by Indian Air Force Chief in 2004 for safely recovering a fighter aircraft with structural failure in air
* Commendation by Commander-in-Chief in 2012 for safely recovering a fighter aircraft with an engine failure in air.
* Successfully led **Relief and Succour Post Tsunami** 2004 and **Post Cyclone Hud Hud** in 2014
* Architected and led a social experiment for increased awareness about Naval Aviation amongst the children of Goa state
* Provided strategic direction to unit towards achievement of Unit Citation for prolonged sustained operations overseas
* Acted as Safety Officer for **safe recovery of an Australian sea boat** that was lost at sea owing to inclement weather
* Raised awareness about open waste disposal and consequential bird hazard to flight operations to surrounding villages
* Authored service paper on “Mitigating Measures to Cater for War Damage to Power and Water Supply at INS Hansa”
* Authored service paper on “Mitigating Measures to address the shortage of Harbour Pilots at Kochi Harbour ”

**SKILL SET**

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| * Aircraft Piloting and Maintenance * Project Management * Asset Management * Disciplinary & Staff Duties * Specialist Manpower Planning * Disruptive Innovation * Multi-Cultural & Global Interactions * Contract Management | * Mission Planning * Staff Appraisals (national & international) * Resources Planning and Administration * Budget Management * Price Negotiations * Budget & Cost Mgt * Humanitarian Relief Operations * Broad-Based Team Building & Training |

**CAREER REVIEW**

**Joint Director/ Project Manager ⏵ Ministry of Defence (Navy) Integrated Headquarters / Directorate of Aviation Projects Management** Jan 2018 – Present

**Infrastructure Planning and Project Operations**

* Conceptualise and implement new operational directives for smooth planning, coordination and steering of the Naval Light Combat Aircraft Development project at the apex level
* Propose operational strategy, well-organised processes and solutions to promote improved quality of core operations
* Driving performance improvement strategies to unlock productivity and accelerate on-time project execution
* Sustain long-term relationships with external partners, vendors, supplier and stakeholders while negotiating contracts
* Interface with Finance and Administration department to manage program budgets and streamline project operations
* Ensuring the presence of good financial controls and management across all areas of budgetary management
* Undertake project monitoring process and produce the annual evaluation reports for large scale campaigns

**Aircraft Contract**

* Individually lead Development project with value of over INR 1000 Cr. including strategic planning, development, testing and final induction of contracted aircraft, aircrew training, induction of training aids and equipment
* Manage Post Contract Management of the US$10 Million aircraft contract, addressing all contractual issues at apex level
* Maintain smooth liaison with OEMs (MS Pipistral, ADA, DRDO,etc), Command Headquarters, field units and the MoD

**Maintenance Support and Monitoring**

* Play a key role in evaluation of technical proposals and serve as a member of Contract Negotiation Committees
* Ensure that repair recovery plans are appropriately planned, and develop estimates in overall maintenance planning
* Contribute to maintenance budget ready for approval, to update appropriate maintenance support documentation

**Executive Officer and Principal Warfare Officer ⏵ INS Tabar/ Talwar (Front Line Weapon platform)** Jun 2016 – Jan 2018

* Ensured operational readiness and a well-trained crew and led high-impact safe missions including overseas deployment
* Regularly communicated with dockyard and Naval Armament Depots for operational availability of armaments on board
* Issued plans and orders to execute the decisions, and identifying specified tasks needed to accomplish assigned missions
* Administered funds including book-keeping and audit with a solid knowledge of handling financial transactions
* Executed instructions, plans and orders for directing subordinates and supporting units in task accomplishment
* Assisted the General Officer in mission accomplishment and contributed to making strategic level plans and decisions
* Monitored/streamlined cumbersome and time-consuming procedures for flow of information for quick decision making

**Unit Flight Safety Officer ⏵ INAS 303 (Front Line Fighter Squadron)** Oct 2014 – Jun 2016

* Completed re-familiarisation flying syllabus for commissioning crew of most modern Aircraft Carrier in the Indian Navy
* Tracked, recorded and analysed incidents and accidents on squadron aircraft to pave the way for root cause analysis
* Completed Carrier Qualification syllabus, acquiring clearance to operate fighter aircraft from the aircraft carrier
* Successfully completed long detachments from home base, accredited with huge quantum of flying
* Architected and formed Black Cats as Leader during International Fleet Review 2016

**Executive Officer and Principal Warfare Officer ⏵ INS Nireekshak (Specialised Diving Vessel)** Dec 2012 – Oct 2014

* Managed a record 257-meter dive in Jan 2013 and executed multiple support missions to Lakshadweep Islands
* Ensured timely ship and preparation for Work Up in less than fifteen days and received excellent report on the same
* Oversaw daily liaison with Command staff and NSRY (Kochi) for ship specialised diving equipment upkeep.
* Executed off-base refit at Karwar including ship lift underwater hull activities and Base port shifting to Visakhapatnam
* Conducted Delivery Acceptance Trials of the aviation facilities of an Aircraft Carrier as Trials Co-ordinator, 2012

**Staff Pilot ⏵ Induction Crew and IFTU (MiG-29K)** Sep 2008 – Dec 2012

* Tasked with flying operations in Russia which involved working with Russian Pilots and Design team
* Converted new induction fighter aircraft, overseeing transfer of all operator-based knowledge, and streamlined SOPs

**Executive Officer and Principal Warfare Officer ⏵ INS Mithun (Survey Craft)** Oct 2004 – Oct 2005

* Spent 120+ days of sailing in the year, handling Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief during Tsunami 2004
* Managed six Exclusive Economic Zone surveillance at Palk Bay and functioned as a Logistics Officer onboard.

**Staff Pilot ⏵ INAS 551** Oct 2005 – Sep 2008

* Converted on to HPT-32, Kiran MK-1, Kiran MK-2 and Mig-21 T-96 aircraft

**Initial Flying Training ⏵ INAS 551** Jan 202 – Oct 204

* First position in Ground subjects during flying training and first position in the Pre flying training course

**EDUCATIONAL REVIEW**

* **PMP certification (Project Management Professional)**; Project management Institute Pennsylvania, 2020
* **PGDMS (Post Graduate Diploma in Management Studies);** Jamnalal Bajaj Institute of Management studies, 2014
* **BSc.;** National Defence Academy, 1998

*References available upon request*