

AIR VICE MARSHAL ARUN MALIK, Vishisht Seva Medal



Aerospace Strategist | Experimental Test Pilot | Defence Technologist | Senior Leader
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Distinguished aerospace strategist and Air Vice Marshal with over **40 years of dedicated service**, including **30+ years in experimental flight testing, aviation project leadership and strategic planning**. Proven expertise in prototype testing, indigenous aircraft development and multi-agency collaboration across DRDO, HAL, ADA and private defence industry.

Over **4,200 flying hours** on **25 aircraft types** including Mirage-2000, Mig-21, Hawk, IJT, LCA, Dornier, AN-32, Saras. A **Category 'A', Qualified Flying Instructor and Experimental Test Pilot**, known for precision, innovation and mentorship.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Indigenous Aircraft Development & Flight Testing
- Strategic Defence Planning & Capability Building
- Multi-Agency Project Leadership (DRDO, HAL, ADA & IAF)
- Contract Negotiation & Procurement Strategy
- Cross-Functional Team Management
- Mentorship & Talent Development

KEY APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Chief of Air Staff (Projects)-Air HQ
- Principal Director (Projects)-Air HQ
- Principal Director (Air Staff Requirements) - Air HQ
- Director, IAF Project Monitoring Team - Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA, Min. of Defence)
- Project Director (Flight Testing)-National Flight Test Centre (NFTC), "**The Premier Flight Test Centre of our Nation**)

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Lead Test Pilot, Saras Mk-II Flight Test Programme - From first flight through all phases
- Prototype Flight Testing - Intermediate Jet Trainer (IJT) and other Indigenous platforms
- Strategic Planner, Air HQ - Enabled induction of aircrafts and systems aligned with IAF capability goals
- Technology Leadership - Spearheaded collaborations with DRDO, HAL, ADA and global aviation leaders
- Project Management - Oversaw design-to-delivery lifecycle of combat aircraft and aviation systems

- Project Director – NFTC - Head organization to oversee Design & Development, Flight Evaluation and trial campaigns for LCA MK-1/1A. Guidance for Design & Development activities towards First Flight of LCA MK-2 and Project Programme of AMCA

VISION STATEMENT

To foster **multi-domain partnerships** between indigenous defence industry, armed forces, R&D institutions and academia-leveraging **Make-in-India** and strategic capabilities to meet mission needs competitively and sustainably.

CONTRIBUTION AREAS or (VALUE ADDITION TO THE ORGANISATION)

- Director - level mentorship for aviation projects
- End-to-end expertise from design to flight testing
- Strategic planning for defence capability enhancement
- Contract management and technical evaluation
- Cross-sector collaboration and stakeholder engagement
- Wealth of experience in leading diverse teams of all genders and fostering inclusivity

EDUCATION

Degree	Institution	Year
B.Sc (NDA)	JNU, Delhi	1987
Master of Military Operational Art & Science	Air University, USA	2006
M.Phil (Defence & Strategic Studies)	NDC, University of Madras	2018

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Qualified Flying Instructor (QFI)	Flying Instructors School, Tambaram	1995
Experimental Test Pilot	ASTE, Bengaluru	2001

AWARDS & HONOURS

- Vishisht Seva Medal (Presidential Award) - 2014
- Commendation by Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief - 1995

REFERENCES

- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit AVSM VM VSM (Mobile 09990809946)
Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (CISC)
- Air Mshl Jeetendra Mishra SYSM AVSM VSM - Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief
Western Air Command
- Air Mshl George Thomas AVSM VM – Director General Air (Operations)
- Shri Jitender J Jadhav Director General - Aeronautical Development Agency
- Dr DK Sunil - Chairman & Managing Director – Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- Dr (Ms) Chandrika Kaushik Outstanding Scientist & Director General (Production
Co-ordination & Services Interaction) (Off No. 011-23013220)
- Shri VK Prabhulla Chandran outstanding Scientist & Advisor to Director General,
Aeronautical Development Agency (mobile 9844503813)

PERSONAL DETAILS

- **Date of Birth:** 17 September 1967
- **Current role:** Air Vice Marshal, Indian Air Force
- **Mobility:** Willing to travel for strategic projects