



AIR MARSHAL AJIT SHANKARRAO BHONSLE

Air Marshal Ajit Bhonsle was commissioned into the Indian Air Force on 08th June 1978 and after 39 years of distinguished service he has joined as Member, UPSC on 21st February 2017.

He is an alumnus of Bhonsala Military School, National Defence Academy, Defence Services Staff College, College of Defence Management and National Institute of Defence Studies, Japan.

He holds the degrees of M.Sc. Defence Studies from University of Madras, Masters in Business Management from IGNOU and Osmania University and M.Phil from Tokyo.

Prior to joining UPSC, he held the Office of Chief of HQ, Integrated Defence Staff (IDS) and also as Deputy Chief of Joint Operations, Doctrines, Organization & Training. During this period Air Marshal Ajit Bhonsle oversaw capacity building of Armed Forces through formulation of Defence Procurement Procedures to encourage 'Make in India' in Defence Sector, expansion of training capacities and infrastructure at National Defence Academy, College of Defence Management & Defence Services Staff College, commencement of B.Tech. curricula at National Defence Academy, Curricula revision of Military Institute of Technology, initiation of Cyber, Space Agencies and Special Forces Division, formulation of Joint Doctrine of Armed Forces and conduct of exercises in Disaster Relief across India in coordination with state governments of Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Gujrat. He has spearheaded the project for establishment of Indian National Defence University and selection of site and design for National War Memorial & National War Museum through a global design competition.

Air Marshal Ajit Bhonsle has served as a member of several apex committees such as Defence Acquisition Council, Chiefs of Staff Committee, Joint Training Committee, Vice Chiefs Committee and Principal Personnel Officers Committee. He was also the President of leading think tanks, the United Services Institute, Centre for Joint-Warfare Studies and member of Executive Council of Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (Deemed University) and Academic Council (NDA) of Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Air Marshal Ajit Bhonsle has participated in the Sri Lanka Indian Peace Keeping Force Operations, Siachin operations and Kargil operations and has 5200 hours of flying experience. In recognition of his distinguished service of exceptional order the Honourable President of India has awarded him with Vishishta Seva Medal in 2005 and Ati Vishishta Seva Medal in 2010.

Air Marshal Ajit Bhonsle is an avid traveller and takes keen interest in performing arts, culture and culinary. An animal lover, he is fond of golf, swimming and equestrian sports.