

## BIODATA

1. Name: Rear Admiral P Ashokan, NM, (Retd)
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6. Education: BSc (JNU), MSc (Def Studies), Chennai University;
7. **Professional Experience.**
  - (a) Commissioned into Indian Navy – 01 Jul 84
  - (b) Joined Submarines - Dec 86.
  - (c) **Submarine Experience.** Spent the first 25 years of service career on board submarines (less time spent on courses and other operational appointments) and commanded three conventional submarines and culminated in the command of INS Chakra the Nuclear Submarine taken on lease from Russia.
  - (d) **Exposure to Russian Navy.** During the training and commissioning process of INS Chakra I had very good exposure to the Russians concepts and technology. Imbided a very high degree of technical skills especially on Nuclear Physics and related aspect of Nuclear and Radiation Safety. Can read and speak Russian fluently. The knowledge of Russian language has helped me to access open source articles which are originally in Russian and are not available or poorly translated or interpreted in English language.
  - (e) **NHQ Experience.** After extended period spent on board submarines was posted in Naval Headquarters where I was looking after the process of taking over our indigenous nuclear submarines from the ATV Programme into the Indian Navy. In that capacity I gained immense experience of the safety (nuclear) and huge infrastructural requirements for nuclear submarines.
  - (f) **Submarine Design Experience.** After NHQ I was posted in ATV HQ where I was doing the job of Project Director (Operations & Training). Here my role was to give operational inputs and feedback

on equipment and systems being developed by DRDO and various other agencies. The regular interaction with the Submarine Design Group (SDG) and the technical divisions of the ATV HQ has given me a deep insight into linking operational imperatives into submarine design requirements.

(g) **Professional Education in Indian Navy.**

(i) **Defence Services Staff College.** One year Joint services training, including officers from all three military services, All India services and international students. The content covers a very wide canvas which includes besides defence strategy, socio – politico economic aspects etc.

(ii) **Naval Higher Command Course.** Six months course which develops the students' aptitude on Strategic and Operational level with respect to critical thinking, analytical ability, policy formulation and proficiency at Operational Art. The course instils regional and global awareness. research oriented thinking and evolving future concepts on 'Core Issues' confronting the Armed Forces.

8. **Study for NIAS.** During the period July 2021 to Dec 2021, I was part of a team that carried out a study on 'Current and Emerging trends in Conventional Submarines and Unmanned/Autonomous Underwater Vehicles', which was steered by Prof Srikumar Pullat, Head, ISSSP.

9. **Other General Interests and Knowledge Areas.** China, Nuclear submarines, Nuclear Strategy, proficient in Russian language.