



Pradhan Kushalappa

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Summary

PMP® and LSSGB-certified leader with 10 years' Indian Navy experience directing 24/7 high-risk, large-scale programs, multi-national operations and digital transformation projects. Proven in driving continuous improvement, operational analytics, and stakeholder management in mission-critical settings, bringing disciplined execution, structured problem-solving, and cross-functional leadership to complex, fast-moving business challenges.

Professional Experience

PROJECT HEAD (Coastal Operations, Maharashtra) | Indian Navy | Mumbai Jul 23-Jul 25

- **Budget Management:** Directed ₹100 Cr operating budget across a 150-member unit, reallocating resources to core value gaining functions and driving a 50% gain in process efficiency.
- **Digital Transformation:** Conceptualized and led end-to-end digital transformation of network centric radar systems across a 15-vessel fleet connected to custom-built early-warning threat-detection platform that sharpened threat visibility and accelerated response times across the coastal patrol network resulting in significant reduction of threat designation time by approximately two hours.
- **Governance & Controls :** Instituted governance and audit-readiness controls across high-value vendor contracts, achieving Nil Observations in the CAG Audit (highest national standard)
- **Strategy Development:** Served at the frontline of strategy development, designing and stress-testing operational plans through 7 national-level exercises and 10 security audits involving 1,500+ personnel, validating their effectiveness and translating results into policy and crisis-management frameworks for 24x7 coastline security.
- **Team Management :** Led a team of 150 personnel and was responsible for deployment, training, high morale and welfare of the team responsible for 24X7 patrolling of Maharashtra coastline.

BASE COMMANDER (Androth Island) | Indian Navy | Lakshadweep. Jul 21 – Jul 23

- **Project Management :** Initiated and deployed a state-of-the-art satellite communication system connecting critical systems to the mainland, significantly boosting the island's strategic capability and real-time command reach; layered in operational dashboards and Kaizen methods to cut fault-resolution times.
- Led a 24x7 operational command center with a team of 60 for coastal security surveillance, incident response, machinery defect management, SOS calls from fishermen, and public grievance resolution.
- Delivered ₹50 Cr infrastructure modernization projects using operational dashboards, risk tracking tools and internal audits to ensure timely, cost-effective project completion.
- **Strategic Partnership:** Fostered strategic partnerships with local administration, healthcare authorities, and community representatives to support operational continuity and public engagement programs which ensured effective civil-military coordination to combat emergencies, natural disasters and cyclones

NAVIGATION & OPERATIONS OFFICER | Indian Navy | IN Ships Suvarna & Mumbai Oct 18 – Jul 21

- **Operations Planning:** Planned and executed high-stakes deployments to 4 countries, coordinating complex ship operations at sea with a crew of 140.
- Undertook three strategic DRDO missile-testing deployments and participated in 3 multinational war games alongside the navies of the USA, France, and Japan as Navigating Officer of a ship representing the Indian Navy, demonstrating high-risk operational planning in complex, multi-partner environments.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Managed diplomatic protocols and engagements with foreign delegates and diplomats during ship visits.
- **Crisis Management:** Oversaw operation of 3 quarantine facilities catering to 1200 personnel during COVID-19, ensuring crew safety and preventing virus spread whilst ensuring operational continuity.
- **Operational enhancement:** Oversaw the upgradation of navigation equipment enhancing operational efficiency

Education

- **Bachelor of Engineering (Civil),** MS Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore
- **Master of Business Administration (MBA)-** Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad - Pursuing

Accomplishments and Awards

- Awarded Samudri Seva Medal for successful completion of Operational Tasking and revamping of Infrastructure in Lakshadweep, providing a foundation to achieve its strategic objectives

License & Certifications

- Project Management Professional (PMP®) – PMI, USA
- Certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt (LSSGB) – KPMG, India

Co/Extra-curricular

- Won gold medal in district level hockey tournament and represented Mysore in state level hockey tournament
- Appointed as Vertical Head in Placement Committee of PGPM, IIM Ahmedabad
- Awarded 'Most Valuable Player' in intra IIM-A Yalgaar hockey tournament in Aug 26