



LT GEN BALBIR SINGH SANDHU,

AVSM, VSM (RETD)

Lt Gen Balbir Singh Sandhu superannuated from the Indian Army in 2017 after putting in almost four decades of outstanding service. He is only the second officer from his service the Army Service Corps to be made Lt Gen in Staff Stream.

He embodies a rare combination of an international sportsman and an outstanding military professional. As a professional, he was head of his parent service as Director General of Supplies and Transport(DGST) where he was commissioned as 2Lt in 1978. He also held the appointment of DGIT of Indian Army. In the field of sports he played polo for the Army and the Indian teams. He is currently the Vice President of Indian Polo Association(IPA) and is on the management of Delhi Golf Club.He is also advisor to the President Equestrian Federation of India(EFI).

During his military career, he served extensively in operational areas where he had the first hand experience of leading his men and unit out of difficult situations. He has to his credit all the important training courses and appointments which an army officer aspires to which enabled him to reach the pinnacle of his career. At the DGST, last appointment of his military career, he was responsible to provide logistics to 1.3 million strong army leading a team of over 70000 officers and men deployed pan India in terrain ranging from mountains such as Siachen glacier to Thar desert and island territories.

He has been awarded with Ati Vashisht Seva Medal(AVSM) and Vashisht Seva Medal(VSM) for his distinguished service and contribution to the organisation.

He has an M Phil in Defence Studies and has recently submitted his thesis for the degree of Ph D on Peace , Security and Economic Development of North East India with reference to BIMSTEC. He is a distinguished fellow at the United Services Institution (USI) of India and contributes regularly to strategic think tanks and newspapers on leadership and strategic

subjects. He is regular at various seminars and is a TedX speaker where he delivered a talk on Soldiering, Sports and Leadership because he believes there is hidden soldier and a sports person in everyone.