**CV : BRIG RAJU BAIJAL, SM**

 I am a first generation military officer who was commissioned in 1989. My early schooling was in Delhi prior to joining the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla and the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun. I was commissioned in the Garhwal Rifles, an Infantry Regiment comprising of troops from the highland region of Garhwal in the state of Uttrakhand. It has been my fortune to have commanded the same battalion in which I was commissioned.

My professional career over approximately 30 years has provided me combat experience in Counter Insurgency operations in varied terrain and along the borders in high altitude and glacial terrain. I also have experience in deserts and along the plains. I have also had the good fortune of having commanded an Infantry Brigade in mountainous terrain, which gave me a rich operational exposure. I have received Commendations from the Chief of Army Staff, Vice Chief of Army Staff and General Officer Commanding in Chief on four different occasions. The Brigade Commanders tenure was recognized with the Sena Medal for Distinguished Service in 2017.

 My exposure on staff appointments has been at the Divisional and Army HQ, handling a vast charter spanning policy formulation, perspective planning, operations and equipment management. Staff exposure has afforded me opportunities to work alongside the Ministry of Defence and interacting with an array of agencies. My current appointment is at the Army HQ.

 I have undergone various courses of instructions on weapons and tactics at the company commander and battalion commander level and have served as an instructor at The Infantry School in Mhow, the alma mater of an Infantryman. I was selected to undergo the prestigious Advanced Command and Staff Course at the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Shrivenham, UK. In addition, I secured a MA Degree from King’s College London alongwith the qualification on the Staff Course, which has been a thoroughly professionally enriching experience. After my battalion command, I was nominated for the Higher Command Course at Army War College, Mhow.

 Last but not the least, my family has been a pillar of strength. My wife, Mrs Anita Baijal hails from the State of Jharkhand. We are blessed with two children – Aashna Baijal, my daughter is 21 years old and working. My son, Rohan Baijal, age 17 is currently studying in class 12 in Delhi and is preparing for various engineering fields.

We are looking forward to a thoroughly enriching experience in Israel and hope to learn from your vast professional experience in operations as also in the various dimensions of strategy.