



**Savitribai Phule Pune University**  
**Department of Defence and Strategic Studies (DDSS)**

is organizing a lecture-cum-discussion  
on

# India's Strategic Culture and Leadership

(Chief Guest & Keynote Speaker)



**Lt Gen Ajai Kumar Singh**

PVSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, PhD (Retd)  
Member, National Security Advisory Board

**Date: Thursday, 7th August 2025 | Time: 11:00 am**



(Chaired By)



**Prof. (Dr.) Vijay Khare**

Head, Department of Defence & Strategic Studies  
Savitribai Phule Pune University

Venue : YC-NISDA Library Hall, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Building, SPPU, Pune - 411007

**LT GEN AJAI KUMAR SINGH**  
**PVSM, AVSM, YSM, SM, VSM, PhD (RETD)**



A General officer with 40 years of decorated and distinguished career. An alumnus of St. Gabriel's Academy, Roorkee, National Defence academy and Indian Military Academy, he was commissioned into 7/11 Gorkha Rifles in December 1984. Commanded 1/11 Gorkha Rifles (Bravest of the Brave) and rose to become the Colonel of 11 Gorkha Rifles and Sikkim Scouts besides being the President Gorkha Brigade. A seasoned military leader with wide ranging operational experience of counter insurgency/counter terrorism,

high altitude, desert, jungle and glacier operations. The officer has the unique distinction of serving in all Commands and tenanted challenging command and staff appointments. Decorated in each rank he is known for inspirational leadership, strategic acumen, operational brilliance and adeptness in swiftly resolving intricate challenges.

Led the Indian Army's oldest and largest command, The Southern Command, promoting joint operations and inter service coordination besides, leveraging the peninsular India's strategic industrial and economic capabilities for *Aatmanirbharta* in defence. Initiated a comprehensive action plan towards civil-military fusion and promoted outsourcing as The Director General Operational Logistics and Strategic movement. Commanded *Trishakti* Corps defending Sikkim in the aftermath of Galwan crisis. As Additional Director General Military Operations, handled pivotal and sensitive operational issues during Balakot strike, abrogation of article 370 and Galwan crisis.

An ardent believer of the Indian knowledge system with deep interest in Spirituality, he is an accomplished mountaineer, nature enthusiast and loves Yoga, running and cycling. A double MPhil and a PhD, he has penned a book 'Beyond the Battlefield - Spirituality as an enabler of Military Leadership', besides narrating the second book 'Shalini- A Life Extraordinaire' dedicated to his wife.

His multifaceted personality and experience, coupled with outstanding and wide ranging competence, reinforced by warm human touch and empathy make him an exceptional administrator and a worthy ambassador of our distinguished Armed Forces.

The officer extensively speaks on Geo-Politics, International relations, Indian Knowledge System, Spirituality and features on varied podcasts. Recently he has been nominated as a member of the National Security Advisory Board.