

Mr Atul Dev – Brief Bio

Atul Dev is a retired Army Officer from the elite Parachute Regiment of the Indian Army. At Commissioning (1959), he was awarded the **PRESIDENT'S SILVER MEDAL** for stand Second in Order of Merit and the **SILVER MISSILE** for being the best all round Gentleman Cadet Commissioned into the Regiment of Artillery. He has seen active service in 1962, 1965 & 1971 wars fought by Indian Army. He has been awarded 13 campaign medals and stars for his services. On seeking premature retirement (1980), he was awarded the **GOVERNOR'S GOLD MEDAL** for services rendered in the North East.

He has had a special interest in aero sports from early years of his life. He was aeromodelling during his NDA days (1955-58). He did his First Parachute Jump in 1962. He did his first solo in gliders in 1964 and qualified for a Glider Pilot's licence – Open Rating (1966). He has since trained as a paraglider pilot.

Atul Dev's association with Aero Club of India (ACI) goes back to 1964 when he received the FAI 'C' Certificate in gliding through ACI. He became a Member of ACI the same year. He has been elected to the Council of Management ACI since 1977 for varying terms till 2012. He is Founder Member, Deolali Gliding Club; Founder Secretary, Agra Gliding Club; Life Member, Indian Skydiving Federation; Life Member, Delhi Gliding Club; and, Life Member, All India Aeromodellers Association, Kolkata (now defunct).

Atul Dev's association with Federation Aeronautique Internationale (FAI) goes back to 1984, when he was the Conference Organising Secretary of the FAI General Conference 1985 held in New Delhi. Since then he has been their PR Committee Chair from 1986 till 2001 and Editor-in-Chief & Publisher of the FAI official magazine – **AIR SPORTS INTERNATIONAL** – 1991 to 2001. He has since been honoured by FAI three times – **FAI Companion of Honour** (1990), **FAI Air Sport Medal** (1994) and **FAI Bronze Medal** (1996).

He was appointed Chair, Public Relations Committee of FAI (1986 to 2001). He represented India in the World Parachuting and Hang Gliding/Paragliding Commissions of FAI. He has regularly attend FAI General Conferences and Council Meetings since 1982.

He has been Director Media, Round the World Air Race (1995) and Director Media First FAI World Air Games held in Turkey (1997).

Atul Dev was elected President Aero Club of India at the Annual General Meeting of ACI held on 30 Sep 2016.