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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT

NOTIFICATIONS

New Delhi, the 21st June 1950

No. 5-Pres.—The President is pleased to approve the award of the PARAM VIR CHAKRA to the undermentioned officer for most conspicuous bravery in the operations in Jammu and Kashmir:—

2/Lieutenant RAMA RAGHOBHA RANE (SS-14246), Engineers.

On the 8th April 1948 2/Lt. RANE, Engineers, was ordered to be in-charge of the mine and road block clearing party on the 26 miles road from NAUSHERA to RAJAURI which passes through very hilly country.

At 1100 hrs. on that date near NADPUR SOUTH, just as 2/Lt. RANE with his party was waiting near the tanks to start work to clear the mines ahead, the enemy started heavy mortaring of the area, with the result that two men of the mine clearing party were killed and five others wounded including 2/Lt. RANE. This officer at once re-organised his party and started work for the tanks to go on to their position. Throughout that day he was near the tanks under heavy enemy Machine Gun and Mortar fire.

After the capture of BARWALI RIDGE at about 1630 hrs., although knowing that the enemy had not been completely cleared of the area, this officer took his party ahead and started making a diversion for the tanks to proceed. He worked on till 2200 hrs. that night in full view of the enemy and under his Machine Gun fire.

On the 9th he again started work at 0600 hrs. and worked on till 1500 hrs. when the diversion was ready for the tanks to proceed. As the Armoured Column advanced he got in the leading carrier and proceeded ahead. After advancing about half a mile he came across a road block made of pine trees. He at once dismounted and blasted the trees away. The advance continued. Another three hundred yards and the same story was repeated. By this time it was getting on to 1700 hrs. The road was curving round the hills like a snake. Next road block was a blasted away culvert. 2/Lt. RANE again got on with the job. Before

he could start work the enemy opened up with their Machine Guns but, with superb courage and leadership, he made a diversion and the column proceeded ahead. The road blocks were becoming numerous but he blasted his way through. It was now 1815 hrs. The light was fading fast. The carrier came across a formidable road block of five big pine trees surrounded by mines, and covered by Machine Gun fire. He started removing the mines and was determined to clear the road block but the Armoured Column commander appreciating the situation got the column into a harbour area.

On the 10th April 1948 at 0445 hrs. 2/Lt. RANE started work on the road block, in spite of enemy Machine Gun fire with the support of one troop of tanks. 2/Lt. RANE with sheer will power cleared this road block by 0630 hrs. The next thousand yards of the road was a mass of road blocks and blasted embankments. That was not all. The enemy had the whole area covered with his Machine Gun fire but with super-human efforts, in spite of being wounded, this officer with cool courage, exemplary leadership and complete disregard for personal life, cleared the road by 1030 hrs.

The Armoured Column proceeded ahead and got off the road into the river bed of TAWI but 2/Lt. RANE continued clearing the road for the admn. column. The tanks reached CHINGAS by 1400 hrs. 2/Lt. RANE, appreciating that the opening of the road was most vital, continued working without rest or food till 2100 hrs. that night.

On the 11th April 1948, he again started work at 0600 hrs. and opened the road to CHINGAS by 1100 hrs. He worked on that night till 2200 hrs. clearing the way ahead.

No. 6-Pres.—The President is pleased to approve the award of the MAHA VIR CHAKRA to the following for acts of gallantry in the operations in Jammu and Kashmir:—

(The date of act for purposes of entitlement to special pension is given in brackets against the names.)

Lt-Colonel ANANT SINGH PATHANIA, MC (IC-56), 1 Bn. The 5 Gorkha Rifles.

The fine achievement of 1/5 RGR during the ZOJILA operations was due entirely to the courage and fine leadership of Lt-Colonel PATHANIA.

The hardest battle fought by the infantry was in breaking the well fortified enemy position on 'ANANT' feature. The success of this operation was due entirely to Lt-Colonel PATHANIA's personal reconnaissance of the enemy defence and in finding the most suitable routes for the attack of his Bn. on night 14/15 November 1948. Throughout the reconnaissance stage and during the attack this officer personally led his men. He was a source of great encouragement to his men.

Major SATYA PAL CHOPRA (IC-1333), 3 (Para.) Bn. The Mahratta Light Infantry. (Posthumous)

On March 15, 1948, Major CHOPRA was commanding the left forward company during the advance on Jhangar. The hostiles lay strongly entrenched on Pir Thil Nakka, a formidable hill feature, with their bunkers well camouflaged. They held their fire until Major CHOPRA's company and another company on the right were in an open space of

ground only 200 yards away from their position. Both companies came under heavy fire and were pinned to the ground. The enemy swept the area with four machine guns and six light automatics. Without caring for his personal safety, Major CHOPRA immediately rushed forward with one platoon to an intermediate position from where he gave his troops covering fire. During this move he was wounded in the face but in spite of the injury he kept on fighting.

Major CHOPRA though himself wounded turned to the evacuation of his wounded men who were lying on the exposed ground swept by enemy machine guns. In spite of the hazardous situation, he managed to remove three of his men from the area. As he was trying to remove the fourth man he was shot through the head and fell mortally wounded.

Major CHOPRA made the supreme sacrifice of his life in the discharge of his duties in order to save the lives of his comrades. His leadership, showing complete disregard of personal safety, his devotion to duty and his gallantry were of the highest order.

Major SARDAR MALKIT SINGH BRAR (IC-1257), 1 (Para) Bn. The Kumaon Regiment. (*Posthumous*)

On the night 7/8 February 1948 at Poonch, Major BRAR was commanding B Coy. of his Bn. Owing to his extremely good leadership the Coy. captured an important hill feature against heavy opposition of the hostiles who were entrenched in dug down bunkers.

With the day break, enemy directed very heavy automatic fire from three directions and then launched a determined counter attack at about 1030 hrs. with an estimated strength of about 200. The forward post had suffered heavy casualties by this time and there were only two men capable of fighting. At this juncture Major BRAR ran with a Bren gun to the forward post with utter disregard for his personal safety and fired from the hip at the advancing enemy from point blank range. This withering wave of fire stopped the hostiles who ran back and took cover behind the rocks. Thus Major BRAR's most outstanding gallantry saved the forward platoon from being overrun.

Then despite the wound he had received during this action, Major BRAR personally evacuated most of his casualties from the forward post under very heavy enemy automatic fire, and when ordered to withdraw, he on his own initiative went round all the forward posts and collected two Bren guns and five rifles left belonging to the dead.

In spite of the orders to go down he went on supervising the evacuation of the company's casualties, when a 3 inch mortar bomb landed close to him and further wounded him mortally. Major BRAR expired on the spot saying "Well done B Company. Get down, I am all right." Personal bravery of a higher type has rarely been seen. His devotion to duty was exemplary and his outstanding gallantry will be quoted in the annals of his Battalion.

Captain DARA DINSHAW MISTRI (IC-1857), 1st Medium Battery—40 Medium Regiment Artillery. (*Posthumous*)

On 15 Dec 48, at Chhawa Ridge in the Naushera Sector, Capt. D. D. MISTRI was the Observation Officer of the forwardmost picquet, when the hostiles relentlessly shelled his position using every type of artillery from 3.7 howitzer to 5.5" mortar guns.

In spite of this murderous fire, Capt. MISTRI stuck to his post, and it was due to his fearless conduct that the hostile guns were pinpointed in that sector. He was also able to confirm the presence of enemy Sherman Tanks in the Sandoa village area and remained at his post when these tanks engaged his picquet for more than two hours.

He would not listen to the entreaties of the platoon commander to seek safety but continued to observe and pass back the information to the guns.

On one occasion more than a dozen shells straddled his O.P. but still undaunted he remained there till a 75 m.m. shell hit his position killing him instantaneously.

By day and by night this gallant officer continued to be the watch dog of the picquet. His personal courage, unparalleled gallantry and devotion to duty with utter disregard for personal safety was a source of inspiration to all ranks on the picquet and worthy of the highest praise.

Lieutenant KISHAN SINGH RATHOR (SS-13659), 1 Bn The Rajput Regiment.

On 6 Feb 48, at Tain Dhar near Naushera, Lt. KISHAN SINGH RATHOR was commanding a picquet on which the enemy's main attack was directed. The enemy was 1500 strong while Lt. RATHOR had only 70 men.

It was the leadership, courage, presence of mind and personal example of this officer that saved the deteriorating situation. He kept going from post to post with complete disregard for his safety, and inspired his men to fight to the last. When there was hardly anyone left to supply the ammunition, he personally started doing it through very heavy enemy fire.

On 5 Mar 48, at Kaman Gosha Dhar near Naushera, Lt. RATHOR was the Intelligence Officer with the Bn. Tactical H.Q. As the forward companies were pinned down, he volunteered to lead a platoon and attacked the hostiles from the other flank, but unfortunately he too was pinned down and was ordered to withdraw. During the withdrawal, not caring for his personal safety, he brought back a dead body lying in an open ground swept by heavy enemy fire.

In another action on 9 Apr 48, he was ordered to take a platoon near Jhangar to do a deception. When about 400 yards away from objective, he came under very heavy enemy fire and had two alternatives, either to withdraw or to go straight ahead. He chose the latter and made a determined bayonet charge forcing the enemy to retire.

Throughout the operations this young officer has proved himself a fearless and a gallant leader.

3091 Jemadar LAL SINGH, 1 Bn The Patiala RS Infantry. (15-11-48).

On the night of Nov 14/15, 48 at Pindras, Jemadar LAL SINGH was in command of the leading platoon of the Coy that attacked the Brown Hill feature.

When within 20 yards of the enemy, he came under very heavy fire.

Showing great presence of mind, he crawled forward to the leading section with his W/T set under incessant fire and ordered them to dig in.

He then crawled to the other sections and though hit seven times, he went on giving directions and cheering them up.

Although profusely bleeding and temporarily out of communication with his Coy H.Q., he by his personal example, cool courage, guts and stamina enabled the platoon to stick to the position.

At dawn, when the other two platoons advanced for the attack he put himself with the first section and charged the enemy position killing six of them and capturing the feature.

By daring dash and skilful leadership, this JCO achieved an outstanding result.

4131 L/Havildar RAMPARSHAD GURUNG, 1 Bn The 5 Gorkha Rifles.
(15-11-48).

After the breaking up of the Zojila defences on 2 Nov 48, a platoon was sent up Badgumbar Nar to round up the hostiles. The platoon suddenly came up against heavy enemy fire from a well dug-in bunker. In order to avoid casualties it was necessary to find two men who would creep up and knock out the bunker. L/Havildar RAMPARSHAD was the first to volunteer and he crept forward with grenades and sten gun. He was followed by a rifleman. It was due to the daring spirit shown by L/Havildar RAMPARSHAD and the way he planned the attack that the bunker was knocked out and the enemy position was captured.

Once again during the assault on 'Anant' feature on the night 14/15 Nov 48, this NCO was leading the attack when he was fired on from point blank range. He immediately charged the enemy position and captured it without loss to his section.

On both the occasions, this fearless NCO showed a marvelous sense of duty and daring leadership, and he was a great inspiration to his men.

No. 7-Pres.—The President is pleased to approve the award of the VIR CHAKRA to the following for acts of gallantry in the operations in Jammu and Kashmir:—

(The date of act for purposes of entitlement to special pension is given in brackets against the names.)

Lt-Colonel MAHABIR SINGH (IC 465), 2 Bn The Rajputana Rifles.
(*Posthumous*).

On the night of September 9, 1948, Lt-Colonel Mahabir Singh attacked an important enemy feature on the ridges of Dhar Valley in the Rajauri sector with only two companies under him.

It was a very difficult task, due to the enemy positions being strongly fortified, Lt-Colonel Mahabir Singh very carefully planned the night advance and dawn attack, and conducted the operation very boldly and managed to capture the feature.

He set an excellent example to his men by giving them the lead.

Lt-Colonel SURESH CHAND PANDIT (IC 212), 1 Bn The 4 Gorkha Rifles

On October 23, 1948, during the liberation of Poonch, one of the enemy's strongly entrenched positions was completely surprised by a Bn of Gorkhas under the command of Lt-Colonel Pandit. In face of pitched

and bitter fighting, after the result had been hanging in the balance for some time, the battle was won mainly due to the strong determination of Lt-Col. Pandit.

On November 8, 1948, once again Lt.-Colonel Pandit showed grim resolve and coolness in the execution of the task assigned to him in the capture of Bhimber Galli, although he was wounded in the arm and hand.

Lt.-Colonel JAMSHED DADABHOY NADIRSHAW, (IC-2558), 6 Bn.
The 8 Gorkha Rifles.

Lt.-Colonel Nadirshaw showed great courage, dash and leadership in the various battles fought on the Kashmir front from 4 November to 22nd November 1948. He set an excellent example to his men and kept their morale up at all times.

Major BRIJPAL SINGH (IC-2016), 1 Bn., The Rajput Regiment.

On February 6, 1948, the enemy in overwhelming numbers attacked one of our key positions in Naushera. Major Brijpal Singh who was in charge of the picquet with only two platoons under him, repulsed the attacks several times inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy.

Regardless of his personal safety, Major Brijpal Singh kept on inspiring his men to fight the enemy to the last man, which broke the enemy morale, and eventually the enemy had to retreat leaving many casualties behind.

Lieutenant KARTAR SINGH SANDHU (SS-13034), 22 Mountain Regiment
Artillery.

As a Forward Observation Officer with 4/7 Dogras during the Rajauri operations, Lieut. Kartar Singh showed exemplary courage and devotion to duty. In spite of being exposed to heavy enemy fire during this battle, which decided the fate of Rajauri, he continued pounding the enemy with accurate artillery fire and thereby completely demoralised them. This officer took part in a number of operations during April 8 to November 1948. Throughout the operations he always gave accurate artillery fire support to the advancing infantry units.

IO-18785, Subedar BHIM SING BOHRA, 3 Bn. The 9 Gorkha Rifles
(Posthumous) (29-8-48).

On the night of August 28/29, 1948, Subedar Bhim Sing Bohra was in charge of the leading company in an attack on a hill feature in the Poonch area. Our line of advance was under heavy enemy fire but Subedar Bhim Sing, in complete disregard of his personal safety, led the attack and hurled himself at the enemy brandishing his khukri. In this way he continued chasing the enemy until the highest point of the feature, which was strongly held by the enemy, had been captured. He was a great example of valour for his company and his courage, leadership and bravery were outstanding throughout the operation.

Later, when going from post to post, encouraging his men to hold on in spite of very heavy enemy shelling, he was hit by a mortar bomb and died.

Subedar PRAVEEN SINGH, 6 Bn. The J. & K. Infantry (*Posthumous*)
(22-9-48).

A fighting patrol was sent on September 22, 1948, to raid the enemy position opposite Nimu Hill. After a nightlong march Subedar Praveen Singh completely surprised the enemy, who was three times as strong, and captured the picquet, killing 15. It was sheer good leadership and bravery that made this gain possible against a strong enemy. Later, the Subedar laid down his life while trying to remove a wounded comrade to safety when he received a shrapnel wound in the head. During the whole action he showed great gallantry and extreme devotion to duty.

Jemadar LAL BAHADUR PUN, 1 Bn. The 5 Gorkha Rifles. (23-11-48).

With only 15 men at his disposal Jemadar Lal Bahadur Pun on his own initiative, launched an attack against the enemy, eight times as strong, and by a clever tactical manoeuvre made him flee in panic. The action took place on November 23, 1948, on the hills overlooking Kargil Road and Kharaal bridge. It was imperative that the enemy be dislodged from the hills but the process of crossing the river was slow and difficult. Realising that to wait until his entire company could get across would be a waste of valuable time, Jemadar Lal Bahadur took the daring decision to attack immediately. With his 15 men he set off to capture the most dominating hill and with personal example, got all his men on top of it. Then working his way down hill, he got behind the enemy and wiped out the topmost enemy position. The enemy, feeling he had been outflanked, fled, leaving behind 10 killed. There were no losses on our side. This Gorkha officer showed great initiative and daring leadership during the operation.

3097, Jemadar BALWANT SINGH, 1 Bn. The Patiala (RS) Infantry.
(2-11-48).

On the night of November 1/2, 1948, at the Zojila Pass in the Jammu and Kashmir State, Jemadar Balwant Singh was in command of a platoon detailed to bypass an enemy post and occupy a feature on a hill adjacent to it. There was only 200 yards of detour, involving climbing on heavily snow-covered hills in close proximity with the enemy. But the JCO without caring for darkness and snow that stood in his way, reached the top of the hill in four hours and encircled an enemy post hardly 200 yards below.

With his platoon he lay there for the whole night and at dawn, realising that the enemy was hid below in carved caves and might escape, he did not wait for orders, took out two sections and systematically charged one cave after another with automatic, rifles and handgrenades. He combed out the whole area, inflicted many casualties on the enemy and captured one 3-7 gun, one Bren gun, two rifles and vast quantities of equipment.

Throughout this vital engagement Jemadar Balwant Singh displayed consistent superb courage, utter fearlessness and a most invigorating leadership.

16851 Jemadar R. THANGAVELU, 13 Field Company Engineers.
(15-10-48).

On October 14, 1948 Jemadar R. Thangavelu was detailed with four other ranks to blast the rocks in between the M. G. post and 2 telegraph

posts on the Baltal-Gumri Road to open the way for tanks and other heavy vehicles to pass.

While at work he was heavily fired by the enemy, but undaunted, he finished his job and went ahead to complete another demolition. Realising the danger, his men were in, he asked them to take cover and all alone he went to do the blasting. Six 3" mortar, and several bursts of Browning and LMG were fired at him but with determination and courage he completed the allotted task at about 0500 hrs. on 15 October 1948.

50234-IO Jemadar KARTAR SINGH, 7 Light Cavalry. (1-11-48).

On November 1, 1948, Jemadar Kartar Singh was in command of the leading troop which entered Gumri basin after meeting opposition all the way from Zojila onwards. Though he was constantly under heavy enemy small arms fire, he continuously kept his head out of the turret and engaged targets which were very difficult to see through the perescope due to poor visibility. By this bold action he destroyed quite a number of enemy bunkers and created confusion in the enemy's ranks.

Before the launching of this operation, Jemadar Kartar Singh had gone into the enemy-held area for reconnaissance on several occasions and had brought back very valuable information.

10-61396 Jemadar BASANTA RAM, 3 (Para) Bn. The Rajput Regiment. (10-5-48).

When in the morning of May 10, 1948, one of our forward picquets was attacked by the enemy, another picquet under the command of Jemadar Basanta Ram was rushed to its help. In the darkness that then prevailed, Jemadar Basanta Ram covered the distance in a very short time and at dawn found himself and his platoon surrounded by enemy platoons on two sides. Finding himself in a fix, Jemadar Basanta Ram opened an attack, took a Bren gun from one of his men and fired from the hip. This demoralised the enemy so much that his assault line broke up and he fled without giving fight.

Jemadar Basanta Ram then turned towards the other enemy platoon in his rear and chased it till he was ordered to return. In this action he showed great initiative, leadership and the quality to take a quick decision at a crucial moment.

62 Havildar AMRUT GAMRE, 1 Bn The Mahar (MG) Regiment. (15-11-48).

On November 2, 1948, at Zojila Pass in the Jammu and Kashmir State during the attack on Machhoi, Havildar Amrut Gamre was in command of a machine gun section in support of the attacking company. His duty was to silence the enemy automatics in the hutted area which happened to be the biggest hurdle in the company's advance. He engaged the enemy so effectively that the company advanced unhindered towards its objective. Though his own gun positions came under heavy enemy fire, nothing could deter him from the path of duty.

Havildar Gamre repeated this heroic performance again when on the night of November 14/15, 1948, at Pindras our forces attacked the Brown Hill.

On both these occasions, Havildar Gamre displayed outstanding courage, tenacity and dauntless spirit.

15780 L/Havildar ANGNA RAM, 1 (Para) Bn The Kumaon Regiment.
(8-11-48).

On the night of November 7/8, 1948 Lance Havildar Angna Ram was the leading section commander of a forward platoon which came under heavy automatic and machine gun fire. The enemy made liberal use of hand grenades when the platoon came into grips with them.

Though wounded by a grenade splinter, L/Havildar Angna Ram with four Jawans, led a bayonet charge, killed two hostiles on the spot and finally captured the position. Without his exemplary courage, devotion to duty and sparkling leadership the feature could not have been captured so easily and the advance of the battalion to the main objective made possible.

15106 L/Havildar MAHTAB SINGH, 3 (Para) Bn The Rajput Regiment.
(10-5-48).

On May 10, 1948, under cover of 3" mortar fire, early in the morning while it was still dark, the enemy assaulting troops advanced and took up positions within 100 yards of our picquet. As the day dawned, one of their platoons advanced to attack the picquet from the rear.

L/Havildar Mahtab Singh, who commanded a section of our picquet, was detailed to deal with it. While his brengunners pinned the enemy platoon to the ground, he with his section put a bayonet charge. Though one of his men was killed, he took the enemy by surprise and bayoneted 10 of them, he himself killing three.

In this short but swift action L/Havildar Mahtab Singh set a very high example of courage, dash and determination, and routed a force far superior to his in numbers.

8605 Naik BAL BAHADUR MALL, 3 Bn The 9 Gorkha Rifles.
(Posthumous). (18-5-48).

On the night of May 17/18, 1948, the 3rd Battalion of the 9th Gorkha Rifles was ordered to capture a hill feature in the vicinity of Poonch. But before this could be obtained, it was necessary to occupy the pimple situated half way up the hill. Two of our platoons, one of which was being commanded by Naik Bal Bahadur opened the attack. The enemy who seemed to be in the strength of one company, attacked with automatics, small arms and grenades. On seeing this, Naik Bal Bahadur rushed ahead of his section and charged the enemy machine-gun-post with his 'kukri'.

His main idea in doing this was to capture the M.M.G, exterminate the enemy and put them to flight. Without caring for his personal safety, he charged the enemy machine-gun-post and killed one of the gunners with his 'kukri'. When he was trying to wrest the gun from the enemy he received a burst of automatic fire from another position and was killed instantaneously.

Due to his courage and gallantry he was not only responsible for the capture of the feature, but paved the way for greater victories.

62917 L/Naik DHARAMSING THAPA, 1 Bn The 5 Gorkha Rifles.
(15-11-48).

On the night of November 14/15, 1948, L/Naik Dharamsing Thapa commanded a forward platoon of a company which captured 'Kumar' a slope of the Anant feature in the Jammu and Kashmir State.

It was a moon-lit night and the advance was to be over an area covered by at least 12 enemy light automatics, medium machine guns and mortars. Undaunted, L/Naik Thapa led his section half way up the hill, but soon they came under very close fire from two enemy bunkers and were pinned to the ground. L/Naik Thapa arranged his covering fire and charged the right bunker with such determination that the enemy left the bunker in panic without putting up a fight.

Again when they came close to the 'Kumar' feature they were pinned down by accurate enemy fire. Another of our platoon which attacked the feature from a different side also met with the same fate. Faced with this danger, L/Naik Thapa fired recklessly from point blank range and forced the enemy to flee, leaving four dead behind.

It was due to this NCO's daring and dashing leadership, with complete disregard to personal safety that the objective was captured.

58075 Rifleman SHERBAHADUR GURUNG, 1 Bn The 5 Gorkha Rifles.
(2-11-48).

On November 2, 1948, after the breaking up of the Zojila defences, one platoon was sent up to Badgumbar Nar to round up the enemy. The advance of this platoon was however held up by accurate and close range enemy light automatic fire from behind a well dug-in bunker.

Covering each other, Rifleman Sher Bahadur and one of his comrades crept up to knock out the enemy in the bunker. When they were about 20 yards from the enemy, Rifleman Sher Bahadur threw two hand grenades on the bunker and rushed towards it. The enemy fired back and Rifleman Sher Bahadur was wounded in the head. But undaunted, he charged at the enemy-post single-handed, killed one hostile, wounded another and captured the bunker and a 3" mortar.

By his dash and fearless action, Rifleman Sher Bahadur not only captured a valuable 3" mortar but also very much assisted the advance of the platoon which killed the other retreating enemy.

8264 Sowar ROOP CHAND, Central India Horse. (12-4-48).

On 8th April 1948, Sowar Roop Chand was the driver of an armoured carrier which came across a road block of trees, boulders and mines. Well entrenched enemy opened up with heavy automatic fire. Sowar Roop Chand stood the ground all alone continuously for four hours. Later, while the carrier withdrew, it had 123 bullet marks.

It was due to Sowar Roop Chand's personal courage and selfless devotion to duty which saved the carrier. Throughout the period of advance from 8th April to 12th April 1948, he carried on with determination, courage and with little regard to his personal safety.

3034601 Sepoy SARUP SINGH, 7 Bn The Sikh Regiment. (22-5-48).

During the Kāshmir operations, Sepoy Sarup Singh set a fine example of devotion to duty, courage and personal bravery of a very high order. On 26th April 1948, while the enemy was strongly entrenched on a dominating position, Sepoy Sarup Singh, on his own, climbed a tree and gave effective sniping fire. The enemy had to take cover with the result that our men later charged the position, thus dislodging the enemy.

Again on 22nd May 1948, the unit was ordered to capture a hill feature. The Coy ran into an enemy ambush. While his platoon came under heavy MMG and light automatic fire, Sepoy Sarup Singh barely oblivious of his personal safety evacuated a number of his wounded comrades till he was himself wounded in the face and had to be evacuated.

H/45056 N/Sepoy JAI DUTT JOSHI, 83 Field Ambulance, Army Medical Corps. (21-10-48).

On 20th Oct 1948, while two signallers of an OP party were seriously ill on a high picquet at Zojila Pass which was cut off due to snow-fall, Nursing Sepoy Jai Dutt Joshi, with a small party proceeded with the object of rendering first-aid and evacuating the sick. The snow covered route to this picquet was along a knife edge cliff, which was treacherous and had hairpin bends, a fall from which meant a drop of 4,000 feet into the valley. On 21 Oct 1948, while the party was on its way, a strong blizzard and deep snow further obstructed advance. In spite of this, Nursing Sepoy Jai Dutt Joshi continued his advance undauntedly through the neck deep snow covering a distance of 3 miles.

It was due to his devotion to duty and utter disregard for his personal safety, that the party under Nursing Sepoy Jai Dutt Joshi was able to reach the sick and to evacuate them the next day.

SHAVAX A. LAL,
Secretary to the President.

