

Press Information Bureau (Defence Wing)
Government of India,
New Delhi, December 29, 1947.

Commander (E) D.N. Mukerji, RIN, whose promotion to the rank of acting Captain has just been announced is the first Indian Officer ever to be raised to this high rank in the Engineer Branch of the Royal Indian Navy. He will be in command of HMIS Shivaji, the R.I.N. Mechanical Training Establishment at Lonavla.

Senior Indian Officer of the Service, Captain Mukerji joined the Royal Indian Marine (as the Service was then called) in January 1928. In June 1940 he was serving in HMIS Pathan when she was lost by torpedo or mine in the monsoon. He did good work after the incident and despite personal injuries from burns helped to save most of his shipmates before the vessel sank.

Captain Mukerji, during the World War II, held several important appointments including that of Base Engineer Officer, at major Indian ports. In recent years he has been responsible for carrying out important engineering projects.

Captain Mukerji who hails from Bihar was educated at Patna University. He specialised in marine engines and received his early training in Calcutta, later going to Scotland for further training with the firm of William Simons at Renfrew, and at the Royal Technical College, Glasgow.