

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING).
Government of India,
New Delhi, May 8th, 1948.

The first Indian officer to be promoted to a high rank in the Royal Indian Navy is Captain A. Chakraverti, R.I.N., Chief of Staff, Naval Headquarters, India, who has just been constituted Commodore 2nd Class .

Commencing his sea career in the I.M.M.T.S. " Dufferin " as a cadet in 1928, he passed out with distinction in 1930 and was awarded the Viceroy's Gold Medal as the best cadet of the year.

He joined the Royal Indian Marine as a cadet and underwent training in the United Kingdom for about three years. Shortly after the outbreak of the war in 1939 he was again sent to the United Kingdom for a long specialist gunnery course. On return to India in the middle of 1941 he was appointed 2nd-in-command of the R.I.N. Gunnery School which was then located in Bombay. In 1943 as a Lieut. - Commander he held the appointment of Staff Officer Gunnery at Naval Headquarters.

Commodore Chakraverti has a distinguished war service and was mentioned in despatches during Mine-sweeping Operations off Burma and Malacca Straits. In 1946 he successfully completed a Staff Course at the Royal Naval College at Greenwich and on return was appointed Commanding Officer of the then H.M.I.S. " Himalaya ", the largest gunnery School in Asia.

He led the Indian Naval contingent during the Victory Parade in London in June 1946. Since June 1947 he has held the appointment of Chief of Administration at Naval Headquarters and has in addition been officiating as the Chief of Staff, since March this year.