



Captain Hardwari Singh Ahlawat

Why in News?

Captain Hardwari Singh Ahlawat of **Azad Hind Fauj**, played an instrumental role in **liberating the Jhansi Regiment** (Rani of Jhansi Regiment) from British siege.

- Rani of Jhansi Regiment was **an armed unit of women warriors headed by Captain Lakshmi Swaminathan**. It is believed to be the first female infantry in military history.



Key Points

- **Liberation of Jhansi Regiment:** In 1945, **Captain Ahlawat**, under **Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's orders**, led a successful operation to **free the Jhansi Regiment from British forces**, firing over 4,000 rounds and killing around 300 British soldiers.
- **Role in the INA:** Captain Ahlawat, **born in Deighal village (Jhajjar, Haryana)**, joined the **Azad Hind Fauj in 1942**, along with 32 soldiers from his village.
 - **Netaji Bose honored him with the prestigious "Sher-e-Hind"** award for his courage and appointed him as his Personal Staff Officer (PSO).
- **Military Achievements:** Under Ahlawat's leadership, **INA forces freed the Lepoppa Hills area near Burma**, defeating the British forces and hoisted **India's flag on the mountain post** (elevation of 7,000-8,000 feet).
- **Post-War Life:** After the surrender of Azad Hind Fauj in 1945, Ahlawat, along with 17,000 INA

soldiers, was **imprisoned in Delhi's Red Fort.**

- He was released on 31st December 1945, by the British government (**after INA trials or Red Fort trials**).

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