

IC-8140 Major Narag, Daljit Singh, MVC (Posth.)

Major Daljit Singh Narag, son of Shri B.S. Narag, was born on 20 May 1935, at Peshawar, now in Pakistan. His father later settled in Delhi. He was commissioned in the Deccan Horse (9 Horse) on 9 December 1956.

Things had started worsening up on the Eastern front much before the beginning of Indo-Pak War 1971. In November 1970, Major Narag was commanding 'C' Squadron of the 45 Cavalry in Jessore sector. He was asked to establish a road block with an infantry battalion east of Chaugacha. The squadron firmed in general area Garibpur on 20 November to this end.

On 21st morning, 14 enemy tanks supported by two infantry battalions attacked the squadron position. A fierce tank battle was fought at very close quarters, for nearly 30 minutes. The 'C' Squadron effectively engaged and destroyed 10 enemy tanks. Subsequently, 4 more enemy tanks were knocked out. Squadron lost 3 tanks in this encounter. Major Narag standing on the turret of his tank, skilfully and boldly manoeuvred his squadron during this battle, despite heavy enemy fire. The troops inspired by his courage inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy. While leading his men in the thick of the battle he was hit by enemy MMG and killed. It is said that "there are a few parallels in the history of armoured warfare where one armoured squadron was engaged and annihilated by an armoured force of equal strength at such a little cost in terms of tank and personnel casualties".

Major Narag was awarded Mahavir Chakra for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty, posthumously.