

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:79
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
COLLAPSE OF DRY DOCK FACILITY AT MUMBAI
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dry-dock facility under construction at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, collapsed during June, 2000;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of losses suffered therefrom;
- (c) whether a high-level inquiry has been made therein;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the inquiry;
- (e) whether any responsibility has been fixed for the mishap; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against those found responsible?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 79 FOR 27.7.2000

A portion of Northern side wall of the Dry Dock facility under construction at Mumbai collapsed on 7th June, 2000 while de-watering was in progress. Four employees of the contractor and one Junior Engineer of the Military Engineering Service lost their lives in the incident. The Naval Headquarters have constituted a Board of Inquiry (BOI) headed by a serving Rear Admiral with the following Terms of Reference:-

1. Inquire into the causes leading to the collapse of the North Fitting Out Berth.
2. Assess and examine deficiencies, if any, in the soundness of design of the structure, adequacy of consultancy services, supervision and quality control.
3. Examine inadequacies in the methodology, construction process, equipment and materials utilised by the contractor.
4. Assess damages to property and loss of life.
5. Assess delay caused on account of the collapse of the North Fitting Out Berth.
6. Provide recommendations on the following aspects:-
 - (a) Re-commencement of the work
 - (b) Preservation of equipment procured till completion of the civil works and other relevant aspects.
 - (c) Ascertaining soundness and safety of the remaining structures.
7. Recommend attributability of blame for lapses and collapse of the wall.

The Board of Inquiry is expected to submit its report by the end of August, 2000. Further action in the matter will be taken in the light of the findings and recommendations of the Board of Inquiry.