

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:821

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000

VIKRANT MUSEUM PLAN

ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;CHINTAMAN NAVSHA WANAGA;GORDHANBHAI JAVIA;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;RADHA MOHAN SINGH

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the glorious warship 'Vikrant' which had played a decisive role in the Indo-Pak War of 1971 has been de-commissioned;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any plan was made sometime back to convert this warship into a Museum; and
- (d) if so, the progress made in that direction so far and the present status of the Plan?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) & (b): INS 'Vikrant', aircraft carrier, was decommissioned on 31st January, 1997 after rendering 35 years of service in the Navy.
- (c) & (d): The State Government of Maharashtra had evinced keen interest in converting INS 'Vikrant' into a maritime museum. Accordingly, it was decided to gift the ship to Government of Maharashtra for conversion into a museum. However, in April, 2000, the State Government conveyed their inability to implement the scheme. Taking into consideration the fact that the ship is occupying prime berthing space and also that its condition is fast deteriorating, it was decided to dispose of the ship as scrap. Tenders were invited for the disposal of the ship accordingly. However, on 4th July, 2000, the State Government of Maharashtra have conveyed their desire to revive the scheme. As such, the process initiated for disposal of the ship as scrap has been kept in abeyance pending a final decision on the request of the State Government of Maharashtra.