

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4377
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2005
CRASH OF SEA HARRIER JUMP JET FIGHTER
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Sea Harrier Jump-Jet Fighter of the Navy crashed while taking off from Dabolim airport at Goa recently;
- (b) if so, the loss of lives and properties suffered as a result thereof;
- (c) the compensation paid to the victims;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (e) if so, the findings of the said inquiry;
- (f) whether there is any proposal to upgrade Sea Harriers Fighter Aircraft keeping in view of such incidents; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (c): A Sea Harrier Jump-Jet fighter of the Indian Navy met with an accident while taking off from Dabolim Airfield, Goa, on 5th December, 2005. The pilot Lieutenant Commander H P S Pannu died in the accident and the aircraft was totally damaged. The compensation to the next of kin of the pilot shall be paid according to the service norms.

(d) & (e): A Board of Inquiry has been constituted to enquire into the reasons of the accident and its report is awaited.

(f) & (g): Mid Life Upgrade of Sea Harriers in accordance with the scheduled planning has been entrusted to the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.