

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1930  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005  
COLLAPSE OF DAMAN GANGA BRIDGE  
Patel Shri Dahya Bhai V.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Daman Ganga Bridge renovation and reconstructed by NBCC in August,2003 had collapsed within one year of its reconstruction;
- (b) if so, whether any enquiry has been instituted to fix responsibility in the matter;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the findings thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) Daman Ganga Bridge which was renovated and reconstructed by NBCC and opened for traffic in June, 2004 again collapsed on 3-8-2004.

(b) & (c) An administrative inquiry has been instituted to inquire into the circumstances which led to the collapse of the bridge. The terms of reference of the inquiry are:-

- (i) Investigate and ascertain as far as practicable the reasons for the collapse of the newly constructed bridge.
- (ii) Whether there were any inherent defects in the design of the newly reconstructed bridge.
- (iii) Whether the design took into account the likely pressure which would be brought to bear on the foundations and superstructure of the bridge because of normal flood in the river as well as abnormal discharge because of floods, flash floods, tidal waves based on observed data over a period of time prior to the occurrence;
- (iv) Whether the executing agency M/s National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) carried out all required surveys, investigations, including water current velocity tests as well as investigations to assess the structural stability of the existing portion of the bridge as a whole in accordance with their contractual obligations;
- (v) Whether all agencies/consultants/contractors engaged by M/s National Building Construction Corporation for execution of the work had the requisite expertise of bridge construction and were reputed/recognized as mandated by the contractual agreement;
- (vi) Whether the construction of the bridge was strictly in conformity with the approved plans, designs and specifications, and, whether the material used was in accordance with the approved standards;

(vii) Whether M/s RITES as techno-economic Consultants for the work, carried out all their consultancy obligations for checking and constructions supervision as per the approved agreement and, whether they had certified the structural stability as a whole of the bridge before it was opened for public use;

(viii) Whether M/s RITES ensured that the bridge construction took into account all the data necessary in terms of current velocity, tidal variations and such other factors keeping in view the past history of collapse of the said bridge; and

(ix) Fix responsibility of officials/agencies for their acts of commission and omission, if any.

(d) The inquiry is still in progress.