

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1012

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2014

TORPEDO RECOVERY VESSEL

Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Rao (Avnithi) Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Torpedo Recovery Vessel of Indian Navy sank off the Visakhapatnam Coast recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of navy vessels mishap along with the number of casualty reported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken / being taken by the Government on the inquiry report; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken / being taken by the Government to prevent such type of mishap in the future?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, Indian Naval Torpedo Recovery Vessel, IN TRV A 72, sank off Visakhapatnam on 06 Nov 14. The ship had sailed for a routine mission with 29 personnel including six from the Naval Science and Technology Laboratory (NSTL), Visakhapatnam onboard.

While returning to Visakhapatnam post completion of mission, the ship reported flooding in her steering gear compartment at about 1830 hrs on 06 Nov14. Eastern Fleet ships exercising in the vicinity immediately rendered necessary assistance. However, the ship sank at about 1930 hrs due to uncontrolled flooding 35 nautical miles south of Visakhapatnam. While 24 personnel were rescued alive, the body of one service man was also recovered. At present, four personnel remain missing.

(c) to (e): A list of navy vessels mishaps that have taken place during the last three years and current year (i.e. 1st January 2011 till date) with details is enclosed at annexure.

(f) Lessons learnt from the Board of Inquiry (BoI) are implemented appropriately. Corrective steps have been taken by Naval Headquarters with extensive checks on weapon related safety systems and audit of Standard Operating Procedures on all operational naval units. Safety procedures and professional checks are re-emphasized. Incidents Study and Analysis Cells have been instituted at professional schools wherein lessons learnt are incorporated into professional training. Safety Audits of various units have been instituted.