

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2626
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th March, 2018
Helicopter Crash of ONGC

2626. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:

पेट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of an incident of helicopter crash off Mumbai in which few ONGC officials lost their lives and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether such incident had happened earlier also involving the ONGC officials and if so, the details thereof along with the concrete steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future; and
- (c) whether probe has been ordered in the incident and any compensation has been paid/employment provided to the next of kin of the deceased officials and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARAMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a). A Pawan Hans Helicopter operative under contract with ONGC had crashed in the Arabian Sea on 13th January, 2018, while carrying two senior pilots and five Deputy General Manager's of ONGC on board from Juhu Helibase, Mumbai to Mumbai Offshore.

(b). ONGC has intimated that previously three helicopter accidents had happened involving ONGC officials in the years 1989, 1992 and in 2003. ONGC is hiring newer vintage helicopters as compared to industry practices. ONGC has engaged an expert team from Rotary Wing Society of India (RWSI) on 18.01.2018 to carry out a thorough audit of all helicopter operators of ONGC and to submit a report on maintenance practices, operational procedures and safety issues. ONGC conducted a meeting with helicopter operators to reiterate strict compliance to regulatory requirements and industry best practices in operation and maintenance of the helicopters in offshore.

(c). Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) under Ministry of Civil Aviation is investigating the helicopter accident. ONGC has provided the following assistance to family members of the deceased:-

(i) Terminal dues such as Gratuity, Contributory Provident Fund (CPF), Composite Social Security Scheme (CSSS), Post Retirement Benefit Scheme (PRBS) payable to family members have been released.

(ii) Letters of Intent for giving Employment assistance to one of the dependent family members have already been issued to the widows of the deceased employee.
