

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3746
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th March, 2018**

Explosion on a Drilling Ship

3746. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

पेट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether a blast occurred on the ONGC-owned oil ship which was undergoing repairs at the Cochin Shipyard recently and if so, the details thereof including the number of workers killed/ injured in the said blast;
- (b) whether any preliminary investigation has been conducted to find out the cause of the said blast;
- (c) if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the responsibilities if any, fixed in this regard; and
- (d) the details of compensation paid/ assistance given to workers killed/injured in the blast and the steps taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such accidents/incidents in future?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARAMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a). A fire accident occurred in Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) on 13th February, 2018 in a mobile offshore drilling unit named "Sagar Bhushan" of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), which was undergoing dry dock repairs at CSL. Five workmen died and nine workmen were injured in this incident. Among the deceased, one was permanent employee of CSL and four were contractual workmen. Two of the injured were permanent employee of CSL and the remaining seven were contractual workmen.

(b) & (c). A high level enquiry into the incident was ordered by the Chairman and Managing Director, CSL. An enquiry was also ordered by Factories and Boilers Directorate, Govt. of Kerala. The state police are also investigating the incident. Apart from this, based on a request from ONGC, Director (Exploration and Production), Offshore Industry Safety Directorate, also visited and inspected the site. As per the preliminary assessment, the accident was caused by a momentary explosion of high impact in the air conditioner compartment of the forward area under living quarters of the vessel, where there was a suspected acetylene gas leak.

(d). The details of compensation paid/being paid to the injured and the family of deceased persons are as follows: (A) *for the deceased*: (i) Rs. 10 Lakhs paid to the family, in addition to the statutory compensation and insurance relief as applicable to them; (ii) appropriate employment on compassionate grounds to any eligible dependant of the deceased; (iii) appropriate financial aid towards the education of the children of the deceased, up to and including graduate level; and (iv) Rs. 25,000/- disbursed to defray the expenses related to the funeral and other rituals and (B) *for the injured*: (i) treatment expenses incurred for the injured; (ii) amount equivalent to 2 months normal wages, and (iii) CSL to disburse wages to the injured till they return to work, in addition to the statutory compensation relief.

After the findings of enquiry report, corrective remedial steps would be taken by CSL to avoid recurrence of such accidents/incidents in future.
