

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:274

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005

PROBE INTO COLLAPSE OF BRIDGE

Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar; Munshiram Shri ; Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu; Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has completed the probe into the accident that took place on the bridge being constructed by the soldiers on the river Satluj in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the number of soldiers killed and injured in the above accident; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such accidents in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b): A Court of Inquiry (Col) constituted by the Army to probe into the accident that took place on the bridge being constructed by the Army on the river Satluj in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh has been completed. It has been found that the bridge collapse was the cumulative effect of the increase in the static load of the bridge, material failure and other quantifiable & non-quantifiable factors, which were beyond the control of the task force.
- (c) 34 Army personnel were reported missing after the accident. Of these, bodies of 11 persons have been recovered and 23 persons are still missing.
- (d) The Army have issued detailed guidelines on Measures to Prevent Accidents during Construction of Bailey Bridges to all concerned authorities to prevent recurrence of such accidents.