

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1869  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2006  
DAMAGE OF MATTANCHERY WHARF  
Yadav Shri Mitrasen

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Mattanchery Wharf under Cochin Port Trust was damaged recently;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Cochin Port Trust has suffered a huge financial loss due to the damage caused to this Wharf;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Mattanchery Wharf has been reconstructed; and
- (f) if not, the time by which the reconstruction work is likely to be completed?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Out of four berths in Mattanchery Wharf, the Q4 berth caved in and collapsed on 13.11.2005 and has been decommissioned. The berth was originally constructed in 1939 with anchored steel sheet pile quay wall. The probable reasons for failure of Q4 berth are:

(i) Natural deterioration of steel sheet pile and anchor rods due to corrosion and fatigue on account of long life span of the structure; and

(ii) Increase in lateral pressure exerted on the sheet pile on account of soaking of water by the salt cargo stacked in the area due to unexpected torrential rains.

(c) & (d) There is no revenue loss to Cochin Port due to the collapse of Q4 berth at Mattanchery Wharf as the existing cargo load of Q4 berths at Mattanchery Wharf could be handled at the remaining 15 cargo handling berths at Cochin Port.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The reconstruction work of the Q4 berth at Mattanchery Wharf is likely to take about two years from the date of approval.