

## Dongri crash FIR holds bldg owner, officials responsible

The Dongri police on Tuesday filed an FIR against the owner-trustees of Kesarbai Mansion, the building in Ward B that crashed on July 16, killing 13 people and leaving several others injured. The accused have been booked for causing death by negligence and causing grievous hurt by an act endangering the life or personal safety of others.

In a first, police also held the regulatory officers—BMC and Mhada officials—responsible for the tragedy.

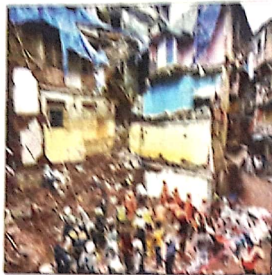
The FIR reportedly does not contain names, but only shows the accused as unknown owner-trustees.

Meanwhile, Abid Dosani, who allegedly tampered with the structure while drilling at his ground-floor shop, was quizzed by police. **S Ahmed Ali & Mohammed Wajihuddin report, P 2**

# Bldg owner & officials booked for Dongri crash

S Ahmed Ali & Mohammed Wajihuddin | 15X

## WHAT NEXT: REPAIRS OR RECONSTRUCTION?



➤ On July 16, the illegal wing of Kesarbai Mansion in Dongri collapsed around noon, killing 13 people and injuring more than 10

➤ On July 18, assistant commissioner of B ward Vivek Rahi was suspended for lack of control over illegal constructions

➤ Police initially registered an accidental death report

➤ Local MLA Amin Patel said that late Tuesday, he would mediate at a meeting between trustees of Aloo Paroo trust and tenants of Kesarbai Mansion's legal wing to decide if it can be redeveloped

➤ "Earlier, tenants and trustees had agreed to share repair cost. Now some tenants feel it is better to go in for redevelopment," Patel said

safety of others. Shitap is still in jail.

Sources said the FIR filed by Dongri police does not contain names of trustees of Kesarbai Mansion; it shows the accused to be unknown owner-trustees. "Prima facie, it appears there was some negligence on the part of the build-

ing's owner-trustees as illegal construction work had been carried out. We don't know exactly what illegal work was going on. The names of the accused will be clear during the investigation," an official said. It is learnt that the owner-trustees permitted or turned a blind eye to illegal extension

or illegal construction, which led to the crash.

For the first time, police have also held regulatory officers (BMC/Mhada officials) responsible for the collapse. "Relatives and survivors have come to us giving versions and documentary proof of the possible cause of the collapse, so

we have registered an offence and will hold people responsible," an officer added.

On Tuesday, Abid Dosani, who is alleged to have tampered with the structure while drilling at his ground-floor shop, appeared before the Dongri police for questioning. "Dosani's statement is being recorded," said senior inspector of Dongri police station Sandeep Bahgdikar.

Huma Zariwala, who lost her brother Arshan Zariwala and niece Kashaf Aamir Azad and whose mother Sajida Zariwala was grievously injured in the crash, had said on Monday that on the day of the collapse, Dosani carried out repair work in his shop. Huma's mother Sajida, who is critical at J.J Hospital, had called up Abdul Sattar Shaikh, the building's caretaker, who lived on the top floor, to inform him about it.