

at 3.30 pm.

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His colleagues recall the chief fire officer's passion for fitness, and yoga, his sound technical knowledge, decision-making skills and desire to bring innovations in the fire brigade. Civic officials who were sure he would recover and return to his post in about six months were shocked at his demise.

Officials at NBC said that post-mortem reports indicate multiple organ failure. Dr

Sunil Keswani from NBC, who operated on Nesrikar, said, "His organs started giving in one after the other in a period of 18 hours. He was supposed to undergo a skin graft operation on May 19, but that was delayed as he was suffering from high fever. His condition kept deteriorating and he was on ventilator."

On getting the news of Nesrikar's death, fire officials rushed to the hospital. At 6.30 pm, Nesrikar's wife Jayshree was spotted being helped into a sedan by her son Sidhant, who tried to console her. Her screams pierced the silence of the hospital. Nesrikar is also survived by his mother.

Nesarikar and three other fire officers - Sudhir Amin, M N Desai and S W Rane - were caught in the debris when a part of the building that had caught fire in Kalbadevi collapsed. Desai and Rane died before getting medical attention. Amin died a week later at the burns centre in Airoli.

Nesrikar, who was bachelor of science with specialisation in chemistry, had done a specialised course along with his fire brigade batchmates in London, after 10 years in service. Nesrikar was also nominated for a President's medal for his efforts during the Lotus Business Park incident in 2014.

