

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:766

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000

FIRE INCIDENTS IN REFINERIES

JAI PRAKASH;SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SHYAMA SINGH;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

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

- (a) the number of fire incidents and acts of sabotage took place in the refineries in the country during the last three years;
- (b) whether incident of fire took place in Mathura Refinery in May, 2000;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and loss suffered on this account;
- (d) whether any inquiry was conducted into the causes of the fire;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken to avoid such accidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) Number of fire incidents in PSU oil companies in the country during last three years are as follows:-

1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
17	36	29

There was no report of any fire incident in refineries occurred due to act of sabotage.

(b) Yes Sir. A fire took place in the flare area of Mathura Refinery on 22.5.2000.

(c) There was some carry over / Spillage of Naptha / FCC from sour water unit to flare area during unit startup activities. This Naptha / FCC Gasoline caught fire most probably due to falling fire ball from flare stack.

There was minor damage to electrical and instrument cables only. Loss incurred due to the fire is Rs.24.4 lakhs including cost of fire fighting materials amounting to Rs.21.4 lakhs. There was no injury to any personnel due to this fire.

(d) & (e): Yes, sir. The causes of fire were investigated by an Inquiry Committee. The Committee has given recommendations to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future.

(f) All fire incidents are investigated by multi-disciplinary teams and remedial measures as recommended are implemented in a time bound manner.

Adequate measures are adopted for safety of the plant and operating personnel as per the prescribed Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) standards.