

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2732

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2004

FIRE IN HIL

Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu)

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

e:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of frequent fire accidents in Hindustan Insecticides Limited plants during the last three years including the recent one;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons attributed thereto, plant-wise and accident-wise.
- (c) The details of loss in terms of life and money alongwith compensation paid to the beneficiaries during the said period.
- (d) Whether any inquiry has been conducted to probe the accidents;
- (e) If so, the findings thereof; and
- (f) The follow-up action taken by the Government to prevent such fire accidents in future?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS & MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

- a) In the last three years, there has been only one fire accident when a fire occurred on July 6, 2004 at Endosulfan Plant at Udyogamandal Unit of HIL.
- b) As per preliminary investigations, in Endosulfan Plant at Udyogamandal Unit, the Toluene vapours escaped out from the vapour line of one of the Reaction Vessel which caught fire due to electrostatic discharge as a result of accumulated static electricity.
- c) No loss of life resulted due to fire accident on 06.07.2004. No compensation is payable. However, estimated loss suffered by the plant is about Rs.5.51 crores and loss of material including material in process is about Rs.0.75 crores.
- d) An enquiry has been ordered and the Committee constituted has visited the Unit.
- e) The findings and recommendations of the Committee are to be received.
- f) Safety Audit of the plants at all units by external agency has been ordered to further strengthen the existing safety systems.