

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3030
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
FIRE AT CHENNAI PORT
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a fire broke out recently from an abandoned tank at the Chennai Port;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated loss as a result of the fire;
- (c) whether any steps were taken to put out the fire and any precautionary measures taken for the future;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. On 30.8.2010 at about 1500 hours, while carrying out welding work on the steps and hand rails of the newly erected two edible oil tanks of M/s. Kalleswari Pvt. Ltd., spark emanated from the welding fell on the top of the adjacent deballast tank which was holed at various places and partly open to the sky and the sludge oil inside the Tank caught fire. As the deballast tank in question belongs to the same party, the question of loss to the Port does not arise. However, the cost of Water/foam used by the Trust to extinguish the fire is being collected from the firm.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Steps were taken to put out the fire and the fire was completely extinguished at 1945 hours on the same day. M/s. Kalleswari Pvt. Ltd. was instructed to follow all the safety and pollution control norms. Further, Fire permit is being issued subject to the conditions to follow the Fire Safety requirements strictly. The old tank is being removed by the party.

(e): Does not arise.