

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:783

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013

FIRE AT FUEL DEPOTS

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram;Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether many of the crucial recommendations of the M.B. Lal Committee (appointed in the wake of massive fire at a fuel storage facility near Jaipur in October, 2009) were not acted upon during the recent fire at Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) depot at Hazira in Surat;
- (b) if so, the details of the recommendations of the Committee along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted enquiry in the recent fire at IOC Depot at Hazira in Surat;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against those found guilty; and
- (e) the directives being issued or proposed to be issued to other petroleum companies to avoid such incidents of fire at fuel depots?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. As per the report of Inter Disciplinary Enquiry Committee, the Marketing terminal IOCL, Hazira was not having the provisions of adequate fire water system, Long Range Monitors, Automatic Rim Seal Fire Protection System for Class-A floating roof tanks and Hydrocarbon Detections etc.

Main recommendations of the Committee are:

- i. Enforcement of Work Permit system as stipulated in OISD Standard-105.
- ii. Strict Supervision by company's official for work in oil installations.
- iii. Job Safety Analysis and Risk assessment for Critical nature of jobs prior to any maintenance activity.
- iv. Upgradation of fire fighting system in line with OISD Standard-117.
- v. Enforcing the system of monitoring at all levels.

(d) IOCL has taken action against three officers who have been placed under suspension.

(e) Government has issued directive to all Public Sector Oil Companies to review the safety and security measures at all petroleum depots /terminals and take all necessary corrective actions to plug any loopholes in the security and safety system.