

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:156  
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009  
OILFIRE INCIDENTS  
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) the details of major oil fire incidents in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the number of persons killed/injured in such incidents and the incident-wise details of losses suffered;
- (c) the incident-wise details of compensation given to the next of the kin of the victims and those injured.
- (d) whether any investigation has been conducted by the Ministry to find out the real causes of such incidents;
- (e) if so, the details of such recommendations; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a): During last three years, two major fires have taken place, namely, LPG tanker blast at a retail outlet of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) at Jaipur in 2008 and Oil Terminal Fire in IOCL, POL Terminal at Jaipur in 2009.

(b): Three persons died and two injured in LPG tanker blast at a retail outlet of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) at Jaipur in 2008. There was a property loss of Rs.36 lakhs approximately in the said incident. In the Fire at IOCL, POL Terminal at Jaipur in 2009, eleven persons died, seven suffered major injuries and 28 persons suffered minor injuries. The loss of petroleum product is estimated to be Rs.191 crore and the replacement cost of the building and machinery is estimated to be over Rs.160 crore.

(c): Details are at annexure-I.

(d) & (e): A seven member Enquiry Committee has been constituted by the Ministry on 30.10.2009 to inquire into the causes of the fire incident that took place at IOCL, POL Terminal at Jaipur on 29.10.2009 and to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents. The committee will submit its report within 60 days.

(f): All the Oil Companies have been directed to take following steps:

# They shall take measures to promote safety consciousness and training on safety requirement at all levels. The message of zero tolerance in the matters of safety has to be conveyed to all concerned.

# All oil and gas installations and transportation systems in the country will carry out self-safety audit conforming to statutory norms and risk assessment, including Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) standards by 31.12.2009. Oil companies will submit the reports to OISD which in turn, will submit a consolidated report to MOPNG.

# The decision taken in the 27th Meeting of safety Council held on 18th September 2009 in MOPNG regarding empowerment of OISD with statutory status would be expedited. OISD will be further strengthened with additional manpower from oil companies.

# The Safety Council be expanded to include private sector refineries and offshore & other installations.

# All oil and gas companies in the country must update their standard operating procedures (SOPs) for operations and maintenance practices for all countrywide installations / setups under due technical supervision and attention, availing the benefit of best practices in the country and abroad. A strict implementation of such Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) will be ensured. All oil and gas companies will submit reports on SOPs and its due implementation to OISD by 31.12.2009.

# All oil and gas installations will have their safety audit done on quarterly basis. All major as well as minor incidents in any such installations/setups in the country including that of private companies will be reported to OISD.