

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1606
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
FIRE BROKE IN CHANDRAPUR THERMAL POWER STATION
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a fire broke out in the Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station at Chandrapur, Maharashtra on the July 2, 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the causes of the fire breaking out in the power station;
- (d) the number of persons killed and injured as a result thereof; and
- (e) the measures taken for ensuring safety to check recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (d) : According to Maharashtra State Electricity Board (MSEB) an accident occurred at Chandrapur Super Thermal Power Station of MSEB at 1420 hrs. of 2nd July, 2003 due to heavy flash over at back side of 11 KV breaker panel of unit no.6 condenser cooling water pump house. Due to flash over, 6 employees received burn injuries, out of which one employee succumbed to burn injuries on 8th July, 2003.

(e) : As informed by MSEB, the following precautions/measures are being taken by them for ensuring more safety in future:

- (i) Upstream Breakers on all Incoming Cubicles on all the H.T., 11 KV and 3.3 KV panels will be kept off and racked out.
- (ii) The existing system of issuing permit from the local switchgears is stopped and all the permits are now issued from central plant control room by Shift Charge Engineer.
- (iii) Padlocking arrangements to the rear doors of all the incomer feeders of 11 KV and 3.3 switchgears is being made.
- (iv) Entry to the Switchgear room is restricted only to the authorized persons who are permitted to carry out operation or maintenance work on the switchgear.
- (v) Possibility is being explored from the manufacturer of the switchgears to incorporate electrical or mechanical interlocking system to trip out the Incomer Breaker in case of inadvertent opening of the rear door.
- (vi) Training courses are arranged for operators and maintenance personnel regarding electrical switchgear isolation and safety precautions.