

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1466
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
FIRE IN DIKOM OIL FIELD
Singh Shri Sugrib;Subba Shri Moni Kumar

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

- (a) whether an incident of fire at Oil India Limited's Dikom oilfield took place during September, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the loss of properties therefrom;
- (c) whether the Government has called US Oil fire-fighting experts to extinguish the fire;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to check and deal with such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER)

- (a) Yes Sir. There was an incident of fire at Dikom oilfield of Oil India Limited on 15.09.05.
 - (b) On 13.09.2005, an uncontrolled release of oil and gas took place from Well no. 15 in Dikom oilfield of Oil India Limited (OIL) in Dibrugarh district in Upper Assam. As a precautionary measure, all the wells connected to Dikom Oil Collection Station were shut-in immediately. While trying to kill/ control the well, the well suddenly caught fire on 15.09.2005. The fire in the well was fully extinguished on 05.10.2005. About 1,400 tonnes of crude oil was directly lost due to the incident. A temporary loss to the tune of about 25,600 tonnes occurred due to the temporary closure of the neighbouring wells as a safety precaution.
 - (c) & (d) Oil India Limited initially requested for the help of ONGC experts to control the well. On ONGC's suggestion, OIL contacted foreign experts M/s Boots and Coots International Well Control Incorporated, USA, who were working with ONGC near Rajamundry controlling a well blow-out/ fire at that time. The experts reached the site in Assam on 16.09.2005. The experts of M/s Boots and Coots International Well Control Incorporated, USA chalked out detailed action plan in consultation with ONGC and OIL crisis Management Teams to control the well and extinguish the fire. The well was successfully brought under control and the fire was fully extinguished on 05.10.05.
 - (e) OIL took the following steps to check such incidents:-
 - i) Field monitoring of safety aspects of all oilfield.
 - ii) Safety awareness campaign in operational areas.
 - iii) Onsite and offsite Disaster Management Plan including Mock Drill.
 - iv) Mutual Aid Scheme for Disaster Management with state Government and neighbouring industries.
- OIL also took the following steps to deal with such incidents in future:-
- i) Execution of an MOU between OIL and ONGC for mutual aid for tackling such situation in future.
 - ii) Procurement of a few specialized equipment.
 - iii) Relevant training to Crisis Management Team (CMT) members.