

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3096

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016

Fire in Oil Storage Tank

Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) whether a major fire broke out at Indian Oil Corporation Limited storage tank at Hazira near Surat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the loss incurred to the exchequer therefrom and action taken by the Government/oil company to fix the responsibility of concerned officials;
- (c) the details of human casualty occurred in the said incident and compensation given by the Government to the victims; and
- (d) the concrete steps taken/being taken to prevent such incidents in future?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b): There was a fire incident on 05.01.2013 at Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)'s Oil Terminal at Hazira. The fire was extinguished on 8th January, 2013. As per Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), the primary cause of the incident was seepage in roof pontoons of MS tank which resulted in the formation of flammable hydrocarbon mixture in the pontoons that got ignited during repair works being done by contractor's workers attempting to repair the leaky pontoon. As reported by IOCL, the incident resulted property loss worth approximately Rs. 10 Crore and product loss worth approximately Rs. 28 Crore.

IOCL has taken disciplinary action against 14 officers found responsible for the incident as per Company CDA Rules.

(c): Due to this fire incident at Hazira, 4 persons were killed and 1 person went missing. Compensation of Rs. 5 lacs each was paid to dependents of the deceased.

(d): The Inter Disciplinary Enquiry Committee constituted under the chairmanship of Executive Director, OISD. In its investigation Report, has made several recommendations to prevent the recurrence of such incidents. 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