

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3283
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th AUGUST, 2021**

Incidents of Gas Leakage and Fire Break Out

**3283. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:
SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM:**

पेट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of incidents of gas leakage and fire break out in underground natural gas pipelines, refineries and oil fields/wells has gone up;
- (b) if so, the details along with number of such incidents and the loss of revenue reported as a result thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the oil companies/persons and other agencies have been found responsible/involved in such incidents and if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against them;
- (d) whether it is true that failure to comply with standard operating procedures was the main reason for the accidents during the said period and if so, the details thereof along with the other reasons for such accidents; and
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard and if so, the details and the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) & (b): The major onsite incidents in the last three years reported to Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) are given below:

Gas Leakage and Fire Incidents				
Sector	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (till July'21)
Pipelines	Nil	Nil	01	Nil
Refineries	10	07	02	01
Oil Fields/Wells	06	03	02	01
Total	16	10	05	02

(c),(d) &(e): The analysis of last three years data carried out by OISD indicates that majority of the accidents that take place in the oil & gas industry are mainly due to disregard to Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), equipment failure, poor maintenance & inspection and poor supervision. After Baghjan well fire incident, a Three-member High Level Committee headed by Shri S.C.L Das , Director General, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, and comprising of Shri B.C.Bora, former Chairman ONGC, Shri T.K.Sengupta, former Director of ONGC, was constituted by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas vide it's Order dated 11June 2020 to inquire into the incidence of fire at Baghjan oilfield of Oil India Limited (OIL) in Tinsukia, Assam. The committee has submitted its report. In addition, a committee was constituted by Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), which has also submitted the report. The three-member High Level Committee constituted by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has taken into account the recommendations of OISD committee also. The major recommendations of the two Committees are as under:

- i. Preparation of work over plan by Multi-Disciplinary Team
- ii. Safety Audit of all rigs and installations on annual basis.
- iii. Safety training to officers of all level.
- iv. Development of strong Crisis Management Team.
- v. Well control training must for work over rig key personnel.
- vi. Review, revise and establish additional Standard Operating Procedure in all cross-sections of work, based on statutory requirements.
- vii. Introduction of IT enabled system for Drilling, Workover and Production operations.
- viii. Invoking of provision of Disaster Management Act, 2005 and Rules in case of blowout.
- ix. Competency mapping for all key personnel.
- x. Preparation of detailed guidelines to be followed after blowout.

The report of the High Level Committee has been accepted by the Government and Oil India Ltd has been asked to take action on the recommendations of report and also against the officers responsible for lapses.