

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.741
FOR ANSWER ON 16/08/2012

**EXPLOSION IN RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED IN
VISAKHAPATNAM**

741. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there was an explosion in Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited based in Visakhapatnam on 13th June, 2012;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) loss of life and property occurred in this explosion;
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to check the recurrence of such incidents; and
- (e) the assistance provided by Government to the victims?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c): On 13th June 2012 while commissioning Converter-1 of Steel Melting Shop-2 in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), an accident took place due to explosion in the Oxygen Pressure Reducing Station-3. 19 people lost their lives, out of which 9 had died on the spot, while all 10 injured persons succumbed to their injuries. There has been damage to the pipelines, valves and the control room building of the Pressure Reducing Station-3 which caused a loss of about Rs.11 crore.

(d) Government of India has constituted a High Level Enquiry Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. S. R. Jain, Ex-Chairman, Steel Authority of India Limited to investigate the incident and to make necessary recommendations to prevent re-occurrence of such incidents in future. The committee has submitted its report to Ministry of Steel on 27th July, 2012 and RINL has been directed to submit an Action Taken Note on the recommendations of the report within 30 days.

(e) Government of India has directed RINL to pay an amount of Rs.20 lakhs as Ex-gratia to each of the families of the deceased employees of RINL in addition to the statutory and other entitled payments and Rs.10 lakhs as Ex-gratia to each of the families of the deceased employees of companies other than RINL. RINL has also provided all other possible assistance to the families of deceased on the direction of the Government.
