

Fire at UPL Unit 5, Jhagadia

Time of Incident: around 1:35 am 23rd February 2021

Today at approximately 1:35 am there was a fire which was followed by explosion at one of our plants which was shut since 5th February 2021 for its planned annual boiler inspection.

Since the plant was shut, there was no chemical reaction in progress at this plant. There were no chemical or gas leaks because of the fire/explosion either during or after this incident. Given the intensity, prima facie, it appears that the fire may have been caused due to fire/explosion in the solvent which could have been caused due to electric short circuit. We do not rule out possible sabotage as there was no operation at the plant.

After the fire department brought the fire under control, we were able to get access to the site this evening, we have found 2 deceased at the site and an additional 5 workers missing. In addition, 26 workers were injured and received treatment in the hospital, out of which 15 are discharged and 11 are in the hospital. None of them are critical.

We have appointed an internal investigation team to carry out a detailed investigation to ascertain the cause for this fire. We are extending our full co-operation to the local authorities while they investigate this incident. We will also have an independent investigation to get to the root cause.