



## Message from Chairman



### Dear IOCIans,

As we observe Fire Service Week-2025 this year, we salute the fire service personnel who stand as our frontline defenders against fire hazards, protecting lives, property, and critical infrastructure.

This week serves as a solemn tribute to the tragic events that occurred on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1944, when the SS Fort Stikine explosion at Victoria Dock in Bombay Port unleashed a catastrophic inferno. During this disaster, firefighters demonstrated extraordinary valour, risking their lives to protect countless individuals and valuable assets. Tragically, 71 brave firefighters lost their lives in this heroic effort. Their ultimate sacrifice embodies the spirit of duty, resilience, and service that defines the fire services, inspiring us to uphold fire safety with unwavering commitment.

At IndianOil, we stand united in honouring the courage and strength of those who work in fire safety while reaffirming our commitment to maintaining the highest standards in this area. The theme for Fire Service Week 2025, "Unite to Ignite: A Fire Safe India," emphasizes the importance of collaboration in building a fire-resilient nation. It serves as a reminder that fire safety is a collective responsibility, not just an individual effort. This shared commitment strengthens our country's foundation and ensures a secure future for everyone.

Due to the hazardous nature of our products, the scale of our operations, and our extensive customer reach, the risk of fire cannot be undermined whatsoever, within the Organization. The financial year 2024-25 has underscored the importance of stringent fire safety measures, as there have been multiple fire incidents across our refineries, including within processing units and storage tanks. A Tank farm fire at one of the refineries necessitated prolonged firefighting efforts, revealing critical gaps in the fire safety measures.

Furthermore, incidents have also been reported at our Retail

Outlets. Investigations into these events have identified lapses in established procedures, inadequate maintenance, and insufficient inspections of equipment and units as key contributing factors.

These incidents reinforce the urgent need for strict adherence to safety protocols, proactive maintenance, and thorough inspections to mitigate fire risks and ensure the safety of our people, assets, and operations.

Looking ahead, the 3 P's of Fire Safety—Prevention, Preparedness, and

Protection—are essential for a safe and resilient work environment. As processes grow more complex, so do risks associated with fire hazards, making a proactive approach crucial. All our efforts must be made to enhance our understanding of firefighting practices and readiness, equipping ourselves and our stakeholders with the necessary skills for effective emergency response.

Fire safety is a collective responsibility that requires continuous improvement, and strict adherence to established protocols. Every IOCIan should actively participate in reducing fire hazards, adhering to safety protocols and fostering a culture of prevention. Through commitment and collaborative effort, we can create a safer working environment.

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As leaders in the oil and gas sector, we must uphold the highest safety standards to ensure that every employee can work securely and return home safely. Let us strengthen our safety culture and safeguard lives.

Jai Hind !

New Delhi  
14-Apr-2025

  
**A S Sahney**  
Chairman, (IndianOil)

