

# VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYAPEETH

## STUDY MATERIAL SCIENCE

### CLASS-VIII

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## ▶ 6. Combustion

### **Inflammable Substances:**

The substances which have very low ignition temperatures and can fire easily with a spark or a flame are known as inflammable substances. e.g, Spirit or alcohol, petrol, cooking gas, ether, nail polish remover (that contains acetone), etc.

These are stored and handled with care, otherwise an inflammable substance can become a fire hazard.

Small pieces of or particles of a combustible material will ignite faster than the larger block. e.g, coal dust catches fire faster than large chunks of coal.

**Tinder :** A material for starting a fire. Wood shavings can be used as **tinder** to ignite a large piece of wood.

A block of wood soaked in **kerosene** can be set on fire easily without tinder because the burning vapours of kerosene generate sufficient heat to ignite the piece of wood. During forest fires, the dry leaves lying on the forest floor act as tinder to set the trees on fire.

### **Importance of oxygen in combustion :**

Once a fire is ignited, a constant supply of air or oxygen is required to carry on the combustion, or else the fire dies out. Hence one of the most common methods of extinguishing a fire is to throw sand over it, which cuts off the supply of oxygen.