

VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYAPEETH

STUDY MATERIAL SCIENCE

CLASS-VIII

Date : 12/09/2020

Teacher : Poonam Kumari

▶ 6. Combustion

Controlling fire :

Accidental fires are common in cities. In many cases, the fire is started by an electrical short circuit, a gas cylinder burst or by a lighted stump of cigarette or a burning matchstick. In villages, carelessly kept kerosene lamps are often the cause of fires. A fire can cause huge loss of property and can even result in loss of lives.

In every city there are fire stations that are equipped with fire engines, water tankers, ladders and other implements to fight fire. In India, the emergency number '101' connects to the fire department. This is a common number for all cities in India.

In most cases, water is used to extinguish fires. Large volumes of water when poured on burning material, cools it below its ignition temperature and water vapour surrounding the burning material cuts off the supply of air and thus helps in putting out the fire. However, in case of an oil fire, water is not used to extinguish the fire because oil floats on water. In such cases, liquid foam is used, which floats on the burning oil and cuts off the supply of air.