

Report Writing

Description of a Fire in a Hotel

Guidelines

1. Caption.
2. Date/Time/Place of incident/Event/Disaster.
3. The nature of the incident – a description.
4. Cause of incident.
5. Eyewitness accounts.
6. Damage caused.
7. Remedial/Rehabilitation measures to be adopted.

Furious Fire Devours Hotel

Last night, fire destroyed a considerable part of the Manor Hotel on Beacher's Road. The alarm was given by the night watchman at four o'clock in the morning, when he saw smoke escaping from the kitchen. It was 4:00 a.m. on the 8th of August, when the night porter was woken by a fetid smell. He was almost suffocated in his room, because of the smoke. He rushed to the night watchman, who, by then had already rung the alarm. Both rushed upstairs to warn the guests. It was a moment of immense fear and apprehension.

The guests along with their shrieking children left their rooms as soon as they were informed of the catastrophe. Most ran giving little thought to their belongings, while some picked up their valuables. All of them made a frantic attempt to reach the dining hall by the main staircase; but to their despair, all the stairways were impassable, while the entrance and the dining hall were enveloped by thick smoke.

A businessman from Singapore was wakened up by the screams of the guests and the howls of little children. The porter and watchman were persistently knocking at the door of his room, which was on the first floor. Shocked at the pandemonium, he grabbed his brief-case and made his way to the hotel compound, but lost consciousness due to excessive inhalation of smoke.

All the bewildered guests ran towards the third floor, in accordance with the instructions given by the watchman. There was a fire exit through which they managed to get out of the main building and reached the terrace of the building, where the gymnasium was located.

The situation turned chaotic, as there was an apparent stampede, wherein eight people were injured. Some were absolutely devastated by this unexpected eventuality. The fire-brigade, along with thirty firemen arrived at 4:30 a.m. The injured guests were administered first-aid and were taken to Ram Singh Hospital at 5:00 a.m. by ambulance.

The fire obliterated a substantial portion of the hotel. The kitchen and the main gallery were totally destroyed. However, total destruction was prevented by the efficient firemen who reached the site of disaster well in time.

This fire has undoubtedly done irreparable damage to the reputation of a grand hotel due to the sheer lackadaisical attitude of the management. The cause of the fire was apparently the leakage of gas from an old, worn out pipe which ought to have been replaced months ago.

However, the loss in terms of life was minimised due to the timely arrival of the fire brigade. Their efficiency is to be commended.