

Haldia Petrochemicals plant reopens after fire

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Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd's plant restarted operations on Monday after a nearly 10-day closure caused by a September 20 fire that has claimed the lives of two employees.

Parijat Bhattacharya, 40, a senior manager who was among the 15 injured staffers, died in hospital on Monday. An engineer, Bhattacharya was a resident of Agarpara on the northern fringes of Calcutta. Last week, Saurav Samanta, an operator, died. The condition of at least one more employee is said to be critical.

"We are extremely saddened. We have lost two valuable colleagues," general manager (human resources) Debasis Sen said.

On Friday, a section of the employees agitated against the top management, blaming it for not taking adequate safety measures.

Sen said the grievances of the employees have been conveyed to the top management and the matter was being looked into.

According to Das, production at the naphtha cracker unit, where the blaze started following a suspected leak, would start shortly.