

Deer Park shed blazes: Govt. starts inquiry

Fire razed a new £16,000 packing shed at Deer Park Imperial Chemical Industries explosives factory today.

State Government explosives experts and ICI officials have begun an immediate enquiry.

The shed was to have been used to store explosives, but was empty at the time of the fire.

Three brigades battled for half an hour to get the blaze under control, but it completely destroyed the shed.

ICI officials who inspected the charred wreckage decided to hold a joint inquiry with the explosives department to determine the cause of the fire.

Already this year there have been two major explosions at Deer Park.

Mr M. P. McAiney, night-watchman at the factory, discovered the blaze about 3.30 a.m. and summoned help.

Fire brigades rushed from Sunshine, Footscray and Eastern Hill, but the blaze had too strong a hold on the building, which was 90 ft by 30 ft.

The shed was isolated from the main explosives factory. A protective bank of earth surrounded it.