

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 514  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2023

**Incidents of harmful gas and chemical leaks**

514 : **Shri Imran Pratapgarhi:**

Will the Minister of **Chemicals and Fertilizers** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of incidents regarding the harmful gas and chemical leaks in the last five years, till date, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the number of people affected and who died in these tragedies;
- (c) the details of compensation given by Government to the victims;
- (d) the steps being taken by Government on the culprits; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard, to stop such incidents in the future?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA)**

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) compiles the chemical accident-related data on a progressive basis, including gas/chemical leakages, based on the inputs provided by the Chief Inspector of Factories (CIFs) of various State Governments/ Union Territories. The data is compiled as per the provisions of the Manufacture, Storage, and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 (as amended) and Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness, and response) Rules, 1996 (as amended). Accordingly, the past 5 years State-wise data received from CIFs on gas/chemical leakage incidents along with injuries/ deaths resulting from such incidents is placed below:-

2018			
STATE	No. of Incidents of Gas/Chemical Leakage	Fatalities	Injuries
Assam	7	--	---
Bihar	1	1	---
Gujarat	6	5	12

Maharashtra	1	1	11
Telangana	9	12	14
Uttar Pradesh	1		
<b>2019</b>			
<b>STATE</b>	<b>No. of Incidents of Gas/Chemical Leakage</b>	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Injuries</b>
Assam	1	--	--
Gujarat	10	5	--
Maharashtra	6	4	2
Odisha	2	--	--
Telangana	8	7	9
<b>2020</b>			
<b>STATE</b>	<b>No. of Incidents of Gas/Chemical Leakage</b>	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Injuries</b>
Andhra Pradesh	4	14	4017
Assam	2	2	---
Gujarat	8	31	96
Maharashtra	7	6	16
Tamil Nadu	1	6	--
Telangana	19	11	25
Uttar Pradesh	1	--	--
<b>2021</b>			
<b>STATE</b>	<b>No. of Incidents of Gas/Chemical Leakage</b>	<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>Injuries</b>
Andhra Pradesh	1	3	3
Assam	3	---	---
Karnataka	1	--	--
Kerala	1	--	--
Maharashtra	4	23	7
Tamil Nadu	3	32	60
Telangana	7	1	2
Uttar Pradesh	1	--	--
<b>2022</b>			

STATE	No. of Incidents of Gas/Chemical Leakage	Fatalities	Injuries
Assam	4	---	---

(c)&(d): MoEF&CC does not maintain data on compensation paid to affected people and penal and/ or legal action taken against the culprits.

(e): The Manufacture, Storage, and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 (as amended) and Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness, and Response) Rules, 1996 (as amended) have collectively established a preventive mechanism for chemical safety in industrial operations. It mandates the occupier of major accident hazard (MAH) units to update the Safety Audit Report once a year by conducting a fresh safety audit and submitting a copy to CIFs within 30 days. The occupiers of MAH units are also responsible for the preparation and update of the 'On-site emergency plan'. The MSIHC Rules, 1989 also assigns the responsibility of preparing of Off-site Emergency Plan of a district to the District Collector or designated District Emergency Authority (DEA) by State Government. The CIF, appointed under the Factories Act, 1948, is required to assist the DEA in the preparation of the Off-site Emergency Plan. Recently, the MoEF&CC and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) have developed an 'Integrated Guidance Framework for Chemicals Safety in respect of Isolated Storage(s) and Industries covered under MSIHC Rules, 1989 in compliance to the directions of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal. The framework was circulated to the Chief Secretaries/ UT Administrators of all States/ UTs in January-2022. The Integrated Guidance Framework prescribes for regular inspections of industrial and chemical sites, ensuring preparation of the on-site emergency plans, undertaking safety audits, and sharing information among other stakeholders agencies, in case of observed non-compliance.

\*\*\*\*\*