

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1058
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2025**

REPLACING OUTDATED EQUIPMENT IN CHEMICAL FACTORIES

1058. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps the Directorate General of Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) has taken, in partnership with State Governments and other stakeholders, to develop guidelines for replacing outdated equipment in chemical factories once their safe usage period has been completed for enhancing public safety;**
- (b) the manner in which the safe operational lifespan of crucial equipment is determined; and**
- (c) whether third-party safety audits are being conducted at factories in an unusually quick manner;**
- (d) if so, whether this could lead to fatal accident; and**
- (e) if so, who is likely to be held responsible in case of such accidents?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) to (e): Occupational safety, health and welfare of the workers employed in factories are governed by the provisions of The Factories Act, 1948. The Act provides for working conditions to ensure safety of workers in the form of safety provisions for machinery and equipment; duties and responsibilities of manufactures, exporters and designers of articles and substances used in factories, and provisions related to hazardous processes including chemical factories.

The occupiers of the factories registered under the Act are required to comply with the provisions of the Act and the Rules framed thereunder, which are enforced through the Chief Inspector of Factories (CIF)/ Director of Industrial Safety & Health (DISH) of the respective State /UT Governments.

Besides, Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 framed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 provide for 'Safety reports and safety audit reports' which are applicable to Major Accident Hazard (MAH) installations.
