

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 195
ANSWERED ON - 21/07/2026

SAFETY PROTOCOLS GOVERNING AMMONIA

195. DR. M DHANAPAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed safety protocols governing the storage, transportation and handling of ammonia and other hazardous chemicals following the Ammonia gas leak in Tiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu;
- (b) the details of safety standards prescribed for refrigeration systems using ammonia and the mechanism for ensuring compliance;
- (c) whether mandatory installation of ammonia leak detectors, automatic alarm systems and real-time monitoring equipment is under consideration;
- (d) the gaps identified in enforcement of existing safety regulations; and
- (e) the action proposed to prevent recurrence of similar industrial disasters across the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (e)

The Central Government under the Ministry of labour and Employment has enacted the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH&WC) Code 2020, which has come into force on 21.11.2025, to regulate the occupational safety, health and working conditions of the persons employed in an establishment including factories and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. State /UT Government is the

appropriate Government to implement the provisions of OSH & WC Code 2020 in case of factories.

The OSH & WC Code further, inter-alia, stipulates the duty of the employer to ensure the work place free from hazardous that cause or likely to cause injury or occupational disease to the employees.

Further, as per information received from Director of Industrial Safety and Health, Government of Tamil Nadu, special teams have been constituted to conduct inspection in Ammonia handling factories to ensure the safety of the workers. Instructions have been issued to the officials to ensure that workers are not permitted to stay inside the factory premises where hazardous chemicals are handled or stored. As per the instructions, special squad inspections are being conducted in Ammonia handling units.
