## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4539

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2023/ CHAITRA 7, 1945 (SAKA)
FIRE INCIDENTS

4539. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noted that fire accidents/incidents are increasingly reporting from many States and if so, the details thereof along with the number of such incidents reported during this year, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government has given any directive to the States to take preventive measures;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of supportive measures extended to the States by the Union Government to prevent fire accidents/incidents?

## **ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI)

(a) to (d): Fire Service is a State subject and has been included as a Municipal function in the XII Schedule of the Constitution of India under Article 243 (W). It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to take necessary steps required for safety of life and property from fire hazards in the area of their jurisdiction. The Central Government does not maintain data related to fire accidents/incidents in States centrally.

Directorate General (Fire Service, Civil Defence & Home Guards), Ministry of Home Affairs, plays an advisory role through the Standing Fire Advisory Council (SFAC).

The Model Building Bye Laws 2016 was issued by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs for guiding the States / Union Territories (UTs) for revising their respective Building Bye Laws. Its effective enforcement is in the domain of the States/ UTs.

Central Government had also circulated a "Model Bill to Provide for the Maintenance of Fire and Emergency Service for the State" to all the States / Union Territories on 16.09.2019 for suitable revision in their respective Fire Service Rules / Regulations.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has recommended fund allocation of Rs. 5,000 crore under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 for strengthening fire services at the State level. The States can make use of the fund for procurement of modern firefighting equipment to deal with fire incidents.

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