

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2309  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021

**Leakage of Gas and Chemicals**

**2309: SHRI KUNWAR DANISH ALI**

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

- (a) whether the number of incidents comes to notice regarding the harmful Gas and chemical leaks in last 10 years and the recent year in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details thereof and the number of people affected and died by these tragedies;
- (c) the types of help given by the Government to the victims and what steps being taken by the Government on the culprits; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard to stop such incidents in the future?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS  
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) & (b): Yes Sir; Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) compiles data on chemical accidents based on the information received from Chief Inspector of Factories (CIFs) of the State Governments/ Union Territories. The State-wise details of incidents of gas/chemical leakage only in last ten years (i.e. from 2011-2021) and the number of people affected and died by these incidents are as given below:

State/UT	No. of gas/chemical leak accidents (2011-2021)	No. of people affected/injured (2011-2021)	No. of people died (2011-2021)
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	---	---	---
Andhra Pradesh	6	4010	30
Arunachal Pradesh	---	---	---
Assam	2	11	2
Bihar	---	---	---

State/UT	No. of gas/chemical leak accidents (2011-2021)	No. of people affected/injured (2011-2021)	No. of people died (2011-2021)
Chandigarh	---	---	---
Chhattisgarh	---	---	---
Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli	---	---	---
Delhi	4	479	3
Goa	2	2	---
Gujarat	18	28	23
Haryana	---	---	---
Himachal Pradesh	---	---	---
Jammu & Kashmir (including Ladakh)	---	---	---
Jharkhand	---	---	---
Karnataka	---	---	---
Kerala	2	9	5
Lakshadweep	---	---	---
Madhya Pradesh	2	---	---
Maharashtra	9	16	1
Manipur	---	---	---
Meghalaya	---	---	---
Mizoram	---	---	---
Nagaland	---	---	---
Odisha	8	16	2
Puducherry	---	---	---
Punjab	3	100	6
Rajasthan	5	1	6
Sikkim	---	---	---
Tamil Nadu	4	3	---
Telangana	8	3	7
Tripura	---	---	---
Uttar Pradesh	4	229	7
Uttarakhand	---	---	---
West Bengal	6	7	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>4914</b>	<b>97</b>

- (c): The primary responsibility to deal with chemical accidents and provide relief to the victims rests with State Government(s)/ Union Territory administration(s). However, under the provisions of Public Liability Insurance (PLI) Act, 1991, the Central Government had established an Environmental Relief Fund (ERF) in 2008 to provide immediate relief to the persons affected by accidents while handling any hazardous

substance and for the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The amount of compensation to be awarded is also notified as part of the schedule to the PLI Act, 1991.

- (d): National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) had issued National Disaster Management Guidelines on Chemical Disasters (Industrial) in April, 2007. The Guidelines inter- alia contains the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders to deal with such situations. NDMA had also released National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP) in May, 2016 (updated in 2019) to assist stakeholders including State Governments in disaster risk management of various hazards including chemical (Industrial). The Plan provides a framework and direction to government agencies for all phases of disaster management i.e. prevention, mitigation, response and recovery. Further, the MOEF&CC has also notified Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemical Rules, 1989 (MSIHC Rules, 1989) and Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996 under the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. The rules were notified with the objective of preventing chemical accidents from industrial activities, mitigate associated impacts and provide statutory backup to crisis management set up with four-tier system at Central, State, District and Local level. The State Chief Inspector of Factories (CIFs) (appointed under the Factories Act, 1948) are the nodal agencies to enforce directions and procedures in respect of industrial installations and isolated storages covered under the Factories Act, 1948 dealing with hazardous chemicals and pipelines including inter-state pipelines. Similarly, Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) has been mandated to approve the sites of industrial installation and isolated Storages.

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