

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2347
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2021

Fire Safety Measures in Schools

2347. DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR. S.:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated guidelines for schools which envisages fire prevention and fire safety measures and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most of the Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya Vidyalayas do not have adequate fire safety measures in their premises;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to State Governments to take immediate steps to provide adequate fire safety measures in all schools/colleges/universities in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the response of the State Governments;
- (f) whether the Government has taken steps to ensure all schools and colleges have fire safety certificates within a stipulated time to ensure safety of children in future and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other steps taken by the Government to prevent fire accidents and ensure safety of students?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a), (d), (e) & (f): Education is a subject in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the jurisdiction of respective States/UTs. Department of School Education and Literacy (DoSEL), Ministry of Education has developed Guidelines on School Safety and Security of children studying in Government, Government-aided and

Private Schools. The guidelines are advisory in nature and have been circulated to all States/UTs/Autonomous Bodies of DoSEL and stakeholder Ministries on 01.10.2021.

These guidelines are to be read with National Disaster Management Authority's (NDMA) National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy, 2016 which are statutory in nature and are required to be complied without any deviation. The NDMA guidelines provide for conducting quarterly safety audits by the School Management Committee on ten designated activities, of which, conducting annual mock drills, installation of fire-extinguishers, training of students and teachers in school safety and disaster preparedness, adherence to safety norms with respect to storage of inflammable and toxic material and grant of recognition certificate only to those schools that comply with structural safety norms specifically pertain to fire safety.

The University Grants Commission has also framed guidelines on safety of students, on and off the campuses of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). Under these guidelines, the HEIs should install a fire safety system under which mechanisms for the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire and standard operating procedures for control of the fire are evolved. Students and staff should be trained in the effective operation of fire fighting devices. Mock drills for fire situation should also be undertaken at least once in a semester.

(b) & (c): Schools under Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) comply with National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy, 2016 and have adequate fire safety measures in their premises.

(g) : A Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) including representatives of NDMA and DoSEL, Ministry of Education monitors the implementation of the National Disaster Management Guidelines on School Safety Policy, 2016 in States/UTs and schools under KVS, NVS and Central Tibetan Schools Administration (CTSA) on quarterly basis.
