

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3032  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2024**

**FIRE ACCIDENTS IN HOSPITALS**

**3032: SHRI RAJA A:**

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of fire accidents in various hospitals in the country, including the recent one at Jhansi, UP during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of patients died/sustained burns in such accidents during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether any advisory/instructions have been issued for conducting fire safety audits and to train the staff responsible for handling critical and sensitive installations during emergencies so as to prevent such accidents in future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY  
WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

**(a) and (b)** Public Health and hospitals' is a State subject and it is the primary responsibility of State/UT Governments to ensure adherence of healthcare facilities to safety norms including fire safety. Information pertaining to patients died/sustained burns in fire accidents are maintained by the States/UTs.

**(c) and (d)** Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India in consultation with various stakeholders had reviewed the position regarding fire and life safety in government hospitals and after extensive examination, guidelines on 'Fire and Life Safety' were framed and circulated to all States and UTs and Govt. hospitals across the country vide this Ministry's letter dated 28.09.2020.

In recent past, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued advisories, checklists to all States/UTs on the issue of fire safety in hospitals highlighting the need for:

- i. Review and updation of fire prevention and response plans of all health facilities and training all healthcare staff on fire safety protocols, evacuation procedures, and use of fire - fighting equipment

- ii. Conducting regular preventive fire safety drills including evacuation plans.
- iii. Implementing and maintenance of appropriate fire prevention measures, such as regular and optimal preventive maintenance of electrical circuits and systems.
- iv. Installation and optimum maintenance of fire detection and suppression systems, including smoke alarms, fire extinguishers with regular check on expiry date, sprinklers etc.

All States/UTs have also been urged to constitute district level committees headed by District Collectors comprising of relevant officials from health, fire services and public works departments to undertake physical inspection of health facilities and take suitable actions against the defaulters, as deemed necessary under the law.

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