

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1996**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH MARCH, 2025/ PHALGUNA 20, 1946 (SAKA)

EXPANSION OF FIRE SERVICES

†1996. SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by the Government under the Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the State of Chhattisgarh during the last three years;

(b) the total amount allocated and utilized and the target set under this scheme in the State of Chhattisgarh during the last three years;

(c) whether the Government has made any assessment of gaps in firefighting infrastructure and personnel requirements and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether any benchmarks have been set for response time and service delivery under this Scheme and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any monitoring mechanism has been put in place to evaluate the implementation and effectiveness of this Scheme and if so, the details thereof including key performance indicators thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Recognizing the need for expansion and modernization of fire services in the States, Fifteenth Finance Commission recommended a

provision of Rs. 5000 crore for expansion and modernization of the fire services at a state level. The Central Government has launched a “Scheme for Expansion and Modernization of Fire Services in the States” on 04.07.2023 from the Preparedness and Capacity Building Funding Window under the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for strengthening fire services in the States with a total Central outlay of Rs. 5,000 Crore. The detailed scheme is available at <https://www.mha.gov.in/en/commoncontent/policies-guidelines>.

Under the scheme, Rs.147.75 crore has been allocated to State of Chhattisgarh, out of which, first instalment of Rs. 33.24 crore has already been released. Targets set by the State Government under the Scheme, comprises of setting up of 12 nos of new fire stations with modern firefighting equipment like fire tender, high expansion foam generator, semi-automatic defibrillator, smoke extractor etc. in the State of Chhattisgarh, as well as capacity building training of fire personal and strengthening of state fire headquarter in the State.

(c): Fifteenth Finance Commission, in its report, has mentioned that Fire services in the country lack resources and are ill equipped to provide adequate fire safety cover to the population. The extent of deficiency of fire services in the country, as noted in the report, is as under:

- **Fire stations - 97.54 %;**
- **Firefighting and rescue vehicles - 80.04 %; and**
- **Fire personnel - 96.28 %.**

(d) and (e): Fire Services is a State subject and has been included as a Municipal function under the XII schedule of the Constitution of India under Article 243 (W). It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to ensure strengthening of Fire and Emergency Services under the area of their jurisdiction. The Central Government has only an advisory role in respect of fire services.

Under the Scheme, the States are permitted to undertake following activities in order to strengthen the fire services in their respective states.

- (i) Expansion of Fire Services by setting up of new fire stations, strengthening of state training centres and capacity building of the firefighter, volunteers and community in fire prevention measures,**

awareness programme etc. 35% of the fund has been allocated for this activity, out of which 5% is for capacity building.

- (ii) Modernization of fire services by procuring modern firefighting equipment and strengthening of state headquarters and urban fire stations. The equipment to be purchased includes hydraulic platform, turntable ladders among others as given in the indicative list circulated to the States along with the Scheme guidelines dated 4th July, 2023. 50% of the fund has been allocated for modernization of fire services.**
- (iii) Provision has also been made for any State specific demand under which not only the states can raise their demand to top-up their respective ongoing projects requiring additional financial assistance, but also flexibility has been given to them to meet the states specific requirements. 15% of the fund has been allocated for State specific demand.**
- (iv) Out of the total allocated fund of Rs.5000 crore under the Scheme, an amount of Rs.500 crore has also been kept for incentivising the States on the basis of their legal and infrastructure-based reforms.**

Under the scheme the states need to execute the activities envisaged by 31.03.2026.

As on date, proposals of twenty (20) states have been approved for financial assistance under the Scheme. A total amount of Rs.757.39 crore has already been released to eighteen (18) States towards 1st installment of the project. The state-wise details of the approved proposals under the Scheme is at Annexure.

Under the scheme, before release of the fund, the States are required to sign the Memorandum of Understanding with DG (FS, CD &HG) for proper utilization of funds and adherence to the guidelines.

In the scheme there is provision of a Project Monitoring Unit housed at Directorate General (Fire Service, Civil Defence & Home Guards) which facilitates the State in finalization of State-wise plan as well as handholding advices and will monitor the progress in implementation of the scheme across all the States.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (d) and (e) of the Lok Sabha unstarred question no. 1996 for 11.03.2025

State-wise details of the approved proposals under the Scheme

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	States	Total Allocation	1st instalment
1	Andhra Pradesh	252.86	56.90
2	Manipur	45.00	12.15
3	Meghalaya	44.37	11.98
4	Telangana	190.14	42.78
5	Uttar Pradesh	768.67	172.95
6	Himachal Pradesh	65.33	17.64
7	Punjab	131.56	29.60
8	Sikkim	32.25	8.71
9	Tripura	42.36	11.44
10	Uttarakhand	78.89	21.30
11	Assam	107.47	29.02
12	Karnataka	329.90	74.23
13	Mizoram	40.00	10.80
14	Tamil Nadu	373.27	83.99
15	Chhattisgarh	147.745	33.24
16	Nagaland	40.05	10.81
17	Odisha	200.384	45.09
18	West Bengal	376.76	84.77
19	Arunachal Pradesh	63.95	-
20	Goa	42.16	-
