

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *143**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 10TH FEBRUARY, 2026/ MAGHA 21, 1947 (SAKA)

FIRE SAFETY PROVISIONS UNDER NATIONAL BUILDING CODE

***143. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:
SHRI PUTTA MAHESH KUMAR:**

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review or assessment has been conducted on the effectiveness of fire safety provisions under Part 4 (Fire & Life Safety) of the National Building Code (NBC) 2016, particularly in hospitals, commercial complexes, industrial units, and residential buildings;

(b) if so, the details and findings thereof during the last five years, State and year-wise;

(c) the total number and causes of fire-related incidents and fatalities reported including smoke inhalation, electrical faults, flammable materials and negligence during the last five years, State-wise;

(d) the number of buildings audited for fire safety annually and the proportion found non-compliant or partially compliant during the said period;

(e) whether the Government proposes to incorporate provisions for smoke management systems, periodic audits, electrical fire prevention and digital compliance tracking in future revisions of the NBC;

(f) whether NBC standards have been benchmarked with international fire safety norms and gaps identified; and

(g) the steps taken to strengthen accountability, enforcement, inspections and penalties by States and local bodies?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (g): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 143* FOR ANSWER IN LOK SABHA ON 10.02.2026

Fire Services 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 measures for strengthening and equipping Fire Services and to avert the fire incidences in the area of their jurisdiction.

Role of Central Government is to advise and support in policy matters to State Governments for undertaking prevention and fire safety measures. The Central Government does not maintain data related to fire accidents / incidents in the States and the buildings audited centrally. However, as per the data reported by the States/Union Territories to National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) during 2023, a total of 7,054 cases of fire accidents were reported in the country which rendered 6,891 deaths and injuries to 284 persons.

Bureau of Indian Standards had published National Building Code of India (NBC), 2016. It covers the detailed guidelines for construction, maintenance and fire safety of the structures. The current version of the NBC, 2016 includes the aspects regarding smoke management, periodic audits, electrical fire prevention, building management system, sensors for

firefighting and fire prevention, etc. The international best practices in building construction including fire safety were also considered in revising the respective chapter of NBC, 2016.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs have framed Model Building Bye Laws 2016, for guiding the States / UTs for revising their respective Building Bye Laws. It also contains a Chapter on fire protection and fire safety requirements which prescribes the norms and standards for fire protection. Its effective enforcement is in the domain of the States / UTs.

National Fire Service College (NFSC), Nagpur conducts regular training in advanced techniques of firefighting and rescue etc. for Sub Fire Officers, Station Officers and Divisional Officers. The College also conducts a four-year B.Tech. degree program in science of Fire Engineering which is recognized by AICTE and affiliated to R.T.M. Nagpur University. NFSC, Nagpur has trained 4049 Fire Services Officers and produced 329 B. Tech Engineers during last five years.

Recognizing the need for expansion and modernization of fire services in the States, Fifteenth Finance Commission recommended a provision of Rs. 5000 crore for strengthening 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 for strengthening fire services in the States with a total Central outlay of Rs. 5,000 Crore.

The measures included in the scheme provides setting up of new fire stations, strengthening of State Training Centres and capacity building, provisions for modern fire-fighting equipment, strengthening of State Headquarters and Urban Fire Stations, technological upgradation and installation and augmentation of online system etc.

Enforcement of fire safety regulations, inspections, accountability mechanisms and penalties are also governed by the respective State Fire Service Acts/Rules and local statutory provisions.
