

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6993
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2010
SUBJECT: FIRE IN REVENUE BUILDING
Kumar Shri Kaushalendra

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether all the revenue buildings in the country are fire resistant and equipped with fire fighting devices;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether fire broke out in fourth floor of Kendriya Rajasva Bhavan in Income Tax Office New Delhi some days ago;
- (d) If so, the details thereof;
- (e) The details of important documents burnt in the said fire along with the number of persons died and the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (f) Whether the Government proposes to conduct an important inquiry to ascertain the causes of said fire;
- (g) If so, the details thereof , and
- (h) If not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a)&(b) Department of Income Tax has its offices in both owned and hired buildings. Most of the buildings of the Department are constructed and maintained by Public Works Organization like CPWD. The broad specifications for electrical and mechanical works in the buildings, as per norms of CPWD, provide for Fire Fighting system, Fire Alarm System, Wet riser and Automatic sprinkler system, Addressable Intelligent Fire Alarm System with public address system, as are applicable for building of different scale and design as per the National Building Code 2005, the appropriate Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) Codes and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) guidelines.

(c)&(d) No, there was no fire incident at the fourth floor of Kendriya Rajaswa Bhawan, Income Tax Office, New Delhi. However, a minor fire broke out due to short circuit at 4th floor of Drum Shaped Building, I.P. Estate, New Delhi on 2-4-2010, where some of the offices of Income Tax Department are located along with the offices of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and the Department of Customs & Central Excise.

(e) No important documents were lost in the fire. However, copies of approximately 200 objections filed before the Disputes Resolutions Panel of the Department have been burnt in the fire. There was not casualty during the fire.

(f) (g) & (h) It was an incident of minor fire due to short circuit and since no major loss of Important record or casualty occurred, no enquiry has been instituted.