

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:738  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
RECOMMENDATION OF BIS ON FIRE SAFETY  
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Sugavanam Shri E.G.

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received any recommendations from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) with regard to fire safety in Government/ Private buildings and in temporary structures and pandals used for functions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure fire safety measures in every Government/private buildings in the country;
- (c) whether the Government has granted funds for modernisation of fire services in the country;
- (d) if so, the total funds granted during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including NCT of Delhi;and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure proper utilisation of such funds?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is an organization for the harmonious development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods. There are standards on fire fighting/rescue equipments, codes and practices on fire safety in various occupancies/industries including temporary structures and pandals used for functions. National Building Code of India is one of such document on the subject which also covers fire safety in detail and the State Governments are expected to adopt the same in their local building bye-laws. Fire is a State subject. It is upto the State Governments to raise and equip the fire services and enforce the fire safety codes and practices framed by the Bureau of Indian Standards to save life and property.

(c) to (e): A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the "Modernization of Fire Services in the Country" at a cost of Rs. 200 crore has been approved by the Government of India on 10-11-2009. As the Scheme has been recently approved there was no allocation of funds to the States during the last three years.

The Director General (National Disaster Response Force & Civil Defence), Government of India is implementing the scheme through the State Governments. A budgetary provision of Rs. 38.00 crore exists for this Scheme in the current financial year