

FIRE SAFETY IN EVERY HOSPITAL IS NOW A WRITTEN NATIONAL MANDATE.

National Guidelines on Fire & Life Safety in Healthcare Facilities (2026) · DM Cell, MoHFW, Government of India · Released 04.05.2026 · PIB Release ID 2257800 · NBC 2016 · NEC 2023 (SP-30)

1 THE NOTIFICATION — ON WHOM, FROM WHEN

WHAT — The Government's national fire-safety rulebook for hospitals. Replaces the 2020 version. NBC 2016 & State Fire Acts: compulsory. A valid Fire Safety Certificate: compulsory (§7.2).

ON WHOM — Every hospital and nursing home in India — government & private, old & new.

FROM WHEN — 04.05.2026. Fire Safety Committee & Fire Safety Officer: now. Fire-risk check: every 3 months. Full fire + electrical audit: every year. Fire Hazard Register + audit & corrective-action records — open to regulators and NABH (§3.1, §5.5).

VERBATIM FROM THE GUIDELINE · §4.2, p.25

“Penetration sealing helps maintain fire compartmentation by blocking fire and smoke spread”

2 THE MANDATE → STANVAC SOLUTION

MANDATE — AS PER NOTIFICATION (§ / page)	STANVAC SOLUTION
1 · ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION · Annex A4 p.53 + §4.1.3 p.23–24 Wiring must not spread fire — and safety circuits must keep working during a fire. Hospitals are BD4, the highest-risk building class (IS 732). Extra care in ICUs, NICUs, OTs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FIREX EC 43 Survival — safety circuits stay live through fire — IEC 60331-21 (240 min @ 750°C) · IS 17505-1 · CBRI ▪ FIREX FBS 73 — seals panel gaps — starves the fault of oxygen ▪ FIREX DC 52 — panel body fire barrier
2 · FIRE BARRIERS AT EVERY CABLE CROSSING · Annex 1, A3.1(2) p.50 Mandatory inspection (IS 732 cl. 4.3): every opening where cables cross walls, floors and shafts must be checked — and where sealed, the make, type, manufacturer's test report and installation method must be recorded.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FIREX EC 43 General — zero flame spread along the cable — proven for 240 min ▪ FIREX EC 7034 — thin cables & panel wiring — see-through coat · CBRI 120-min · IEC 60332-3-22 Cat A ▪ FIREX FM-71 + FB 250 — seals every crossing
3 · CABLES — THE PERFORMANCE ASKED (derived) · BD4 + NEC 2023 + NBC 2016 Flame must not run along cables (IEC 60332-3). A running hospital cannot rewire — so the installed cables themselves must be protected.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FIREX EC 43 General — coated in place — no rewiring · no shutdown ▪ FIREX EC 43 Survival — upgrade for critical circuits — fire pumps · alarms · ICU/OT feeds ▪ FIREX EC 7034 — colour codes stay visible
4 · COMPARTMENTATION · §4.2 p.24–25 Every floor divided into fire-proof compartments; every shaft sealed at every floor. Patients are moved sideways into the next compartment — this works only if the compartments hold.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FIREX FM-71 + FB 250 — fire barrier for wall & floor openings — 2 hours at the wall ▪ FIREX EC 43 — spread-stop at the opening — no flame past the seal
5 · NON-COMBUSTIBLE SURFACES · §4.1.1 p.23 The structure, finishes and false ceilings must not burn or carry fire. Binds new construction; existing buildings on alteration or if the Authority declares a hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ STANVAC CS 70 — clear intumescent — where looks matter: wood & exposed surfaces protected without hiding the finish ▪ FIREX DC 52 — where a coloured coating is wanted — the surface stops being fuel

3 LEGAL CONSEQUENCES — WHAT HAPPENS, WHO ANSWERS

WHAT HAPPENS	WHO ANSWERS
Fire Safety Certificate cancelled — the building can be sealed (State Fire Acts).	The hospital
A death in a fire: jail up to 5 years — BNS 2023 §106. Putting lives in danger — §125.	Owners · trustees · MS / CEO — personally
Every audit is now on record (Fire Hazard Register + audit file). A fault found but not fixed = proof of negligence.	Whoever knew and did not act
NABH suspended. Cashless insurance tie-ups stop. Fire insurance claim rejected.	The hospital's income
Consumer courts order compensation to victims' families.	The hospital pays

Precedent: AMRI Kolkata, 2011 — 90+ deaths. Directors arrested and prosecuted.

After 04.05.2026, no hospital can say “we did not know.”
The mandate is in writing — and so is every fault you were told about.

4 WHO TO MEET

- **Fire Safety Officer** — walk the shafts, panels, openings with him
- **Fire Safety Committee** — put our fix on their agenda
- **MS / CEO** — holds the budget — “Accountable” in the guideline's own chart
- **Chief Engineer** — puts us in the BOQ and executes
- **New buildings** — the MEP / fire consultant

PCO — Panels · Cables · Openings · one survey · one specification · one accountable partner

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