

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) · CEA 2023

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 · CEA 2023 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 EC 43 General — large cables — no flame spread — IEC 60332-3 · 240 min ▪ FIREX EC 7034 — small dia & panel internal wiring — no flame spread — see-through · CBRI 120-min · Cat A
2 · THE AUDIT 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 FM-71 + FB 250 — seals every crossing — 2 h at the wall
3 · EXISTING WIRING — WHAT THE NOTIFICATION ORDERS §4.1.3 p.23 · Annex 1 A3 · IS 732 (BD4) HFFR — Halogen Free & Flame Retardant — is the class the guideline names; installation “may comply” NEC 2023 (§4.1.3). For wiring in place: “special care... (for protection from electric shock and electrical fire)” (§4.1.3); “precautions against propagation of fire”, inspections “mandatory for all locations” (Annex 1 A3 · IS 732 cl 4.3). Duty: no propagation · special care · recorded sealing — not replacement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FIREX EC 43 coated PVC cable releases no toxic gases — halogen included — Toxicity Index 1.349 · NES-713 · NCD-1409 · CBRI ▪ FIREX EC 43 Survival — safety circuits alive in fire — IEC 60331-21 (240 min @ 750°C) · IS 17505-1 ▪ FIREX EC 43 General — no flame spread, large cables — IEC 60332-3 · 240 min ▪ FIREX EC 7034 — small dia & panel wiring — see-through · CBRI 120-min · Cat A
4 · COMPARTMENTATION — THE DESIGN DUTY §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 — wall & floor openings — 2 hours · every shaft, sealed at every floor
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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