

: -Rising Fire Tragedies Demand Stronger Safety Enforcement: -Kumari Selja

: -The Preventable Fire Disasters Continue Due to Lapses in Safety Norms: -Kumari Selja

: -Kumari Selja Calls for Urgent Modernisation of Fire Services and Stricter Compliance

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The General Secretary of All India Congress Committee, CWC member, Sirsa MP and Former Union Minister Kumari Selja expressed concern over the increasing number of major fire incidents reported across the country, stating that many such tragedies could have been prevented through stricter enforcement of fire safety regulations and regular monitoring of public facilities. Referring to several devastating fire accidents witnessed over the years, Kumari Selja said the lessons from past tragedies have not been fully implemented despite the existence of comprehensive safety guidelines. She noted that the 1995 Dabwali fire disaster had prompted the formulation of various fire safety norms, yet compliance and

enforcement continue to remain a challenge in many parts of the country.

Kumari Selja pointed to a series of incidents, including fires at religious gatherings, hotels, coaching centres, industrial units and firecracker factories, as evidence of persistent shortcomings in safety preparedness. She said recurring accidents underline the need for greater administrative accountability and stricter adherence to safety standards. Kumari Selja alleged that negligence and weak oversight have often resulted in violations of fire safety regulations at educational institutions, commercial establishments, religious venues and industrial facilities. She called for regular inspections and rigorous implementation of fire safety protocols to minimise risks and prevent loss of life.

Highlighting the situation in Haryana, Kumari Selja said several districts continue to face a shortage of firefighting personnel, with many fire stations reportedly operating despite significant vacancies. She also stressed the need to upgrade ageing firefighting vehicles and equipment to improve emergency

response capabilities. She urged both the Centre and the Haryana government to fill vacant posts in fire services on priority, strengthen infrastructure and ensure periodic audits of fire safety measures in public and private institutions.

Kumari Selja said that Protection of human life must remain the highest priority. Any compromise on safety standards can have devastating consequences.

Photo:-Kumari Selja.