

**Subject:- Criteria for establishment of Fire Fighting Stations at different areas.**

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The Standing Fire Advisory Council (SFAC) Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has from time to time laid down guidelines for establishment of Fire Stations in the country on the following parameters:-

- i. Population;
- ii. Topography;
- iii. Risk Factor
- iv. Response Time based on distance from nearest fire stations;

For 50,000 population one "D" category Fire Station has to be provided. In Urban areas one Fire Station is recommended per 04 sq. miles-10.24 kms (say 10 sq. Kms). The risk factor has been divided into three zones based on risk hazard analysis as such a town has to be divided in three major groups:-

1. High Risk Areas : "A" Zone
2. Medium Risk Areas : "B" Zone
3. Low Risk Areas : "C" Zone

Another "D" zone area has been suggested for least or no risk zones mainly open or rural areas based on which aforesaid scales have been suggested which is also known as peace time primary scale.

The 10 sq. km area per Fire Station scale in view of the above is not mandatory. In high risk zones the areas may be lowered. The following response time has been suggested by Standing Fire Advisory Council for various risk zones:-

- i. As per the norms the first fire tender should reach to the risk category of class A, B, C in 3 to 5 minutes and 20 minutes in D category. Where A is high vulnerability, B is medium vulnerability, C is low vulnerability and D is for rural areas;
- ii. One fire tender per 50,000 population upto 3 lakh population. One additional fire tender per one lakh of population or a fraction thereof plus a reserve of 20% of the total water tender. In industrial cities and areas of high fire risk, the scale and other equipments should be determined on the basis of actual survey of the area to be protected;
- iii. One fire station per 10 sq. km. area in urban area and 50 sq. kms in rural area;

- iv. Fire Services response time maximum 5 minutes in urban area and 20 minutes in rural area;
- v. One rescue tender per 3 to 10 lakhs population while it should be augmented by additional rescue tender for every additional 10 lakhs population.
- One or more special vehicles viz Turn Table Ladder, Hydraulic Platform, Emergency Tender/ Advance Rescue Tender, Extra Heavy Water Tender, Hose laying Tender, Lightening Van, Control Post Van, Break Down Van, Mobile Workshop for repairs of Fire appliances, Mobile Workshop for Telecom equipments etc. should be provided at selected fire stations or fire service divisional headquarter, according to local circumstances (number can be decided with the advice of local fire chief on the basis of actual risk analysis);

<u>Risk Zone</u>	<u>Suggestive Response Time</u>
For High Risk Zone "X"	Maximum 3 minutes
For Medium/Low Risk Zone "B&C"	Maximum 5 minutes
For Rural or Zone "Y" areas	Maximum 20 minutes

For Non-built up open areas or rural areas one fire station may cover atleast 5 times the area they cover in urban areas i.e. 50 sq. kms.

Fire Posts with provision of 1 portable pump, fire fighting equipment and 6 firemen can also be recommended for particular locality in view of specific risk of the area.

Provision of Fire Chowkis with provision of 01 Mini Water Tender along-with manpower can also be recommended for certain areas of lesser fire risk. A "Y" category Fire Station has provision of 01 Water Tender and 01 portable fire pump along-with manpower. An amount of Rs. 130.00 lacs approximately is needed for establishment of a fire station with recurring and non-recurring expenditure including cost of land and construction of fire station building including creation of manpower (26 personnel).

  
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