



# Fire Safety in High Rise Building



**F**ire safety in high-rise buildings is very crucial. Fire claims huge loss of lives and property in the High Rise Buildings each year.

This leaflet has been produced for people who live in high rise buildings and tells you what to do if a fire breaks out. Read it carefully, implement fire prevention techniques and keep this leaflet for references.

Though high-rise buildings has been designed and built with safety in mind. The walls, the doors between flats, stairs and corridors are specially designed to resist fire, check smoke to some extent. As per National Building Code, high-rise buildings should have Smoke Detectors, Sprinklers, First Aid Fire Fighting system, PA system, Adequate water supply, Fire pumps, Fire escape routes, Firemen Lift, Service Shaft enclosures, compart mentation, approved electrical system, refuse area etc. Outside the high-rise buildings, adequate access roads and surrounding areas are so designed so as the emergency vehicles can get as near as possible.

In most cases the fire escape procedure is the same as for a single family dwelling: "Get Out and Stay Out". Sometimes, however, it's safest to stay in the building, separating yourself from the effects of a fire and wait to be rescued.

**ADVANCE  
PLANNING**



Consult your building management and fire department in advance and learn what you're expected to do.

- If you discover a fire, sound the alarm and call the Fire Brigade. If you hear instructions over your building's public address system, listen carefully and do as you are told. You might be told to stay where you are.
- Follow your evacuation plan, unless you see smoke or other signs of fire.



## BE PREPARED

- Know where to find building's fire alarms and learn how to use them.
- Learn the sound of your building fire alarms.
- Make sure everyone in your home knows where to go if the fire alarm sounds and practice your escape plan together. Your building management should display evacuation plans prominently, where every one can see them.
- Some evacuation plans may have you to go to a "safe area" inside the building and wait for firemen to supervise your escape.
- Know at least two escape routes from every room in your apartment.
- Count the doors between your living unit and to nearest building exit. You may have to escape a fire in the dark.
- In some high-rise fires the safe thing to do is protect from the fire and stay until the fire department comes.

## IF YOU LEAVE

Alert any other people in the flat

- Leave the room at once and close the door behind you. Don't tackle the fire yourself unless it is safe to do so.
- Leave the flat and when everyone is out, close the front door. Don't use balconies unless they are part of an official escape route.
- Call the fire brigade.
- Exit quickly, closing all doors behind you to slow the spread of fire and smoke.
- If you encounter smoke or flames use another escape route. If you have to escape through smoke crawl low. Heat and smoke rise above. Cleaner air will be 1 to 2 feet above the floor.
- Test door before you open them. Kneel or crouch, reach up high and touch the door, the knob and the space between the door and its frame with the back of your hand. If the door is hot don't open it. If the door feels cool open it carefully and be ready to slam it shut if smoke or heat rushes in.
- Never use a lift in case of fire; it may stop between floors or at where the fire is. Go directly to a staircase free of smoke and flame.
- Once you are out, tell the fire department if you know anyone trapped in the building. Do not go back inside for any reason until the firemen tell you it is safe.



## IF YOU STAY

- If you cannot escape safely or if you're instructed to stay where you are, be calm and protect yourself.
- If possible, go to a room with an outside window and a telephone closing all doors between you and the fire.
- Use duct tape or stuff the gaps in the door with towels, rags or bedding and cover vents to keep the smoke out of the room.
- If there's a phone in the room where you're trapped, call the fire brigade and tell them exactly where you are.
- Do this even if you can see fire tender from your window.
- Wait at a window and signal for help with a flash light beam, if you have one or by waving a bed sheet or other bright colored cloth.
- If possible open the window at the top and bottom to allow fresh air in, but close it quickly if smoke from outside comes in.
- Do not break the window.
- Be patient. Rescuing all the occupants of a high-rise building can take several hours.



## FIRE DETECTORS, FIRST AID FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM

Find out who is responsible for maintaining your building fire safety systems - such as fire/smoke check doors, fire alarms, emergency lighting system and fire sprinkler system? Do not hesitate to report the defect quickly. If the problem is not corrected, report the situation to your fire brigade. Make sure that nothing blocks or otherwise interferes with fire fighting systems inside or outside your living units.

## EXITS

Never lock or block fire exits. Keep waste material away from escape route. Fire doors not only provide a way out during a fire, they also slow the spread of the effects of fire and smoke. Never prop fire doors open.



## IF A FIRE BREAKS OUT ELSEWHERE IN YOUR BUILDING

*It will normally be safe for you to stay in your own flat. But if your flat is affected by the heat or the smoke, leave at once closing windows and doors behind you.*

### Do's

1. Fire orders should be implemented in the Building with role and responsibilities of all occupants.
2. Good house keeping.
3. Use ashtrays while smoking and deposit smoked butts in them after extinguishing.
4. All receptacles for waste should be emptied at regular intervals.
5. Correct rated wire and electrical appliance etc. should be used.
6. Faulty electrical appliances should be repaired/replaced immediately.
7. Electrical safety devices such as MB, GCD, Switches and fuses should conform to correct rating of Circuit.
8. Welding/cutting jobs should be carried out under strict supervision.
9. Keep smoke/fire check doors closed.
10. Keep means of escape clear of obstructions.
11. Evacuation drills should be conducted at regular intervals.
12. Impart elementary fire fighting training to occupants.
13. Emergency organisation must be set up.
14. Fire safety equipments should be maintained in High standard and check at regular interval.



## **Don'ts**

1. Don't dispose off lighted cigarette ends carelessly.
2. Don't plug too many electric appliances in one socket.
3. Don't store L.P. Gas against Gas cylinders rules.
4. Don't apply any paint on Fire Detectors/Sprinkler Heads.
5. Don't engage unqualified contractors for the servicing of fire fighting system.
6. Don't think that fire safety is others job.
7. Don't relax after hearing fire/emergency call.

***In case of Fire dial***



# 101

***OR***

***CONTACT THE NEAREST  
FIRE STATION***

**Follow Fire Precautions,  
Prevent Fire**



सत्यमेव जयते

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*Issued in Public Interest*