

Blaze in Odisha hospital claims 12 patients' lives

7 Die In ICU Beds, 20 Injured In Govt-Run Facility

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Hemanta Pradhan | TNN

Bhubaneswar/Cuttack:

An electrical fire originating in the trauma unit of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Odisha's Cuttack at 2.40am Monday enveloped three floors within minutes, killing 12 patients and injuring 20 people as staff and attendants at the state's oldest and largest govt-run tertiary healthcare facility scurried to evacuate the sick.

Seven of 23 patients across two ICUs died in their beds while three succumbed to their injuries while being moved to a portion of the hospital untouched by flames. A 45-year-old man and an 11-year-old girl died later in the



The charred equipment and beds at a trauma centre of SCB Medical College and Hospital after the fire incident in Cuttack on Monday

medicine ICU, ward in-charge Jayant Panda said.

CM Mohan Charan Majhi ordered a judicial probe led by retired district judge Laxmidhar Biswal and announced ex gratia of Rs 25 lakh each to the families of the victims. A separate six-member fact-finding team headed by development commissioner Deoranj Kumar Singh will assess

the hospital's safety infrastructure and preparedness.

President Droupadi Murmu and PM Narendra Modi, too, condoled the deaths. The PM announced a grant of Rs 2 lakh each from the PM's National Relief Fund to the kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured.

► **Cause not known yet, P 14**

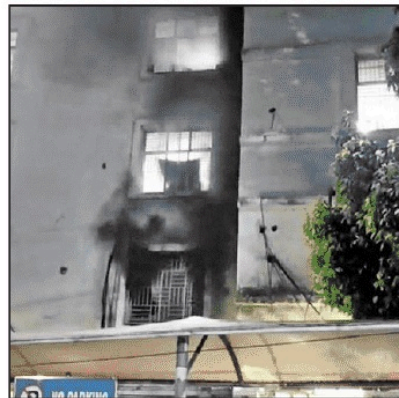
Cause of Cuttack hospital fire yet to be determined

‘Responders Reached Site Within 2 Mins’

► From P 1

Bhubaneswar/Cuttack: An electrical fire originating at a trauma unit of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Odisha’s Cuttack killed 12 patients on Monday. Hospital source said the blaze followed a small fire from an electrical spark in the first-floor trauma ICU that had been quickly attended to and doused. Till late Monday, there was no clarity on whether the same spark or an undetected fault elsewhere was the source of the massive fire that coursed through the ward and two upper floors moments later.

The fire services department reported a gap of more than 15 minutes between the initial warning signs and firefighters on campus being alerted. Director general of fire services Sudhansu Sarangi said the department received a call on the emergency number 112 at 2.58am. “Fire engines reached the spot within two



Smoke billows out at SCB Medical College and Hospital, Cuttack

minutes,” he said.

Health secretary S Aswathy said 11 staffers of the hospital were among the injured. “They suffered injuries while helping rescue and evacuate patients. They are all out of danger,” she said.

“My sister-in-law Menaka Rout, 54, was recovering after suffering a head injury in a fall on March 1. She was expected to be out of the ICU this week. Who could have imagined something like this would happen,” said Niranjan Swain of Kendrapada.

Ghanshyam Behera stood outside the hospital building hours after the fire, looking distraught.

NHRC seeks report from chief secy

National Human Rights Commission has directed the chief secretary to submit a detailed report within 15 days on the fire that broke out in the ICU of the trauma care centre of the Cuttack hospital. The directive came after human rights activist Manoj Jena lodged a complaint alleging gross negligence and a lack of fire safety systems at the state’s premier medical institution. **TNN**

“My father had had an accident and was being treated in a third-floor ward when I heard shouting and screaming. Black fumes blanketed the ward in quick time. I carried my father on my shoulders and ran outside,” he said. Ghanshyam’s father Jadumani has since been shifted to the orthopaedic ICU. Security guards came bearing the news of the death of a 17-year-old, who was in the trauma ICU. “Shocked as I was to hear this, I went looking for the body. It’s evening now and I and still looking,” her cousin Sudipta Nayak said. The last such hospital fire tragedy in Odisha occurred in Oct 2016.

Hindalco conference

Experts call for rights-based dev, ethical governance

PNS ■ Bhubaneswar

Reinforcing its commitment to responsible corporate citizenship and inclusive development, Hindalco Industries Limited on Friday organised a National-level Human Rights Sensitization Conference here, bringing together policymakers, jurists, corporate leaders and civil society representatives from across the country for deliberations on rights-based development and ethical governance.

The conference was held in collaboration with Human Rights Front. The inaugural session featured Member, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Dr Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi, former Chairperson of the Odisha Human Rights Commission Justice Bimala Prasad Das, former Member of the OHRC Asim Amitabh Das, Vice Chancellor of Maa Manikeswari University, Kalahandi Dr Nibedita Nath and Chief Human Resources Officer of Hindalco Industries Limited Samik Basu.



Senior President and Chief Legal Officer, Hindalco VR Shankar and President-HR, Hindalco and Conference Convener TM Prakash were also present on the occasion.

Delivering the keynote address, Samik Basu emphasised the importance of embedding human rights values in corporate governance and development initiatives.

The conference featured three thematic panel discussions addressing key human rights issues.

The first panel discussion focused on "Rights-Based Development: Advancing Equity, Inclusion and Institutional Accountability." Moderated by senior journalist and former Bureau Chief of BBC

Sandeep Sahu, the panel included former Vice-Chancellor of FM University Prof (Dr) Kumarbar Das; Senior President and Chief Legal Officer of Hindalco VR Shankar; former State Information Commissioner Jagadananda; Member, Odisha State Commission for Women Dr Kalpana Mallick and Associate Professor and Head of the Centre for Social Research and Innovation at KIIT University Dr Debasish Mahapatra.

The second panel discussion examined "Corporate Responsibility and ESG," focusing on ethical business practices and compliance with national and global human rights standards. The

session was moderated by former Bureau Chief of The Economic Times Nageswar Pattanaik with panellists including Associate Director - ESG Advisory Pratul Narayan; former Judge of the Orissa High Court Dr Justice DP Choudhury; Chairperson of Mahila Atmanirvar Abhiyan Dr Rina Routray and Mentor at the Centre for Research and Community Action Dr Ambika Prasad Nanda.

The final panel discussion addressed "Labour Codes and Human Rights: Balancing Ease of Doing Business with Worker Protection." The conference also recognised several human rights defenders for their contributions to promoting social justice.

NHRC asks chief secy to submit inquiry report on SCB fire in 15 days

BHUBANESWAR: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Monday asked the state government to conduct an inquiry into the SCB MCH fire tragedy and submit a report within a fortnight. Acting on a complaint lodged by Human Rights Front (HRF) chairperson Manoj Jena, the commission asked the state chief secretary to examine the matter and submit the report expeditiously within a period of 15 days. The NHRC underlined that the allegations levelled in the complaint were serious violations of the human rights of the victims. The complainant sought the commission's intervention to institute a high-level inquiry and take action against the authorities responsible for the incident. Compensation of ₹1 crore to the deceased and ₹50 lakh to the injured and the formulation of safety guidelines to prevent such incidents in future was also demanded.

DATE	CHANNEL	TIME	DETAILS	DURATION	PROGRAM	AUTHOR	PERSONALITY
16.03.2026	OTV	14:00	NHRC Seeks Report on SCB Medical Fire Tragedy in Cuttack The National Human Rights Commission has expressed concern over the tragic fire incident at SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack that reportedly claimed 10 lives. The commission has asked the Chief Secretary of Odisha to submit a detailed report within 15 days after conducting a thorough inquiry into the incident.	02:55 Min	Breaking News	Manas	
16.03.2026	NEws18 India	15:00	Sanjay Dutt और Nora Fatehi के गाने पर विवाद -Nora Fatehi और Sanjay Dutt के गाने को लेकर विवाद शुरू हो गया है... गाना 'Sarke Chunar Teri Sarke' रिलीज होते ही सोशल मीडिया पर इसके लिरिक्स को लेकर आपत्ति जाहिर की जा रही है... गाने की शुरुआती लाइनें ही डबल मीनिंग वाली बताई जा रही हैं, जिसे लेकर लोग सोशल मीडिया पर यूजर्स नाराजगी जाहिर कर रहे हैं...इसके साथ ही वकील विनीत जिंदल ने इसे लेकर FIR की मांग की है... वहीं NHRC के प्रियांक कानूनगो ने भी इसे लेकर आपत्ति जाहिर की है... और NHRC की तरफ से नोटिस भी जारी किया गया है।	01:03 Min	Breaking News	Abc	

16.03.2026	Kalinga TV	16:40	<p>SCB Medical Fire: NHRC seeks report from Chief Secretary, to be submitted in 15 days</p> <p>-The National Human Rights Commission has taken serious note of the fire incident in the ICU of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack and sought a report from the Government of Odisha.</p> <p>The Commission has directed the Chief Secretary to submit a detailed report within 15 days on the incident. The complaint was filed by Manoj Jena, president of Human Rights Front India.</p> <p>Taking up the matter, Commission member Justice B. R. Sarangi ordered the Chief Secretary to furnish the report within the stipulated time.</p>	01:28 Min	Breaking News	Abc	
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16.03.2026	OTV	19:00	<p>Tragic Fire at SCB Medical College Hospital's Trauma Care ICU in Cuttack Claims 10 Lives; CM Majhi Announces ₹25 Lakh Compensation and Judicial Probe</p> <p>A devastating fire broke out in the early hours of March 16, 2026 (around 2:30–3:00 AM) at the Trauma Care Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack, Odisha, resulting in the tragic death of at least 10 critically ill patients. The blaze, suspected to be caused by an electrical short circuit, forced a chaotic evacuation where many patients succumbed while being shifted to safety; five others remain in critical condition, and 11 hospital staff suffered injuries during rescue efforts. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi visited the site to assess the situation, expressed deep grief, announced ex-gratia compensation of ₹25 lakh each to the families of the deceased from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund, ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident, and formed a six-member fact-finding team to determine the exact cause. Meanwhile, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has sought a detailed report from the Odisha Chief Secretary, highlighting concerns over patient safety and hospital infrastructure.</p>	05:25 Min	Breaking News	Abc	
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16.03.2026	Argus News	17:00	SCB Medical Fire Tragedy: Death Toll Rises to 11 -The death toll in the devastating fire at SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack has risen to 12, turning what began as a routine early morning in the Trauma ICU into one of the worst hospital tragedies in Odisha in recent years. Many of the victims were critically ill and asleep when the fire broke out, leaving them little time to react as flames and thick smoke engulfed the ward.	02:15 Min	Breaking News	Abc	
16.03.2026	India News	11:40	Bihar : बिहार के इस थाने में बच्चों से उतरवाई गई शराब की पेटियाँ, अब उठ रहे बड़े सवाल -बिहार में कानून व्यवस्था और नशा मुक्ति अभियान को लेकर सरकार लगातार दावे करती रही है, लेकिन कटिहार जिले के रौशना थाना से सामने आई एक तस्वीर ने इन दावों पर सवाल खड़े कर दिए हैं। यहां पुलिस पर आरोप है कि जब्त की गई अवैध शराब की पेटियाँ उतरवाने के लिए नाबालिग बच्चों से मजदूरी करवाई गई। इस घटना की तस्वीरें और वीडियो सोशल मीडिया पर तेजी से वायरल हो रहे हैं, जिसके बाद पूरे मामले को लेकर चर्चा शुरू हो गई है।	06:35 Min	Breaking News	Abc	

16.03.2026	India TV	16:03	दिल्ली में सूरज हत्याकांड के विरोध में श्रद्धांजलि यात्रा -दिल्ली में जहां पर होली के दिन हुई हिंदू युवकों की हत्या के मामले में लोगों का गुस्सा बढ़ता जा रहा है...एक तरफ उत्तम नगर के लोगों ने तरुण की हत्या के विरोध में देर रात कैंडल मार्च निकाला...तो दूसरी ओर प्रह्लादपुर में हिंदू संगठनों ने श्रद्धांजलि यात्रा निकाली...बता दें कि होली के दिन दिल्ली में दो हिंदू युवकों की हत्या हुई थी...और दोनों की ही हत्याओं का आरोप मुस्लिम समुदाय के लोगों पर है...हिंदू संगठनों का कहना है कि हिंदू युवकों को टारगेट कर मारा जा रहा है...ऐसे में लोगों ने मामले में सख्त एक्शन की मांग की है...	00:31 Min	Speed News	Abc	
16.03.2026	OTV	11:00	ICU Fire at SCB Medical in Cuttack: 10 Patients Dead, Families Allege Negligence -A tragic incident unfolded late last night at Srirama Chandra Bhanja Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack after a fire broke out inside the ICU ward. According to reports, at least 10 patients lost their lives before the fire could be brought under control. One grieving father alleged that his son, who had been recovering after surgery in the ICU, died in the fire. He claimed hospital authorities did not inform him about the incident and he learned about the tragedy only after reaching the hospital and discovering that his son's body had already been sent for post-mortem.	05:45 Min	Special Story	Bidhyadhar	

16.03.2026	Kanak News	18:00	<p>Temple of Hope in Ashes 10 Dead in SCB Medical Fire Horror</p> <p>-SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack, known as the "Temple of Hope" for millions across Odisha, turned into a site of death and despair last night. A devastating fire in the Trauma Care unit has claimed 10 innocent lives, leaving families shattered and the entire state in mourning. What was supposed to be a place of healing became a graveyard as thick smoke and fire engulfed the ward. This emotional report captures the raw pain of families who saw their loved ones perish in the flames. From a widow's silent screams to the blackened walls of the ICU, the tragedy raises a massive question on hospital fire safety and administrative negligence.</p>	04:18 Min	Special Report	Abc	
16.03.2026	VTV Gujartai	16:00	<p>Dalit youth brutally murdered in Rajkot, huge outrage in the society, ultimatum to the police to arrest the accused</p> <p>Dalit community protests over brutal murder of youth in Rajkot, wife who lost her mind said, I want my love. Strong demand for swift and strict punishment for the accused</p>	04:36 Min	VTV Panchayat	Abc	

16.03.2026	TV9 Gujaati	18:00	<p>Uproar in Rajkot Hospital Following Controversial Death of Dalit Youth Sparks Protests and Outrage Among Community Members.</p> <p>-Family demands justice for the youth who died following an attack by five individuals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased police presence at the civil hospital in Rajkot to maintain order amid rising tensions. 	02:47 Min	Breaking News	Garg	
16.03.2026	Gujarat First	17:00	<p>Una Dalit Movement: Impact of Struggles and Recent Developments in Gujarat's Ongoing Socio-Political Landscape</p> <p>-The Una incident of 2016 involved brutal assault on Dalit individuals, sparking national outrage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent events in July 2026 show continued violence against Dalits, highlighting persistent societal issues. 	06:31 Min	Exclusive	Arvind	
16.03.2026	Zee News	11:20	<p>Ghaziabad में बैंक मैनेजर की हत्या से हड़कंप, गार्ड पर आरोप, छुट्टी न मिलने से था नाराज</p> <p>-गाजियाबाद के लोनी बॉर्डर थाना क्षेत्र स्थित बलराम नगर में सोमवार दोपहर 1:45 बजे एक बड़ी वारदात हो गई. यहां बैंक गार्ड रवींद्र हुड्डा ने मैनेजर अभिषेक शर्मा की गोली मारकर हत्या कर दी. छुट्टी को लेकर दोनों के बीच काफी समय से विवाद चल रहा था. इसी रंजिश में गार्ड ने बैंक के अंदर ही मैनेजर की छाती में अपनी बंदूक से गोली दाग दी. आरोपी रविंद्र हुड्डा 2018 में आर्मी से रिटायर्ड हुआ है.</p>	02:05 Min	Breaking News	Abc	

16.03.2026	Zee News	08:01 Min	मथुरा में मंदिर के पुजारी की हत्या मथुरा के बरसाना क्षेत्र के सहार गाँव में राधावल्लभ मंदिर के पुजारी मोहनदास (गूंगा बाबा) की अज्ञात हमलावरों ने चाकू से गोदकर हत्या कर दी। रविवार सुबह श्रृंगार आरती के बाद कमरे में जा रहे पुजारी पर हमला किया गया, जिससे इलाके में हड़कंप मच गया है। पुलिस ने दो लोगों को हिरासत में लिया है और जांच जारी है।	03:41 Min	Morning with Zee	Abc	
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