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REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-50537

Date: 07-03-2025

Title: Modern-Day Fire Protection Arrangements in Indian Urban Homes: The Role of Regulations

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is.....**YES**.....
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	√			
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity		√		
Significance			√	

Reviewer's Name: Dr Abdul Hameed Shah

Reviewer's Decision about Paper: **Recommended for Publication.**

Comments (*Use additional pages, if required*)

Reviewer's Comment / Report

Abstract Review: The abstract effectively outlines the background, objectives, methods, results, and conclusions of the study. It highlights key issues such as urbanization, regulatory gaps, and the potential for improved compliance through technological integration and community engagement. The abstract is well-structured and presents a concise summary of the research.

Plain Language Summary Review: The plain language summary provides an accessible explanation of the study's purpose and findings. It clearly conveys the challenges of fire safety enforcement in Indian urban homes and emphasizes the importance of public awareness and regulatory enforcement. The summary is easy to understand and suitable for a general audience.

Introduction Review: The introduction effectively establishes the significance of fire safety in urban India. It provides relevant statistics and contextual background, drawing attention to the growing risk of fire incidents. The discussion of fire safety regulations as a legal framework for risk minimization is well-articulated, and the study's research focus is clearly stated.

Methods Review: The methodology section is well-detailed and appropriate for the research objectives. The qualitative research approach, including a review of fire safety regulations, compliance reports, and

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comparative analyses with other countries, provides a comprehensive foundation for the study. The chosen methods are suitable for evaluating regulatory effectiveness and compliance challenges.

Fire Safety Regulations in India Review: This section provides a thorough overview of existing fire safety regulations, including the National Building Code (NBC) and state-level mandates. The discussion on the 2016 NBC revision and its impact on residential fire safety is well-presented. The explanation of compliance variations across regions, unauthorized constructions, and lack of public awareness adds depth to the analysis. The section is well-structured and informative.

Challenges in Regulatory Compliance Review: The section on challenges in regulatory compliance is detailed and well-supported with references.

- **Urbanization and Infrastructure Constraints:** The discussion effectively outlines the role of high population densities and unplanned urban sprawl in exacerbating fire risks. The inclusion of informal settlements and their vulnerability to fire hazards provides a crucial perspective.
- **Inadequate Enforcement Mechanisms:** The analysis of enforcement challenges is comprehensive, covering issues such as understaffing, lack of training, resource shortages, and inconsistencies in regulatory interpretation. The discussion on penalties for non-compliance is particularly relevant in highlighting the economic considerations that affect adherence to fire safety norms.

Conclusion Review: Although not explicitly provided in the excerpt, the study's emphasis on stricter compliance monitoring, technological advancements, and public engagement as solutions is well-grounded in the findings. The conclusion aligns well with the study's objectives and provides a strong closing argument for improving fire safety outcomes.

Overall Assessment: The study provides a well-researched and structured analysis of fire safety regulations in Indian urban homes. The discussion of regulatory frameworks, compliance challenges, and enforcement gaps is thorough and well-supported by evidence. The study makes a significant contribution to understanding fire safety in urban settings and offers valuable insights for policymakers, urban planners, and fire safety authorities.