

## Why (02) Staircases are necessary for buildings above Ground floor ?

Two staircases are necessary in buildings for a safe exit in the event of a fire due to the following experiences as per the case studies.

- 1) 22 Students lost their lives in a Fire accident that occurred on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2019 at Coaching Centre in Surat in Gujarat. The Coaching Centre was located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors of the building. Students, mostly teenagers died either due to suffocation or jumping off from the Complex as the only available one staircase was smoke logged.

“If the Second Staircase was available in the building, all lives might have been saved”. You can visit [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yo5GsDF00sg) for video.  
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- 2) 8 persons killed in a fire accident that occurred on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at RUBY Pride Luxury hotel in Secunderabad in Telangana. The fire occurred due to short circuit while charging EV scooters in the cellar of the building. The Smoke engulfed the only available single Staircase and Caused death of occupants.

“If the Second Staircase was available in the building, all lives might have been saved”.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgU8QZTWNbc>

- 3) The tragic fire at Krishna English Medium School in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2004, which claimed the lives of 93 students, serves as a painful reminder of the critical importance of proper safety measures in school buildings, particularly related to fire hazards.

“If a second staircase had been available, it could have provided an alternative escape route, potentially saving many precious lives”.

- 4) The fire at Hotel Swarna Palace in Vijayawada, which occurred on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020, and tragically resulted in the deaths of 10 persons at the hotel-turned-Covid Care Centre, underscores the critical importance of fire safety in buildings repurposed for emergency situations, such as Covid care centres, as well as the role of adequate escape routes (Second Staircase) in saving lives during a fire.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZm6lxebdQk>

*“Hence, in the case of a fire, two staircases are crucial for safe evacuation”.*