

NHRC, India takes *suo motu* cognizance of the reported explosion causing fire at a chemical factory leaving 16 workers injured in Bharuch district, Gujarat

Issues notices to the Chief Secretary, Gujarat and the Superintendent of Police, Bharuch, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks

The report to include the status of health of the injured workers, investigation of the case and compensation, if any, paid to them

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The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has taken *suo motu* cognizance of a media report about an explosion that caused a fire at a chemical factory, leaving at least 16 workers injured on 23rd April 2026. The factory is located in the Jhagadia GIDC industrial estate of Bharuch district, Gujarat. Reportedly, preliminary inquiry indicated technical or chemical factors behind the incident.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise serious issues of human rights violations of the victims. Therefore, it has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Gujarat and the Superintendent of Police, Bharuch, calling for a detailed report on the matter within two weeks. The report is expected to include the status of health of the injured workers, investigation of the case and compensation, if any, paid to them.

According to the media report, carried on 24th April 2026, the incident has raised concerns regarding industrial safety in the area and the need for strict compliance with safety protocols. The injured workers were admitted to nearby hospitals for treatment.

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