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Q9

Case study. A building permitted for three floors, while being extended illegally to 6 floors by a builder, collapses. As a consequence, a number of innocent labourers including women and children died. These labourers are migrants of different places. The government immediately announced cash relief to the aggrieved families and arrested the builder. Give reasons for such incidents taking place across the country. Suggest measures to prevent their occurrence.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2017 · GS IV · 20 marks · Ethics Case Studies

Case Studies on above issues.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996

The principal labour statute for construction workers, with registration, cess and welfare boards that are often weakly implemented.

National Building Code of India

The technical bible of structural and fire safety; a collapse inquiry should test the building against it, not only against a local rumour.

Article 21, Constitution of India

Right to life; a permitted-then-ignored illegal structure that kills workers is a rights failure, not only a civic nuisance.

Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988

Applies when a public servant's omission or collusion is purchased so that illegal floors can rise.

Child labour on construction sites

Children at a site signal a prior failure of labour inspection and of housing for migrant families, before any slab falls.

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