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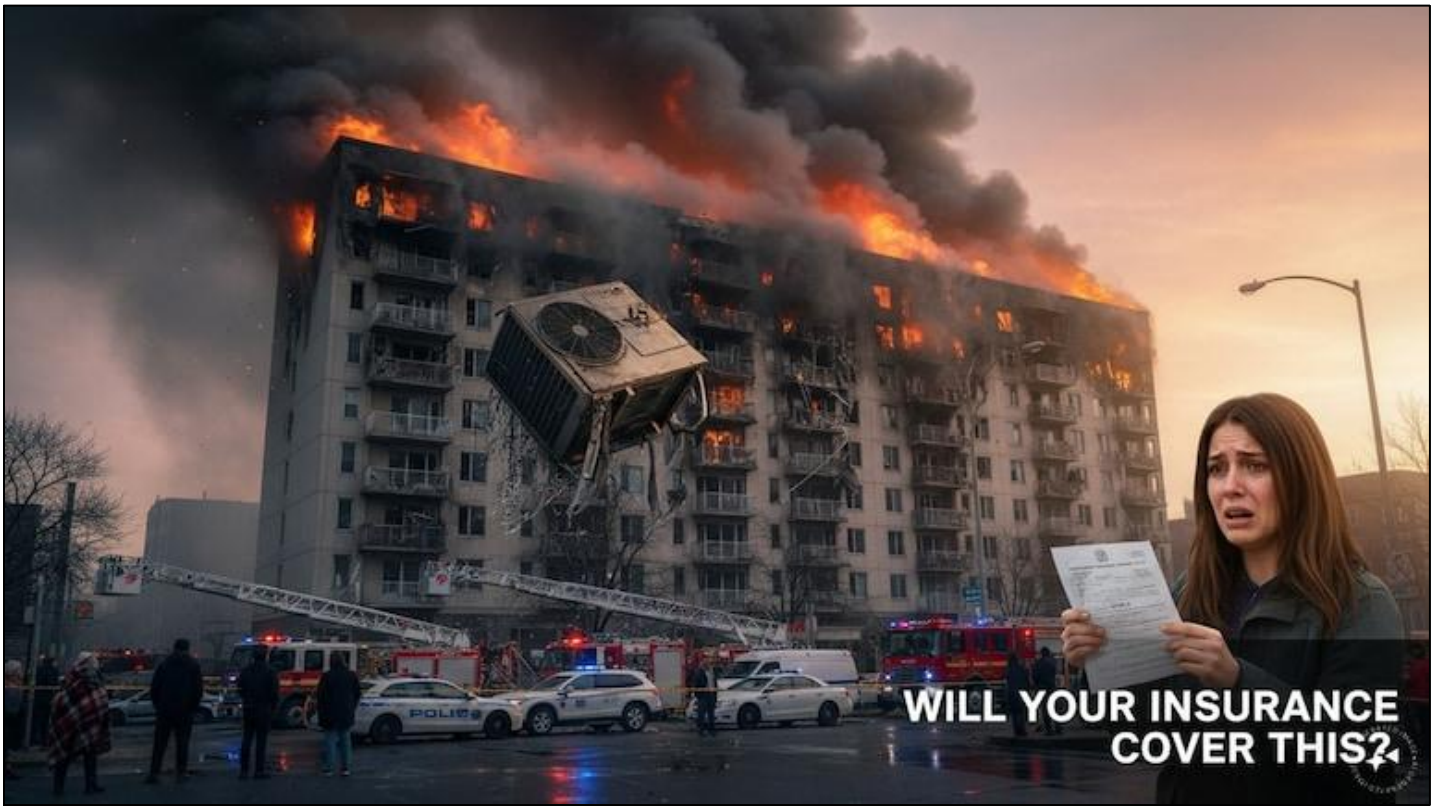
30 Jun 2026	AC explosion at home: Will your insurance policy cover the damage? Here's what you need to know	Moneycontrol

AC explosion at home: Will your insurance policy cover the damage? Here's what you need to know



Under the standard home insurance product, such as the Bharat Griha Raksha or Householder Package policy, explosion is a covered peril
A major fire that broke out on the 21st floor of a residential society in Noida, reportedly triggered by an air-conditioner explosion, has once again raised concerns about home safety during the peak summer season. While such incidents are alarming, they also raise an important question for homeowners about whether home insurance covers losses caused by an AC explosion.

When someone talks about an AC unit exploding, they usually mean a sudden rupture or violent failure of part of the system. This can happen in two main ways:

The first cause is compressor failure, where the compressor, the most pressurised component, can, in extremely rare cases, rupture if overloaded. The second cause is electrical short circuits, which may spark fires and cause components to burn rapidly. Such incidents are sometimes mistaken for explosions, but the resulting fire can still cause extensive damage to the premises if not controlled immediately.

What is covered

Under the Standard home insurance product, such as the Bharat Griha Raksha or Householder Package policy, explosion is a covered peril, generally defined as a "sudden, violent outburst or blast" that causes damage. "Normally, there is a resulting fire from AC units caused by an electrical short circuit, and the damage from such fires is covered under the policy, except for the AC unit itself," said Gurdeep Singh Batra, Head- Commercial Underwriting, Bajaj General Insurance.

"It is preferred to ensure coverage of domestic appliances such as air conditioners or refrigerators under the "Breakdown of Domestic Appliances" or "Machine Breakdown Cover" section of the package policy. This extension provides protection against accidental electrical or mechanical breakdown of the declared appliances at your insured home, like the AC, refrigerator, etc," said Singh.

Besides, the policy typically covers damage to household contents such as furniture, fixtures and fittings. Depending on the policy purchased, machinery, electrical equipment and other assets inside the house may also be covered.

Echoing similar views, Abhishek Bondia, Principal Officer and Managing Director of Securenow.in, said, "Home insurance covers losses due to fire that arises due to an AC explosion. Depending on the coverage, some policies may exclude damage to the AC itself, but surrounding property repairs such as wall damage would be covered by the policy."

This means that while the damaged air conditioner itself may not always be compensated, the fire damage caused by the explosion, such as burnt walls, ceilings, furniture or other household belongings, is generally covered if it falls within the policy terms.

Apart from fire, the policy also provides protection against lightning, explosions or implosions, storms, floods, landslides, impact damage caused by vehicles or animals, riots, strikes, terrorism, missile testing operations, burst water pipelines, sprinkler leakage, bushfires, and aircraft damage.

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What is not covered

However, homeowners should also be aware of what is not covered. Damage caused by deliberate acts, extreme negligence, war, nuclear incidents, spontaneous combustion, certain electrical failures, and theft occurring during or after a fire may be excluded. Similarly, valuables such as cash, cheques, important documents and undeclared precious stones are generally not covered unless specifically declared and insured.

Experts suggest that homeowners read policy documents carefully and understand the coverage and exclusions before purchasing insurance, especially as incidents involving electrical appliances become more common during periods of extreme heat.