

Safety & Health Circular No. 23/2014

Safety Alert for Site Safety Convictions

Date: 12 May 2014
Our Ref. : HD(C)TS 4/49/26

As advised by the Labour Department, the following are common site safety convictions that have been committed by our works contractors –

1. Failing to ensure wearing of suitable safety helmets.
2. Failing to take steps to prevent a person from falling from a height of 2 metres or more.
3. Failing to ensure that safe access to and egress from place of work was provided and maintained.
4. Failing to ensure the use of goggles or screens.
5. Failing to provide eye protective equipment to workmen employed in specified processes.

This has raised our grave concern over site safety and you are seriously reminded of your duties as stipulated under Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations (CSSR) and Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Protection of Eyes) Regulations (FIUPER) extracted below –

1. To provide each workman employed on the site with a suitable safety helmet and take all reasonable steps to ensure that no workman remains on the site unless he is wearing a suitable safety helmet (Regulation 48 of CSSR refers).
2. To take adequate steps including provision, use and maintenance of (a) working platforms; and/or (b) guard-rails, barriers, toe-boards and fences; and/or (c) coverings for openings; and/or (d) gangways and runs to prevent any person on the site from falling from a height of 2 meters or more (Regulation 38B of CSSR refers).
3. To ensure that adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work on the site is provided and properly maintained (Regulation 38A of CSSR refers).

4. To ensure that suitable goggles or effective screens are provided for the protection of the workman and the workman uses the goggles or screens, as the case may be (Regulation 43 of CSSR refers).
5. To provide an approved shield for the use of any person at reasonably foreseeable risk of injury to his eyes from the carrying on of any specified process (Regulation 6 of FIUPER refers).

As a responsible contractor, you are not only required to comply with the statutory requirements but also to take care of your workers who are the valuable resources of your company and the society.