

SUO-MOTTO MATTER

Case No. 130 /2021

BETWEEN

Suo- Moto Matter

Times of India, dated 08.06.2021

VERSUS

Director of Industrial Safety & Health, Maharashtra State ,Mumbai ----- Respondent No.4

(Local Office)

Subject :- Notice of hearing in suo moto matter in ref :- 18 women killed in fire at the pune chemical unit, published in Times of India, dated 08.06.2021

Respected Sir,

The undersigned on behalf of the respondent no.4 (Director of Industrial Safety & Health, Maharashtra State ,Mumbai, Local Office) states as follows,

- On 07.06.2021, fire incident took place in the factory, SVS aqua technologies LLP, Pirangut, Tal.- Mulashi, Dist.- Pune State – Maharashtra. The factory was engaged in manufacturing of Chlorine Dioxide Tablets, Chlorine Dioxide Powder, Chlorine Dioxide Gel, Animal and Dairy Hygiene Kit and water treatment plant and equipment, air diffuser, static mixers, water filtration media. It was also found that factory engaged in the refilling and packing of alcohol based sanitizer bottles of 100 ml and 5 liter pack for which no approval from DISH was obtained. In this case the manufacturing process is consists of raw material in powder form. At the time of accident due to fire in band sealer machine causing Sodium Chlorite pouches to catch the fire. The fire spread so rapidly in fraction of seconds that workers were not able to escape. The pouch of Sodium Chlorite caught fire due to band sealer machine problem. On the day of accident total 33 workers were present in the premises. In this fire occurrence 17 workers died.

- The department has initiated a legal action against the factory under the provisions of The Factories Act, 1948 and The Maharashtra Factories Rules, 1963 and filed six cases against Occupier in Hon. Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Court Shivajinagar, Pune. The Following provisions are contravened by the occupier of the factory.

No. of cases	Contravention	Case no.
1	Section 7 A (2)(a) of The Factories Act, 1948	17663/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021
2	Section 7 A (2)(c) of The Factories Act, 1948	17557/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021
3	Rule 4(2) of The Maharashtra Factories Rules 1963	17597/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021
4	Rule 4(4) of The Maharashtra Factories Rules 1963	17590/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021
5	Rule 6(1) (a) of schedule XXIII appended to Rule 114 of The Maharashtra Factories Rules, 1963	17569/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021
6	Rule 3(b) of Maharashtra Factories (Safety audit) Rules, 2014.	17577/2021 dtd. 30.06.2021

- After this fire incident the factory is closed. From this department closure order to this factory vide this office letter 4919/2021 dtd. 09/06/2021 under section 40(2) of Factories Act, 1948 has been issued.
- The factory occupier has given compensation & ex gratia of Rs.10 Lakh to the families of deceased workers in which Rs. 5 lakh is already issued and disbursed. 2nd installment of 5 lakh is given by postdated cheque due in December 2021. He has committed to give job to /dependents of deceased after restart of factory. For children of deceased workers factory management has decided and declared to take care of their educational expenditure till their graduation.
- For families of 15 deceased workers out of 17 has already started pension under ESIC.
- From Maharashtra State Govt. Rs. 5 lakh is given to families of each deceased.
- From Central Govt. Rs. 2 lakh is declared to families of each deceased worker. Follow up for this is carried out by Hon. Collector, Pune office.



(H. R. Dhend)
Joint Director
Industrial Safety & Health,
Region 2, Pune.