



**Government of Goa
Inspectorate of Factories and Boilers
Altinho, Panaji, Goa – 403 001**

Ph no. 0832-2404852

Website: www.ifbgoa.goa.gov.in

Email: ci-ifb.goa@nic.in

Ref. No. CIF/001(S-II)/2024/ 1564

Dated: 08.07.2024 (Ashadha 17, 1946)

CIRCULAR

Sub – Safety guidelines for work at height – req.

Introduction:

Falls from height are one of the biggest causes of workplace fatalities and major injuries. Work at height means work in any place where, if there were no precautions in place, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury or death. Common examples are falls from ladders, loading dock, scissor lift, cranes and through fragile roofs.

It is observed that the common causes for such accidents were lack of assessment of hazards / risk involved in such activities, engaging untrained / unskilled workers and non-implementation of Work at Height permit system.

It is further observed that in majority of the factories, small transparent sheets are provided in between GI sheets to improve natural lighting inside the shed. Over a period of time, this transparent sheet becomes fragile and becomes difficult to identify (distinguish) when a worker climbs on to the roof to carry out any work thereby resulting in fall through such transparent sheet due to stepping on to such transparent sheet inadvertently.

Taking cognizance of the accidents caused due to fall from height recently and in the past, a need is felt by the Department to issue safety guidelines to be adopted by the factories while undertaking such activity not only to prevent similar or such accidents in future but to avoid liability and legal violations.

General guidelines:

1. Work at height activity shall be carried out by the experienced / trained worker under the continuous supervision by the competent supervisor.
2. Height Work Permit System shall be incorporated and strictly followed.
3. Worker assigned to work at height shall have medical fitness certificate from registered medical practitioner each time he is required to work thereon.
4. Risk assessment shall be done before commencement of work at height and necessary safety precautions shall be adopted.

5. Suitable safety harness / full body harness shall be provided to the worker working at height or on fragile roof and shall ensure that adequate arrangement is made for anchoring safety harness / full body harness.
6. Harness shall be connected to lifeline provided over the roofing or fixed structure to prevent the fall of worker.
7. Lanyards connected to safety harness / full body harness need to be properly selected depending on the height of work.
8. Fixed crawl boards and duck / roof ladders shall be provided for working on fragile roofing.
9. Where there is a risk of a fall from or through the structure of a roof and where there are no other means to prevent a fall, temporary edge protection (railing) and /or scaffolding shall be installed.
10. Perimeter or edge protection should be installed on all the exposed edges of a roof which include the perimeters of buildings, the perimeters of skylights or other fragile roof materials, and any openings in the floor or roof.
11. Isolate the area below roof work wherever there is any risk of persons being struck by falling material, debris, tools and /or material from adjacent cranes or structure.
12. Wherever possible safety nets shall be provided below the area of work at height such as fragile roof. Safety net acts as a collective fall arrest system and they provide passive protection from falls while allowing people to work at height without restricting their movement.
13. A life line support rope arrangement shall be provided over roof sheet for anchoring of safety belts while carrying out any work on the roof/ work at height.



(Anant S. Pangam)
Chief Inspector of Factories and Boilers

To:
All the factories registered under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948.