

CHAPTER-8

HEALTH

8.1 Information available in the reports of various State Governments and Union Territories on health provisions of factory workers is discussed in the following paragraphs:

ASSAM

8.2 The Medical Inspector of Factories and the Certifying Surgeons examined and carried out the work of certification to persons engaged in factories involving dangerous/hazardous processes . No occupational diseases were reported or detected from any factory during the year 2004.

GOA

8.3 Through the Industrial Hygiene Laboratory, medical examination of workers employed in factories was initiated to identify the effects of work environment on the health of workers

HARYANA

8.4 Due to lack of proper attention given by the managements of small factories, the standard of general cleanliness was not satisfactory. However, in the big industrial units the conditions were quite satisfactory. Some of the factories have made their own arrangements for disposal of trade waste and effluents. The other managements were asked to make satisfactory arrangements for disposal of trade waste and effluents before the approval of their factory building plans. However, State Water Pollution Board was also looking after the proper disposal of trade-waste . The arrangements of exhaust system where any mixing, pesticides, formulating and other operations involving emission of fumes and smokes from various liquids and gases were satisfactory. The arrangements of exhaust fans and chimneys were made where required. The need for humidification is generally felt in the textile industry dealing in cotton, Yarn, staple yarn and cloth making industry. In some of the textile units the Hygrometers were not properly maintained. The other provisions covering health & sanitation i.e. Ventilation & Temperature, Lighting, Drinking Water, Latrine & Urinals and spittoons were found to be implemented satisfactorily.

ORISSA

8.5 As per the Orissa Factories (Control of Major Accident Hazard) Rules, 2001, 33 factories were identified as ‘ Major Accident Hazard Units’ on the basis of threshold quantity as specified in the schedule of the said Rules. All such factories are required to draw-up on site emergency plan. Accordingly all the 33 MAH units have drawn their on-site emergency plan so far. 49 factories had conducted health check of workers and 23662 workers were medically examined during the year 2004. Under the chemical Accidents (Emergency, Planning, Preparedness) Rules, 1966, the District Crisis Group have been constituted in 20 districts out of 30 districts. Till date 4 off-side emergency plans have been formulated by the District Crisis Group.

TRIPURA

8.6 On the whole, various provisions of the Act covering Health and Sanitation i.e. Cleanliness, Ventilation and Temperature, Dust and Fumes, Artificial Humidification, Lighting, Overcrowding, Drinking Water facilities, Latrines and Urinals, Disposal of Waste and effluents & Spittoons were found to be implemented satisfactorily except a few factories where inadequate ventilation was reported.

CHANDIGARH

8.7 All the provisions of the Factories Act covering Health and Sanitation i.e. Cleanliness, Ventilation & Temperature, Disposal of waste & effluents. Dust and Fumes, Artificial Humidification, Lighting, Over crowding, Drinking Water facilities , Latrines & Urinals were found to be implemented satisfactorily.

TAMIL NADU

8.8 During 2004 Civil Surgeons and Assistant Civil Surgeons inspected factories (especially hazardous factories) and undertook Occupational Health Surveys. The workers engaged in dangerous operations in factories which are likely to cause occupational diseases are periodically examined by, the Assistant Surgeons who have been declared as Certifying Surgeons under the Act. During the year 2004 the Civil Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons visited 2717 factories and 19243, 22881 and 3465 certificates were issued to persons engaged in Dangerous Occupations, Adolescents and Canteen Workers respectively.

MAHARASHTRA

8.9 The Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health is having Industrial Health and Hygienic Laboratory at Mumbai (H.Q.). During the year, 2004 9 private medical practitioners were notified as certifying Surgeons by the Government. The Officers of medical wing and of Directorate of Industrial safety and Health and Certifying Surgeons visited 220 factories and examined 9071 workers. The total number of major Accident Hazard Factories (MAH) identified under manufacture, storage and Input of Hazardous chemical Rules, 1989 in the state was 342. On-site disaster control plans had been prepared in respect of all these factories and periodical mock-drills for any emergencies were conducted regularly. During 2004, 506 inspections and visits were made to MAH factories. Off site emergency plans for the district and local level were prepared and mock-drills of such plans were conducted regularly. MARG (Mutual Aid Response Group) helped immensely in training and making expertise available with bigger factories for upgrading the schemes of the operatives of the similar factories and also of off-site agencies . It also conducted awareness and preparedness training programmes regularly for taking action in the event of chemical accidents. Urinals, Disposable of Waste & effluents and Spittoons were found to be implemented satisfactorily except a few factories where inadequate ventilation was reported.