

4.0 SAFETY IN THE USE OF ELECTRICITY

4.1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

- a. Before commencement of any building or other construction work, adequate measures shall be taken to prevent any worker from coming into physical contact with any electrical equipment or apparatus, machines or live electrical circuit which may cause electrical hazard during the course of his employment and suitable warning signs shall be displayed and maintained at conspicuous places in Hindi and in local language understood by the majority of the building workers;
- b. In workplaces where the exact location of underground electric power line is not known, the building workers using jack hammers, crow bars or other hand tools which may come in contact with a live electrical line shall be provided with approved insulated protective gloves and footwear;
- c. As far as practicable, no wiring or cable, which may come in contact with water or which may be mechanically damaged or which may result in electric shock shall be left on ground or;
- d. All electrical appliances and current carrying equipment used shall be made of sound material and adequately earthed;
- e. All temporary electrical installations shall be provided with earth leakage circuit breakers;
- f. It is required that all portable power-driven hand tools are provided with double insulation to secure a high degree of protection from electrical hazards;
- g. Electrical installations shall comply with the requirements of any law for the time being in force, especially the Indian Electricity Act/Rules in particular with specific reference to the following:
 - i) All parts of installations shall be of standard construction not lower, from the safety point of view, than the national standards, as applicable. All parts of electrical installations shall be so constructed, installed and maintained so as to prevent electrical fires, explosion and shock;
 - ii) Earthing of metal work of electrical equipment, other than the parts which carry current, shall be provided and will conform to Electricity Act and IS: 3042 – 1966 (code of practice for earthing);
- h. All parts of electrical installation shall be adequate size and characteristics for the work they may be called upon to do and in particular they shall:
 - i) Be of adequate mechanical strength to withstand working conditions in construction operations; and
 - ii) Be not liable to damage by water, dust or electrical, thermal or chemical action to which they are subjected to in construction operations;
- i. All parts of electrical installations shall be so constructed, installed and maintained as to prevent the danger of electric shock; fire and external explosion;
- j. It shall be made impossible for circuit breakers to be opened or closed inadvertently, by gravity or by mechanical impact;

- k. Before operation of OCBs, oil level must be checked and the event of short, extra quantity must be filled;
- l. Use of rubber gloves and rubber gum boots of tested quality where electric shock is likely to occur shall be provided, but these shall not be considered as providing adequate protection against the risk of electric shock in lieu of inbuilt safety arrangement in the system;
- m. First-aid boxes, instruction for restoration of persons affected by electric shock shall be made;
- n. Arrangement shall be made for sufficient number of CO₂/chemical powder type fire extinguishers/sand buckets etc.;
- o. No electrical circuits shall ever be overloaded to the dangerous extent or beyond the rated capacity;
- p. In confined areas, only 24 volt supply shall be used for every equipment, including hand-held portable tools and hand lamps;
- q. All electrical appliances and outlets shall be clearly marked to indicate their purpose and voltage.

4.2. FUSES

- a. Fuses shall bear markings indicating their rated current, whether they are of the fast or slow-breaking type and, as far as practicable, and their rated breaking capacity. Fuses as per need and of correct rating shall be used in the circuit;
- b. Effective measures shall be taken to ensure that persons removing or inserting fuses will not be endangered, in particular by any adjacent live parts;
- c. In case of blow of fuses only after finding out and correcting of the fault, new fuses shall be provided in the circuit.

4.3. SWITCHES

- a. All switches shall be of enclosed type and so installed and earthed as to prevent danger in their operation;
- b. Use of switches, which may connect or disconnect circuit through gravity, shall not be used.

4.4. MOTORS

- a. All motors shall be equipped with a switch;
- b. When a motor can be cut off from more than one place, where practicable, a stopping device shall be installed in the immediate vicinity of the motor;
- c. Motors shall be so installed as to ensure that they can be adequately cooled;
- d. Motors shall be effectively protected against over current;
- e. Whenever the motors installed are in the open area where there is the possibility of fall of liquid corrosives or otherwise, it shall be suitably protected with covering;
- f. Earthing shall be connected to all motors, generators etc. as prescribed in the Indian Electricity Rules, amended from time to time.

4.5. CONNECTIONS

- a. At points where conductors are joined, branched or led into apparatus, they shall be:
 - i. Mechanically protected, and
 - ii. Properly maintained;

- b. Conductors shall be joined, branched or led into an apparatus through junction boxes, bushings, glands or equivalent connecting devices;
- c. Junction boxes or plug-out-socket couplings shall be used for joining cables wherever practicable;
- d. When parts of conductors are joined together, or conductors are joined to one another or to an apparatus, the attachment shall be made by screwing, clamping, soldering, riveting, brazing, crimping, or equivalent means. Loose connections shall not be provided in any case;
- e. Cable joints, junction boxes and connectors shall be protected as far as practicable, against traffic, fall of ground, water and other sources of damage;
- f. Whenever armoured cables are joined, the junction boxes shall be bridged by a suitably conductive bond between the armouring of the cables.

4.6. TRANSPORTABLE AND PORTABLE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT:

- a. The supply of electricity to portable apparatus shall not exceed 250v;
- b. Hand-held and portable machines shall be equipped with a built-in switch to switch off power in case of emergency;
- c. Hand-held electrically operated tools shall be provided with built-in switch to disconnect the circuit when the tool is not being used;
- d. Portable electrical tools, unless flameproof, shall not be used in flammable or explosive atmosphere;
- e. Only three-core cable shall be used for single-phase operated tools with the third core connected to earth

4.7. HAND LAMPS

- a. Hand lamps shall be equipped with strong cover of glass or other transparent material;
- b. Portable lamp holders shall have:
 - i) All current-carrying parts enclosed;
 - ii) Insulated handle; and
 - iii) They shall operate at 24 v;

4.8. INSPECTION, MAINTENANCE

- a. All electrical equipment shall be inspected before it is taken into use to ensure that it is suitable for its purpose of use;
- b. At the beginning of every shift every person using electrical equipment shall make a careful external examination of the equipment and conductors for which he is responsible, especially flexible cables;

- c. Periodic inspections, testing, maintenance of all electrical equipment is to be made and record of test of transformer oil and pit earthing shall be maintained;
- d. Electrical conductors and equipment shall be repaired by the electrician only as far as practicable, no work shall be done live conductors or equipment;
- e. Before any work is begun on conductors or equipment that does not have to remain live;
 - i) The current shall be switched off;
 - ii) Adequate precautions shall be taken to prevent the current from being switched on again;
 - iii) The conductors or the equipment shall be tested to ascertain that they are dead;
 - iv) The conductor and equipment shall be earthed and short-circuited; and
 - v) Neighbouring live parts shall be adequately protected against accidental contact;
- f. After work on conductors and equipment, the current shall only be switched on again on the orders of a competent person;
- g. Electricians shall be provided with adequate tools, and person protective equipment, such as rubber gloves, mats etc.;
- h. All conductors and equipment shall be considered to live unless there is certain proof to the contrary.

4.9. WORK IN THE VICINITY OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

- a. When work is to be done in the neighborhood of electrical conductors or installations, the contractor shall ascertain the voltage carried and the works shall not be allowed to reach to unsafe distance from them;
- b. When any excavation is to be made or any bore-holed sunk, the contractor shall ascertain whether there are any underground conductors, in or in dangerous proximity to, the zone of operations;
- c. No work shall be done in dangerous proximity to a conductor or an installation until it has been made dead;
- d. Before work begins, work permit shall be obtained from the Engineer in-charge if live electricity lines/circuit are passing in close vicinity;
- e. Before the current is restored, the contractor shall ensure that no work remain on the work site;
- f. If conductor or an installation in the neighbourhood of which work is to be done can not be made dead, special precautions shall be taken and special instructions given to the workers so as to prevent danger by adequately enclosing or fencing;
- g. If mobile equipment has to be employed in the neighbourhood of conductors or installations that cannot be made dead, its movement shall be so controlled as to keep it as a safe distance from them.

5.0 SAFETY IN THE USE OF HAND TOOLS AND POWER-OPERATED TOOLS

5.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- a. All hands and power tools and similar equipment, shall be maintained in safe condition.
- b. When power operated tools are designed to accommodate guards, they shall be equipped with such guards, when in use;
- c. Belts, gears, shafts, pulleys, sprockets, spindles, drums, fly wheels, chains and other reciprocating, rotating or moving parts of the equipment shall be similarly guarded;
- d. Personnel using hand and power tools and exposed to the hazard of falling, flying, abrasive, and splashing objects, or exposed to harmful dusts, fumes, mists, vapours, or gases shall be provided with the particular personal protective equipment necessary to protect them from the hazards;
- e. All hand-held powered platen sanders, grinders, grinders with wheels of 5 cm or less, routers, planers, laminate trimmers, nibblers, shears, scroll saws and jigsaws with blade shanks of 0.5 cm wide or less shall be equipped with only a positive **on-off control**.
- f. All hand-held powered drills, tappers, fastener drivers, horizontal, vertical or angle grinders with wheels greater than 5 cm in diameter, disc sanders, belt sanders, reciprocating saws, saber saws and other operating powered tools shall be equipped with a momentary contact on control provided that turnoff can be accomplished by a single motion of the same finger or fingers that turn it on.

5.2. HAND TOOLS

- a. The contractor shall not issue or permit the use of unsafe hand tools;
- b. Wrenches including adjustable pipe end and socket wrenches shall not be used when saws are sprung to the point that slippage occurs;
- c. Impact tools such as drift pins, wedges and chisels shall be kept free of mushroomed heads;
- d. The wooden handles of tools shall be kept free of splinters or cracks and shall be kept tight on the tools.

5.3. POWER OPERATED TOOLS

- a. Electric power operated tools shall be either of the approved double-insulated type or shall be grounded;
- b. The use of electric cords for hoisting or lowering loads shall not be permitted;
- c. Pneumatic power tools shall be secured to the hose or whip by some positive means to prevent the tool from becoming accidentally disconnected;
- d. Safety clips or retainers shall be securely installed or maintained on pneumatic impact (percussion) tools to prevent attachments from being accidentally expelled;
- e. All pneumatically riveting machine staplers and other similar equipment provided with automatic fastener feed, which operate at more than 7 kg/cm² pressure at the tool a safety device on the

- muzzle to prevent the tool from ejecting the fasteners unless the muzzle is in contact with the work surface;
- f. Compressed air shall not be used for cleaning purposes except when the pressure is reduced to less than 2 kg/cm² and that too with effective chip guarding. The 2 kg/cm² pressure requirement does not apply to concrete form, mill scale and similar cleaning purposes;
 - g. The manufacturer's safe operating for hoses, pipes, valves, filters and other fittings shall not be exceeded;
 - h. Only personnel who has been trained in the operation of the particular tool shall be allowed to operate power-actuated tools;
 - i. The tool shall be tested each day before loading to see that the safety devices are in proper working condition. The method of testing shall be accordance with the manufacturer's recommended procedure;
 - j. Any tool found not in proper working order, or that which develops a defect during use, shall be immediately removed from service and not used until properly repaired;
 - k. Tools shall not be loaded until just prior to the intended firing time. Neither loaded nor empty tools are to be pointed at any other person. Hands shall be kept clear of the open barrel end;
 - l. Loaded tools shall not be left unattended;
 - m. Fasteners shall not be driven into very hard or brittle materials including, but not limited to, cast iron, glazed tiles, surface hardened steel, glass block, live rock, face brick or hollow tiles;
 - n. Driving into materials that can be easily penetrated shall be avoided unless backed by a substance that will prevent the pin or fastener from passing completely through and creating a flying missile hazard on the other side;
 - o. No fastener shall be driven into a palled area caused by an unsatisfactory fastening;
 - p. Only non-sparking tools shall be used in an explosive or flammable atmosphere;
 - q. All tools shall be used with the correct shield, guard or attachment as recommended by the manufacturer.

5.4. ABRASIVE WHEELS AND TOOLS

- a. All grinding machines shall be supplied with sufficient power to maintain the spindle speed at safe levels under all conditions of normal operation;
- b. Grinding machines shall be equipped with suitable safety guards;
- c. The maximum angular exposure of the grinding wheel periphery and sides shall not be more than 90⁰, except that when the work requires contact with the wheel below the horizontal plane of the spindle, the angular exposure shall not exceed 120⁰. In either case, the exposure shall begin not more than 65⁰ above the horizontal plane of the spindle. Safety guards shall be strong enough to withstand the bursting of the wheel;
- d. Floor and bench-mounted grinders shall be work-rests, which shall be rigidly supported and readily adjustable. Such work-rests shall be kept at a distance not to exceed 5 mm from the surface of the wheel;

- e. Cup type wheels used for external grinding shall be protected by either revolving cup guard or a band type guard;
- f. When safety guards are required, they shall be mounted as to maintain proper alignment with the wheel and the guard and the guard and its fastening shall be adequate strength to retain the fragments of the wheel in case of accidental breakage. The maximum angular exposure of the grinding wheel periphery and sides shall not exceed 180⁰;
- g. Portable abrasive wheel used for internal grinding shall be provided with suitable safety flanges;
- h. When safety flanges are required, they shall be used only with wheels designed to fit the flanges. Only safety flanges, of a type and design and properly assembled so as to ensure that the pieces of the wheel will be retained in case of accidental breakage, shall be used;
- i. All abrasive wheels shall be closely inspected and ring tested before mounting to ensure that they are free from cracks or defects;
- j. Grinding wheels shall fit freely on the spindle and shall not be forced on. The spindle nut shall be tightened only enough to hold the wheel in place;
- k. All employees using abrasive wheels shall be protected by suitable eye protection equipment.

5.5. WOODWORKING TOOLS

- a. All fixed power driven woodworking tools shall be provided with a disconnect switch that can either be locked or tagged in the **off-position**;
- b. The operating speed shall be attached or otherwise permanently marked on all circular saws over 0.5 m in diameter or operating at over 3000 peripheral rpm. Any saw so marked shall not be operated at a speed other than that marked on the blade. When a marked saw is retensioned for a different speed, the marking shall be corrected to show the new speed;
- c. Automatic feeding devices shall be installed on machines wherever the nature of the work will permit. Feeder attachments shall have the feed rolls or other moving parts covered or guarded so as to protect the operator from hazardous points;
- d. All portable power driven circular saws shall be equipped with guards above and below the base plate or shoe. The upper guard shall cover the saw to the depth of the teeth, except for the minimum arc required to permit the base to be tilted for bevel cuts. The lower guard shall cover the saw to the depth of the teeth, except for the minimum arc required to allow proper retraction and contact with the work. When the tool is withdrawn from the work, the lower guard shall automatically and instantly return to the covering position.

6.0 SAFETY IN THE USE OF LADDERS AND STAIRS

6.1. GENERAL ASPECTS OF SAFETY RELATED TO USE OF LADDERS

- a. Every ladder or step-ladder used in building or other construction work shall be of good construction, made of sound material and of adequate strength for the purpose for which such ladder or step-ladder is used;
- b. When a ladder is used as a means of communication, such ladder shall be lashed to a fixed structure so that while working on such ladder it does not slip;
- c. A ladder or step ladder shall not stand on loose bricks or other loose packing and have a level and firm footing;
- d. No ladder shall be used which has a missing or defective rungs or rungs, which depend for support solely on nails, spikes or other similar fixing.

6.2. MATERIALS FOR LADDERS

- a. Shall be constructed with upright of adequate strength and are made of straight-grained wood, free from defects and having the grain of such wood running length wise;
- b. Shall have rungs made of straight-grained wood free for defects and mortised or securely notched into the upright, reinforcing metal ties, if wedges shall not secure the tenors of such ladders;
- c. Where it is required, in case of use of fixed ladders, sufficient foot-hold and hand-hold shall be provided for use by the building worker;
- d. Every ladder shall be -
 - i. Secured so as to prevent undue swaying;
 - ii. Equally and properly supported on each of its upright;
 - iii. So used as not to cause undue sagging; and
 - iv. Placed as nearly as possible at an inclination of four in one;
- e. The use of all ladders and stepladders shall conform to the approved standards;
- f. Wooden ladders shall be constructed with uprights of adequate strength as well as rungs made of wood free from visible defects and having the grains of the wood in the ladders running lengthwise and rungs mortised or rebuted into the uprights;
- g. Uprights and rungs of metal ladders shall have a cross-section adequate to prevent dangerous deflection, shall be equal and not less than 25 cm or more than 35 cm;
- h. Rungs of metal ladders shall be kept clean so as to prevent them from becoming slippery;
- i. Portable ladders shall not exceed 9 m in length;
- j. Every ladder or run of ladders rising to a height exceeding 9 m shall be provided with an intermediate landing, providing further that the intervals between landings shall not exceed 9 m. The landings shall be of suitable size and protected by railings;
- k. Defective ladders that cannot be satisfactorily repaired shall be tagged Not Fit For Use and destroyed;
- l. Wooden ladders shall not be painted, but oiled or covered with clean varnish or other transparent preservatives;
- m. Metal ladders shall be protected against corrosion by being coated with rust-proof paint or by other means unless they are made of non-corrosive metals;

- n. Every ladder shall rise at least 1 m above the highest point to be reached and have one of the uprights continued to that height to serve as a hand-rail at the top;
- o. Ladders shall not stand on loose bricks or other loose packing but have a level and firm footing so that they are equally supported on each upright;
- p. Every ladder shall be securely fixed so that it cannot move from its top and bottom points of rest and if it cannot be secured at the top, it shall be securely fastened at the base and if fastening at the top is also impracticable, it shall have a man stationed at the foot holding the end to prevent it from slipping;
- q. Where a run of two or more ladders connects different floors, the ladders shall be staggered and a protective landing with the smallest practicable opening shall be provided at each floor;
- r. A ladder having only one upright or a missing or dangerously defective rung shall not be used;
- s. When a ladder is placed in position, the distance between the foot of a ladder and the base of the structure against which it rests shall be about one-quarter of its length;
- t. Workers using ladders shall leave at least one hand free for climbing up and down, face the ladder, avoid wearing slippery footwear and avoid carrying heavy or bulky loads;
- u. A ladder shall not be placed in front of a door that opens towards it unless the door is fastened or locked or guarded;
- v. A ladder shall not be placed against a window frame unless the ladder is fitted with a board at the top so that the applied load is safely distributed over the frame;
- w. Metal ladders shall not be used in the vicinity of live electrical equipment;
- x. Adequate means shall be provided to prevent displacement of the ladder set up in public thoroughfare or where persons, vehicles etc. may accidentally collide with it.

6.3. PORTABLE STEPLADDERS

- a. The length of portable stepladders shall not exceed 6 m and their back legs shall be adequately braced;
- b. Stepladders exceeding 1.5 m in length shall have two or more cross-ties;
- c. The spread between the front and back legs shall be restricted by means of hinged metal flat bars or high-grade fibre or other effective means;
- d. When in the open position, treads of stepladders shall be horizontal.

6.4. PORTABLE TRESTLE LADDERS

- a. The height of the trestle ladders shall not exceed 5.5 m;
- b. The spread between the front and back legs shall be restricted by means of hinged metal flat bars or high-grade fibre or other effective means;
- c. The front and back legs shall be joined at the top by bolted steel hinges of adequate dimensions or other effective means;
- d. Both legs of trestle ladders shall be equipped with sufficient number of steel crossties.

6.5. EXTENSION LADDERS

- a. The length of extension ladders shall not exceed 15 m;
- b. Extension ladders shall be equipped with an effective lock and guide brackets by which the ladder can be extended, retracted or locked in any position;

- c. The rungs of overlapping sections shall coincide so as to form double treads and shall be equipped with one or more extension ropes;
- d. Extension ropes shall be securely anchored and run over suitable pulleys.

6.6 MECHANICAL LADDERS

- a. Mechanical ladder is that ladder, which is a mechanically extendable ladder, mounted on a wheeled frame;
- b. Mechanical ladder shall be equipped with guard-rails and toe-boards and a cage of heavy-gauge steel mesh;
- c. If mechanical ladder has no railed platform or cage, workers using it shall be secured by suitable safety belt;
- d. Mechanical ladders shall not be moved, while a person is on them, unless they have specially designed to ensure that perfect stability is maintained during movement.

6.7. FIXED LADDERS

- a. Uprights of fixed ladders shall be at least 40 cm and shall be set an angle of 15° to the vertical;
- b. Clearance at the back of the rungs shall be at least 15 cm and no obstruction within 75 cm of the face of the ladder;
- c. There shall be at least 7.5 cm clearance between the ladder and the nearest fixed object;
- d. When it is necessary for a ladder to pass closely through a hole in a platform or a floor, the edges of the hole shall be padded so as to prevent injury to the users;
- e. The length of the runs of fixed ladder shall not exceed 9 m;
- f. Landing platform shall be provided for each 9 m or fraction thereof;
- g. As far as practicable, runs shall be staggered;
- h. Runs from which a person could fall from more than 6 m shall be enclosed in a cage of heavy-gauge mesh or hoops;
- i. Fixed ladders shall be firmly bolted or welded in position.

6.8. STAIRS

- a. Stairs shall be of adequate strength to withstand safely the loads that they will have to carry;
- b. Stairs used for the purpose of construction work shall have a clear width of at least 60 cm;
- c. Stairs made of perforated material shall not have openings exceeding 1.2 cm in width;
- d. No step of a stairway shall depend for its support solely on nails, spikes, screws or other similar fixing;
- e. No stairway with missing or dangerously defective steps shall be used;
- f. Every stairway that is at an angle of less than 30° from the vertical shall be provided with a secure handhold at the top landing place, either by extending one upright for at least 1 m or by other effective means;
- g. Movable and removable stairs shall be adequately secured in the position of use;
- h. In all building structures permanent stairs shall be constructed as soon as practicable;
- i. When work on a building has progressed to a height of more than 18 m above the ground and it has not been practical to construct the permanent stairs, sufficient number of stairs shall be provided to ensure safe access to the working levels.

7.0 SAFETY IN THE USE OF LIFTING APPLIANCES & GEARS

7.1. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF LIFTING APPLIANCES:

All lifting appliances, including their parts and working gear, whether fixed or movable, and any plant or gear used in anchoring or fixing of such appliances -

- a. Shall be of sound construction, sound material, and of adequate strength to serve the purpose for which these are to be used and all such appliances shall be free from patent defects, and
- b. Maintained in good repair and working condition;
- c. Every drum or pulley around which the rope of any lifting appliance is carried, shall be of adequate diameter and sound construction in relation to such rope;
 - i. Any rope that terminates at the winding drum of lifting appliance shall be securely attached to such drum and at least three dead turns of such rope remain on such drum in every operating position of such lifting appliance;
 - ii. The flange of a drum projects twice the rope diameter beyond the last layer of such rope and if such rope and if such projection is not available, other measures like anti-slackness guards shall be provided to prevent such rope from coming off such drum;
- d. Every lifting appliance shall be provided with adequate and efficient brakes which shall be:
 - i) Capable of preventing fall of suspended load (including any test load),
 - ii) Effectively controlling such load while it is being lowered, acting without shock and shall be attached with shoes that can be easily removed for running and which shall be simple and have easily accessible means of adjustment;
- e. Provided that nothing contained above shall apply to **steam-winch** that can be operated as safely as with brakes.

7.2. CONTROLS OF EVERY LIFTING APPLIANCE SHALL BE SO;

- a. Situated that the driver of such appliance at his stand or seat has ample room for operating and has an unrestricted view of building or other construction work, as far as practicable, and that he remains clear of the load and the ropes, and that no load passes over him;
- b. Positioned with due regard to ergonomic considerations for proper operation of such appliance;
- c. Located that the driver of such appliance remains above the appliance and shall have upon them or adjacent to them clear markings to indicate their purpose and mode of operations;
- d. Provided, where necessary, with a suitable locking device to prevent accidental movement or displacement and shall move, as far as practicable, in the direction of the resultant load movement;
- e. Wherever automatic brakes are provided, they shall automatically come to the neutral position in case of power failure.

7.3. TEST AND PERIODICAL EXAMINATION

7.3.1 Test: all lifting appliances including all parts and gears thereof, whether fixed or movable, shall be tested and examined by a competent person before being taken into use for the first time or after it

has undergone any alteration or repairs liable to affect its strength or stability or after erection on a site and also once at least in every five years, in the manner as specified;

7.3.2. Examination: all lifting appliances shall be thoroughly examined by a competent person at least in every twelve months and where the competent person making such examination forms the opinion that the lifting appliance cannot continue to function safely, he shall forthwith give notice in writing of his opinion to the contractor.

7.4. AUTOMATIC LOAD INDICATOR

- a. Cut-out shall be provided which automatically arrests the movement of the lifting parts of every crane if the load exceeds the safe working load, wherever possible;
- b. Wherever the above provisions cannot be applied and if it is not possible to install an automatic safe load indicator, in that case, provision of a table showing the safe working loads at the corresponding inclinations or radii of the jib on the crane shall be considered sufficient.

7.5. INSTALLATION:

Fixed lifting appliances shall be installed by a competent person in a manner that

- a. Such appliances cannot be displaced by the load, vibration or other influences;
- b. The operator of such appliance is not exposed to danger from loads, ropes or drums;
- c. The operator can either see over the zone of operation or communicate with all loading and unloading points by signal, or other communication system;
- d. Adequate clearance is provided between parts or loads of lifting appliances and between the fixed objects such as walls and posts, or electrical conductors;
- e. The lifting appliances; when exposed to wind loading, are given sufficient additional strength, stability and rigidity to withstand such loading safely;
- f. No structural alterations or repairs are made on any part of the lifting appliances that affect the safety of such appliances without obtaining the opinion of the competent person to this effect.

7.6. WINCHES

- a. Winches shall not be used if their control levers operate with excessive friction or play;
- b. Double gear winches shall not be used unless a positive means of locking the gearshift is provided;
- c. There shall be no load other than the fall and the hook assembly on the winch while changing gears on a two-gear winch;
- d. Adequate protection shall be provided to the winch operator against abnormal weather;

- e. Temporary seats or shelters for winch operators that may pose hazard to the winch operator or any other building workers shall not be allowed to be used;
- f. Control levers shall be secured in the neutral position and, whenever possible, the power shall shut off if the winch is left unattended.

7.7. IN USE OF EVERY STEAM-WINCH

- a. Measures shall be taken to prevent escaping steam from obscuring any part of the construction site or other workplace or from otherwise hindering or injuring any building worker;
- b. Extension control levers which tend to fall off their own weight shall be counter-balanced;
- c. Winch operators shall not be permitted to use the which control extension levers except for short handles on wheel type controls and that such levers shall be of adequate strength, secure and fastened with metal connections at the fulcrum and at the permanent control lever;
- d. In use of every electric winch, no building worker shall be permitted to transfer, alter or adjust electric control circuits in case of any defect in such winch;

7.8. ELECTRIC WINCHES SHALL NOT BE USED FOR BUILDING WORK WHERE

- a. The electromagnetic brake is unable to hold the load; or
- b. One or more control points either hoisting or lowering are not operating properly.

7.9. BUCKETS:

It shall be ensured that tip-up buckets are equipped with a device that effectively prevents accidental tipping.

7.10. IDENTIFICATION AND MARKING OF SAFE WORKING LOAD:

- a. Every lifting appliance and loose gear shall be clearly marked for its safe working load and identification by stamping or other suitable means;
- b. Every derrick (**other than derrick crane**) shall be clearly marked for its safe working load when such derrick is used either in single purchase with lower block or in union purchases in all possible block positions;
- c. The lowest angle to the horizontal, to which the derrick may be used, shall be legibly marked;
- d. Every lifting appliance having more than one working load shall be fitted with effective means to enable the operator to determine safe working load at each point under all conditions of use;
- e. Means to ascertain the safe working load for lifting gears under such conditions in which such gears may be used shall be provided to enable a worker using such gears and such means safely, which shall comprise:
 - i) Marking of the safe working load in plain figures or letters upon the sling or upon a tablet or ring of durable material attached securely thereto in case of chain slings; and

- ii) The means specified or notices so exhibited as can be easily read by any concerned building worker stating the safe working load for the various sizes of the wire rope slings used.

7.11 LOADING OF LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEARS

- a. No lifting appliance, lifting gear or wire rope shall be used in an unsafe way and in such a manner as to involve risk to life of building workers and they are not loaded beyond their safe working load except for testing purposes under the direction of a **competent person** in the manner as specified in schedule;
- b. No lifting appliance and lifting gear, or any other material-handling appliance shall be used if the Inspector having jurisdiction under the Building and Other construction (regulation of employment and conditions of service) Act/Rules is not satisfied with reference to a certificate of test or examination or to an authenticated record maintained as provided under the Rules or if in his view the lifting appliance, lifting gear or any other material handling appliance is not safe for use in building or other construction work;
- c. No pulley block shall be used unless the safe working load and its identification are clearly marked on such block.

7.12. OPERATOR'S CAB OR CABIN SHALL

- a. Be made of fire resistant material;
- b. Have a suitable seat, a foot rest and protection from vibration;
- c. Afford the operator an adequate view of the area of operation;
- d. Afford the necessary access to working parts in the cab;
- e. Afford the operator adequate protection against the weather;
- f. Be adequately ventilated; and
- g. Be provided with a suitable fire extinguisher.

7.13. OPERATION OF LIFTING APPLIANCES:

Operator of every crane or lifting appliance shall possess adequate skill and training in the operation of the particular lifting appliances, provided further that

- a. No person under eighteen years of age shall be in control of any lifting machine, scaffold winch, or give signals to the operator;
- b. Precaution shall be taken by the trained operator to prevent lifting appliance from being set in motion inadvertently;
- c. The operation of lifting appliances shall be governed by signals in conformity with the approved standards;
- d. The operator's attention shall not be distracted while he is working;
- e. No crane, hoist, winch or other lifting appliance or any part of such crane, hoist, winch or other lifting appliance shall, except for testing purposes, be loaded beyond the safe working load;
- f. During the hoisting operation, effective precaution shall be taken to prevent any person from standing or passing under the load in such operation;

- g. Operator shall not leave lifting appliance unattended while power is on or the load is suspended to such appliance;
- h. No person shall ride on a suspended load of any lifting appliance;
- i. Every part of a load in course of being hoisted or lowered shall be adequately suspended and supported to prevent danger;
- j. Every receptacle used for hoisting bricks, tiles, slates or other material shall be suitably enclosed as to prevent the fall of any such material;
- k. The hoisting platform shall be enclosed when loose material or loaded wheel barrows are placed directly on such platform or lowering such materials or wheel barrows;
- l. No material shall be raised, lowered or slewed with any lifting appliance in such a way as to cause sudden jerks to such appliance;
- m. In hoisting a barrow, any wheel of such barrow shall not be used as a means of support unless adequate steps have been taken to prevent the axle of such wheel from slipping out of its bearing;
- n. Long objects like planks or girders shall be provided with tag line to prevent any possibility of danger while raising or lowering such objects;
- o. During the process of landing or material, a building worker shall not be permitted to lean out into empty space for finding out the loading and unloading of such material;
- p. When hoisting of load is done in an enclosed space, neither the lifting material nor the boom shall project outside the enclosed space;
- q. Adequate steps shall be taken to prevent a load, in the course of being hoisted or lowered from coming into contact with any object to avoid any displacement of such load and appropriate appliances provided and used for guiding heavy loads when raising or lowering heavy loads to avoid crushing of hands of building workers during such raising or lowering of loads.

7.14. HOISTS

- a. Hoist towers shall be designed according to the relevant national standards;
- b. Hoist shafts shall be provided with rigid panels or other adequate fencing at the ground level on all sides of such shafts and at all other levels on all sides of the access to such shafts while the walls of hoist shafts, except at approaches, extend at least two meters above the floor or platform of access to such shafts;
- c. Approaches to hoist shall be adequately lit and provided with gates that shall be guarded to maintain visibility at least of two meters height; and equipped with a device, which requires such gate to be closed before the platform of such hoist can leave the landing, and prevents the gate from being opened unless such platform is at the landing;
- d. The guides of hoist platforms shall offer sufficient resistance to bending and to bucking in the case of jamming, by providing a safety catch;
- e. Overhead beams and their supports are capable of holding the total maximum live and dead loads that such beams and supports will be required to carry, with a safety factor of at least five;

- f. A clear space shall be provided –
 - i. Above the highest stopping place of a cage or platform to allow sufficient unobstructed travel of such cage or platform in case of over-winding and
 - ii. Below the lowest stopping place of such cage or platform;
- g. Adequate covering shall be provided above the top of hoist shafts to prevent materials from falling into such shafts;
- h. Outdoor hoist towers shall be erected on adequately firm foundations and securely braced, guyed and anchored;
- i. A ladder way shall extend from the bottom to the top of every outdoor hoist tower in case no other ladder way exists within easy reach and such ladder way shall comply with the relevant national standards;
- j. The rated capacity of a hoisting engine shall at least be one and a half times the maximum load that such engine will be required to move;
- k. All gearing on a hoisting engine shall be securely enclosed;
- l. Steam piping of hoisting engine shall be adequately protected against accidental contact of such piping with a building worker;
- m. Electrical equipment of a hoisting engine shall be effectively earthed;
- n. A hoist shall be provided with suitable devices to stop a hoisting engine as soon as the platform of such hoist reaches its highest stopping place;
- o. A hoisting engine shall be protected by suitable cover against weather and falling objects;
- p. A hoisting engine set up in a public thoroughfare shall be completely enclosed;
- q. All exhaust steam pipes shall discharge steam in such a manner that the steam so discharged does not scald any person or obstruct the operator's view;
- r. The motion of a hoist shall not be reversed without first bringing it to rest to avoid any harm from such reverse motion;
- s. A hoist not designed for the conveyance of persons shall not be set in motion from the platform of such hoist;
- t. Pawls and ratchet wheels of a hoist, requiring disengagement of such pawls from such ratchet wheels, before the platform of such hoist is lowered, shall not be used;
- u. A platform of a hoist shall be capable of supporting such maximum load that such platform may carry with a safety factor of at least three;
- v. A platform of a hoist shall be equipped with suitable safety gear which can hold such platform with its maximum load in case its hoisting rope breaks;
- w. On platform of a hoist, the wheel barrows or truck shall be efficiently blocked in safe positions;

- x. A cage of a hoist or platform where the building workers are required to enter into such cage or to go on such platform at landing levels, shall be provided with a locking arrangement to prevent such cage or platform from moving during the time a worker enters or leaves such cage or platform;
- y. The sides of platform of a hoist which are not used for loading or unloading, shall be provided with toe-board and enclosures of a wire mesh or any other suitable means to prevent the fall of any part of a load from such platform, further provided that
 - i. The platform of a hoist, which has any probability of falling of any part of a load from it, shall be provided with an adequate covering to prevent such fall;
 - ii. The counter weights of a hoist consisting of an assemblage of several parts shall be so constructed that such parts shall be rigidly connected together;
 - iii. The counter weights of a hoist shall run between guides;
 - iv. At every level of work the building workers shall be provided with adequate platforms for performing such work;
 - v. A legible notice in Hindi as well as in a local language shall be displayed in a conspicuous place of the platform of a hoist and that such notice shall state the maximum carrying capacity of such hoist in kilograms on the hoisting engine;
 - vi. On a hoist authorized and certified for the conveyance of the persons on the platform or in the cage and such notice shall state the maximum number of persons to be carried on such hoist at one time;
 - vii. On a hoist carrying goods and other materials such notice shall state that such hoist is not meant for carriage of persons.

7.15. FENCING AND MEANS OF ACCESS TO LIFTING APPLIANCES

- a. Safe means of access shall be provided to every part of lifting appliances;
- b. The operator's platform on every crane or tip driven by mechanical power shall be securely fenced and provided with safe means of access and where access to such platform is by a ladder, the sides of such ladder shall extend to a height reasonable beyond such platform or some other suitable handhold shall be provided in the platform;
- c. The handling place on such platform shall be maintained free from obstruction and slipping; and
- d. In case the height of such ladder exceeds six meters, the resting platforms shall be provided on such ladder at every six meters of its height and where the distance between last platform so provided and the top end of such ladder is more than two meters then on such top end.

7.16. RIGGING OF DERRICKS:

Every derrick shall have current and relevant rigging plans and any other information necessary for the safe rigging of such derrick and its gear.

7.17. SECURING OF DERRICK FOOT:

Appropriate measures shall be taken to prevent the foot of a derrick from being lifted out of its socket or supports.

7.18. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF LIFTING GEAR

- a. Every lifting gear shall be –
 - i. of good design and construction, sound material and adequate strength to perform the work for which it is used;
 - ii. free from patent defects; and
 - iii. properly maintained in good repair and working order;
- b. Components of the loose gear, at the time of its use, shall be renewed if one of its dimensions at any point has decreased by ten per cent or more;
- c. A chain shall be withdrawn from use when it is stretched and increased in length which exceeds five per cent of its length or when a link of such chain is deformed or is otherwise damaged or defects in the welds have appeared on it;
- d. Rings, hooks, swivels and end links attached to a chain shall be of the same materials as that of such chain;
- e. The voltage of electric supply to any magnetic lifting device shall not fluctuate by more than **plus** or **minus** 10%.

7.19. TEST AND PERIODICAL EXAMINATION OF LIFTING GEARS

- a. A lifting gear shall be initially tested for the manufacturer by a competent person in a manner specified as per schedule annexed before taking into use or after undergoing any substantive alterations which renders its any part liable to affect its safety and such gear after such test shall subsequently be retested for the use of its owner at least once in every five years;
- b. A lifting gear in use shall thoroughly examined once at least in every twelve months by a competent person;
- c. A chain in use shall be thoroughly examined at least once every month by a responsible person for its use;
- d. Certificates of initial and periodical test and examinations of loose gears shall be obtained in the form annexed.

7.20. ROPES

- a. No rope shall be used for building or other construction work unless -
 - i) It is of good quality and free from patent defects; and
 - ii) In the case of wire rope, it shall be tested and examined by a competent person in the manner annexed;
 - iii) Every wire rope of lifting appliance or lifting gear used for building or other construction work shall be inspected by a responsible person for such use, once at least in every three month;

- b. Provided that after if any such wire is broken in such rope, the responsible person shall thereafter inspect it once at least in every month and ensure that;
- c. No wire rope shall be used for building or other constructing work if in any length of eight diameters of such wires, the total number of visible broken wires exceed ten per cent of the total number of wires in such rope, or such rope shows signs of excessive wear, corrosion or other defects which in the opinion of the person who inspects it, is unfit for use;
- d. Eye splices and loops of ropes for the attachment of hooks, rings and other such parts to wire rope shall be made with suitable thimble;
- e. A thimble or loop splice made in any wire rope sling shall conform to the following standards, namely:
 - i) Wire rope sling shall have at least three tucks with full strand of rope and two tucks with one-half of the wires cut out of each of such strand in all cases, such strands shall be tucked against the lay of the rope;
 - ii) Protruding ends of such strands in any splice of wire rope slings shall be covered or treated so as to leave no sharp points;
 - iii) A fiber rope or a rope sling shall have at least four tucks, tail of such tuck being whipped in a suitable manner; and
 - iv) A synthetic fiber rope or rope sling shall have at least four tucks with full strands followed by further tuck with one-half filaments cut out of each of such strand and final tuck with one-half of the remaining filaments cut out from such strands. Any portion of the splices containing such tucks, with reduced number of filaments, shall be securely covered with suitable tape or other materials;
 - v) Provided further that nothing contained above shall apply where any other form of splice, which may be shown to be as efficient as the splice with above standards, shall be used.

7.21. HEAT TREATMENT OF LIFTING GEARS

- a. All chains other than bridle chains attached to derricks and all rings, hooks, shackles and swivels used in hoisting or lowering of such derricks shall be effectively annealed under supervision of a competent person and at the following intervals, namely:
 - i) Such chains, rings, hoods, shackles and swivels which are not more than twelve and a half millimeter of length annealed at least once in every six months; and
 - ii) All other such chains rings hooks shackles and swivels shall be so annealed at least once in every twelve months;
- b. Provided that the clause (a) above shall not apply to -
 - i) Pitched chins, working on sprocket or sprocket wheels;
 - ii) Rings, hooks and swivels permanently attached to pitched chains, pulley blocks or weighing machines, and
 - iii) Hooks and swivels having ball bearings or other case hardened parts;

- c. A chin or a loose gear made of high tensile steel or alloy steel shall be plainly marked with a mark indicating that it is so made;
- d. No chain or loose gear made of high tensile steel or alloy steel shall be subjected to any form of heat treatment except where such treatment is necessary for the purpose of repair of such chain or loose gear and that such repair shall be made under the direction of the competent person;
- e. That the wrought iron gear, the past history of which is not traceable, shall be suspected of being heat treated at incorrect temperature shall be normalized before using it on any building or other construction work.

7.22. CERTIFICATE TO BE ISSUED AFTER ACTUAL TESTING AND EXAMINATION ETC:

A competent person shall issue a certificate after actual testing or examination of the apparatus specified and record of such test or examination shall be maintained for inspection.

7.23. REGISTER OF PERIODICAL TEST, EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION THEREOF

- a. A register in the form annexed shall be maintained and particulars of such test and examination of lifting appliances, lifting gears and heat treatment as required shall be entered in such register;
- b. Certificate in respect of each of the following shall be obtained from a competent person:
 - i) In cases of initial and periodical test and examination of the lifting appliances such as Winches, Derricks and their accessory gears, Cranes or Hoists and their accessory gears;
 - (ii) In case of test, examination and re-examination of loose gears;
 - (iii) In case of test and examination of wire ropes;
 - (iv) In case of heat treatment and examination of loose gears;
 - (v) In case of annual thorough examination of the loose gears, except where required particulars of such exemption have been enclosed in the register referred to in Form annexed and such certificates are attached to the register referred to as above and certificates kept at such construction site in case such register and certificate relate to lifting appliances, loose gear and wire ropes and
- c. Produced on demand and retained for at least five years after the date of the last entry made in such register;
- d. No lifting appliance or lifting gear in respect of which an entry is required to be made in register referred to above and certificate of test and examination are required to be attached in such register in the manner as specified, shall be used for building or other construction work unless the required entries have been made in such register and certificates.

7.24. VACUUM AND MAGNETIC LIFTING GEAR

- a. No vacuum lifting gear, magnetic lifting gear or any other lifting gear where the load on it is held by adhesive power, shall be used while workers are performing operations beneath such gear;
- b. A magnetic lifting gear used in connection with building or other construction work shall be provided with an alternative supply of power, such as batteries, which may come into operation immediately in the event of failure of the main power supply;

- c. No building worker shall work within the swinging zone of the lifting gear or load or building or other construction material suspended to such lifting gear.

7.25. KNOTTING OF CHAINS AND WIRE ROPES:

No chain or wire rope with a knot in it shall be used in building or other construction work.

7.26. CARRYING OF PERSONS BY MEANS OF LIFTING APPLIANCES ETC.

- a. No building worker shall be raised, lowered or carried by a power driven lifting appliance, except
 - i. On the drive's platform in the cage of a crane; or
 - ii. On as hoist; or
 - iii. On an approved suspended scaffold;
- b. Provided that a building worker may be raised, lowered or carried by a power driven lifting appliance:
 - i. In circumstances where the use of a hoist or of a suspended scaffold shall not reasonably be practicable, or
 - ii. On an aerial cableway or aerial ropeway, provided further that the following requirements are met:
 - iii. That the appliance referred to above can be operated from one position only and that
 - iv. Any winch used in connection with the appliance shall also comply with the requirements as laid down above.
- c. The appliance referred to above shall not carry any person except:
 - i. In a chair or cage,
 - ii. In a skip or other receptacle at least three feet deep which shall be suitable for safe carriage of a person and any such chair, cage, skip or other receptacle shall be made of good construction, sound material, and adequate strength and properly maintained with suitable means to prevent any occupant therein from falling out of it and shall be free from any material or tools which may interfere with the handhold or foothold of such occupant or otherwise endanger him; and
 - iii. Those suitable measures shall be taken to prevent the chair, cage skip or other receptacle from spinning or tipping in a manner dangerous to any occupant therein.

7.27. HOISTS CARRYING PERSONS

- a. No building worker shall be carried with the help of a hoist unless it is provided with a cage which:
 - i) Is so constructed as to prevent, when its gates are shut, any building worker carried by such hoist from falling out of it or from being trapped between any part of such cage and any fixed structure or other moving part of such hoist or from being struck by articles or materials falling down the hoist way on which such hoist is moving; and
 - ii) Is fitted on each of its side from which access is provided to a landing place with a gate which has efficient interlocking or other devices to secure so that such gate cannot be opened except when such cage is at a landing place and that such cage cannot be moved away from any such place until such gate is closed;

- b. Every gate in the hoist way enclosure of such hoist used for carrying persons shall be fitted with efficient interlocking or other devices to secure so that such gate cannot be opened except when the cage of such gate is at the landing place and that such cage cannot be moved away from the landing place until such gate is closed;
- c. In every hoist used for carrying building workers there are provided with suitable and efficient automatic devices to ensure that the cage of such hoist comes to rest at a point above the lowest point to which such cage may travel.

7.28. ATTACHMENT OF LOADS

- a. When a sling is used to hoist long materials, a lifting beam shall be used to space the sling legs for proper balance and when a load is suspended at two or more points with slings, the eyes of the lifting legs of such slings shall be shackled together and such shackled eyes of the shackled slings shall be placed on the hook or the eyes of such lifting legs shall be shackled directly to the hoisting block, ball or balance beam, as the case may be;
- b. Every container or receptacle used for raising or lowering stone, bricks tiles, slates or other similar objects shall be so enclosed with the hoist as to prevent the fall of such objects;
- c. A loaded wheel barrows placed directly on a platform of a hoist for raising or lowering of such wheel barrows shall be so secured that such wheel barrows cannot move and such platform shall be enclosed to prevent the fall of the contents kept in such wheel barrows;
- d. Landings of hoists shall be so designed and arranged that building workers on such hoist be not required to lean out into empty space for loading and unloading on any material from such hoist

7.29. TOWER CRANES

- a. No person other than the operator trained and capable to work at heights shall be employed to operate tower cranes;
- b. The ground on which a tower crane stands shall have adequate bearing capacity;
- c. Bases for tower cranes and trucks for rail mounted tower cranes shall be firm and leveled and such cranes erected at a reasonably safe distance from excavations and operated within gradient limits as specified by the manufacturer of such cranes;
- d. Tower cranes shall be sited where there is a clear space available for erection, operation and dismantling of such cranes;
- e. Tower cranes shall be sited in such a way that the loads on such cranes shall not be handled over any occupied premises, public thoroughfares, railways or near power cables, other than construction works for which such cranes are used;
- f. Where two or more tower cranes are sited and operated, every care shall be taken to ensure positive and proper communication between operators of such cranes to avoid any danger or dangerous occurrences;
- g. Tower cranes shall not be used for loading magnet, or demolition ball service, piling operation or other similar operations which could impose excessive load stresses on the crane structure of such cranes;

- h. The instruction of the manufacturer of a tower crane and standard safe practices regarding such cranes shall be followed while operating or using such cranes.

7.30. QUALIFICATION OF OPERATOR OF LIFTING WINCHES AND OF SIGNALER ETC.

- a. No person shall be employed to drive or operate a lifting appliance whether driven by mechanical power or otherwise or to give signals to driver of operator of such lifting appliance or to work as an operator of a rigger or derricks unless he is
 - i) Sufficiently competent and reliable;
 - ii) Possesses the knowledge of the inherent risks involved in the operation of lifting appliance;
 - iii) Medically examined periodically as specified and
 - iv) Is above eighteen years of age.

8.0 SAFETY IN THE USE OF TRANSPORT, EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT & OTHER CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY

8.1 EARTHMOVING EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLES

- a. All vehicles and earthmoving equipment shall be made of good material, proper design and sound construction and be sufficiently strong for the purpose for which such equipment are properly used in accordance with standard safe operating practices;
- b. Provided that the truck or trailer employed for transporting freight containers shall be of the size sufficient to carry the containers, without over hanging and provided with twist locks conforming to approved standards, at all the four corners of each of such use by an authority under the relevant law for the time being in force and is inspected by a responsible person, at least once in a month and record of such inspection shall be maintained:
- c. All transport or earth moving equipment and vehicles shall be inspected at least once a week by a responsible person and in case any defect is noticed in such equipment or vehicle it shall be immediately taken out of use;
- d. Power trucks and tractors shall be equipped with effective brakes, headlights and tail lamps and maintained in good repair and working order;
- e. Side stanchions on power trucks and trailers for carrying heavy and long objects shall be
 - i. Of sound construction and free from defects;
 - ii. Provided with tie chains attached to the top across the loads for preventing such stanchions from spreading out; and
 - iii. Kept in position while loading and unloading;
 - iv. Safe gangways provided for to and fro movement of building workers engaged in loading and unloading of lorries, trucks, trailers and wagons;
 - v. Trucks and other equipment shall not be loaded beyond their safe capacity and carry workers engaged in loading and unloading of lorries, trucks trailers and wagons in an unsafe condition;
 - vi. Handles of trucks shall be so designed as to protect the hands of the building workers working on such trucks, or such handles provided with knuckle guards;
 - vii. No unauthorized person shall ride the transport equipment employed in such work;
 - viii. A driver of a transport equipment shall maneuver such equipment under the direction of a signaler;
 - ix. Adequate precaution such as isolating the electric supply or erecting overhead barriers of a safe height shall be taken when earth moving equipment or vehicles are required to operate in dangerous proximity to any live electric conductor;
 - x. Vehicles and earth moving equipment shall not be left on a slope with the engine of such vehicles or equipment running;

- xi. All earth moving equipment, vehicles or other transport equipment shall be operated only by such person who are adequately trained and possess such skills as required for safe operation of such equipment, vehicle or other transport equipment.

8.2. POWER SHOVELS AND EXCAVATOR

- a. A shovel or an excavator whether operated by steam or electric or by internal combustion, shall be constructed, installed, operated, tested and examined as per approved standards;
- b. Excavator equipped for use as a mobile crane shall be examined and tested in accordance with the requirements for such mobile cranes as laid down by the manufacturer; and
- c. Fitted with an automatic safe working load indicator;
- d. Buckets or grabs of power shovels shall be propped to restrict the movement of such buckets or grabs while being repaired or while the teeth of such buckets or grabs are being changed.

8.3. BULLDOZER

- a. Operator of every such bulldozer before leaving the dozer shall take the following steps:
 - i) Apply the brakes;
 - ii) Lower the blade and sipper and
 - iii) Put the shift lever into neutral;
 - iv) Dozer left on level ground at the close of the work for which such bulldozer is used;
 - v) The blade of a bulldozer kept low when such bulldozer is moving uphill;
 - vi) The bulldozer blades not used as brakes except in an emergency.

8.4. SCRAPERS

- a. A tractor and scraper shall be joined by safety line at the time of its operation;
- b. The scraper bowls shall be propped while blades of such scraper are being replaced;
- c. A scraper moving downhill shall not be left in gear.

8.5. MOBILE ASPHALT LAYERS & FINISHERS

- a. A mixture elevator shall be located within a wooden or sheet metal enclosure with a window for observation, lubrication and maintenance;
- b. Bitumen scoops shall have adequate covers;
- c. When asphalt plants are working on public road, adequate traffic control shall be established on such road and the building workers working with such plant provided with reflective jackets;
- d. A sufficient number of fire extinguishers shall be kept in readiness at such workplace where fire hazards may exist;
- e. The materials shall be loaded on the elevator after the drying drain has warmed up of such elevator;
- f. No open light shall be used for ascertaining the level of asphalt;

- g. Inspection opening shall not be opened till there is a pressure in the boiler, which may cause injury to building workers.

8.6. PAVERS:

Pavers shall be equipped with guards suitable to prevent building workers from walking under the skip of such pavers.

- 8.7. Road rollers:** Before a road roller is used on the ground, such ground shall be examined for its bearing capacity and general safety, especially at the edges of slopes such as embankment on such grounds and shall not be moved downhill with the engine out of gear.

8.8. GENERAL SAFETY IN RESPECT OF POWERED CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY

- a. Every vehicle or earthmoving equipment shall be equipped with -
 - i) Silencers;
 - ii) Tail lights
 - iii) Power and hand brakes;
 - iv) Reversing alarm; and
 - v) Search light for forward and backward movement, which are required for safe operation of such vehicle or earthmoving equipment;
- b. The cab of vehicle or earthmoving equipment shall be kept at least one meter from the adjacent face of a ground being excavated;
- c. When cranes or shovel are traveling, the boom of such crane or shovel shall be in the direction of such travel and the bucket or scoop attached to such crane or shovel raised and without load except when such traveling is downhill.

9.0 SAFETY IN THE PROVISION OF RUNWAYS AND RAMP

9.1. USE OF RUNWAYS AND RAMPS:

- a. Runway or ramps shall not be less than 430 mm in width and constructed of not less than 25 mm thick planking or any other material of adequate strength to withstand the required load, supported substantially in relation to the span and braced with such runway or ramp, and design and construction of such runway or ramp shall be in accordance with the approved standards;
- b. Every runway or ramp located more than 3 m above the floor or ground shall be on open sides and provided with a guardrail of adequate strength and height of not less than 1 m.
- c. Use of runways and ramps by vehicles:
 - i. All runways and ramps shall be of sound construction, strength and securely braced and supported;
 - ii. Every runway or ramp for the use of transport equipment like trailers, trucks or heavier vehicles shall have a width of not less than 3.7 m and provide with timber curbs or any other material of adequate strength with not less than 200 mm by 200 mm in width placed parallel to, and secured to, the sided of such runway or ramp and such runways or ramps or ramps shall be designed in accordance with the approved standards.

9.2. SLOPE OF RAMPS:

Every ramp shall have a slope not exceeding one in four and the total rise of a continuous ramp used by building workers carrying material or using wheelbarrows shall not exceed 3.7 m, unless broken by horizontal landing of at least 1.2 m in length.

9.3. USE OF RUNWAYS OR RAMPS BY WHEELBARROWS, ETC.

- a. Every runway or ramp used for wheelbarrows and carts or hand trucks shall not be less than 1 m width and constructed of not less than 50 mm thick planking, and supported and braced suitably for such use;
- b. Every runway or ramp located more than 3 m above the floor or ground shall be provided on the open sides with suitable guardrails of adequate strength.

10. SAFETY IN HANDLING AND USE OF EXPLOSIVES

10.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS:

- a. The use of explosives shall be carried out in a safe manner to avoid injury to any person and under the direct supervision of a responsible person;
- b. No person other than authorized and competent one shall be allowed to handle and use explosives;
- c. Before using any explosive, necessary warning and danger signals shall be erected, at conspicuous places of such use to warn the building workers and the general public of the danger involved in such use.
- d. No person other than authorized and competent one shall be allowed to handle and use explosives.
- e. Smoke, open lamps, other type of hot or heat producing items and sparks shall be prohibited in or near explosives magazines or while explosives are being handled, transported or used.
- f. No person shall be allowed to handle or use explosives while under the influence of intoxicating liquors or dangerous drugs.
- g. The explosives shall be accounted for at all times. No explosives or blasting agents shall be abandoned.
- h. No fire shall be fought where the fire is in the imminent danger of contact with explosives. All employees shall be removed to a safe area and the fire area shall be guarded against intruders.
- i. Employees authorized to prepare explosive charges or conduct blasting operations shall use every reasonable precaution including but not limited to visual and audible warning signals, flags, or barricades to ensure employee safety.
- j. Due precautions shall be taken to prevent accidental discharge of electric blasting caps from current induced by induced voltage, lightning, adjacent power lines, dust storms, or other sources of extraneous electricity or otherwise. These precautions shall include:
- k. Short-circuiting of detonators in holes, which have been primed and shunted until wired into the blasting circuit.
- l. The suspension of all blasting operations and removal of persons from the blasting area during the approach and progress of an electric storm.
- m. The prominent display of adequate signs, warning against the use of radio transmitters, on all roads within 1000 ft of blasting operations. Whenever adherence to the 1000 ft distance would create an operational handicap, a competent and expert person shall be consulted to evaluate the particular situation, and an alternative provided, which are adequately designed to prevent any premature firing of electric blasting of caps. A description of any such blasting shall be reduced to writing and shall be certified as meeting the purposes of this subdivision by the competent person consulted. The description shall be maintained at the construction site during the duration of the work, and shall be available for inspection.

- n. Empty boxes and paper and fiber packing materials, which have previously contained high explosives, shall not be used again for any purpose, but shall be destroyed by burning at an approved location.
- o. Explosives, blasting agents and blasting supplies that are obviously deteriorated or damaged shall not be used.
- p. Delivery and issue of explosives shall only be made authorized persons into authorized magazines or approved temporary storage or handling areas.
- q. Blasting operations in the proximity of overhead power lines, communication lines, utility services, or other services and structures shall not be carried on until the operators and/or owners have been notified and measures for safe control have been taken. In such situations controlled blasting shall be restored to.
- r. All loading and firing shall be directed and supervised by competent persons thoroughly experienced in this field.
- s. Loaded boreholes shall not be left unattended after the end of the shift.
- t. Suitable and sufficient means of egress to ground level shall be provided in all cases of excavations, trenches, all other places where explosives are handled above or below ground level.
- u. At an appropriate time before the final blasting warnings, workers in the area shall be removed to a designated safe place.
- v. An unmistakable, audible, final warning shall be sounded one minute prior to the detonation of explosives; after completion, when the person in charge has established that safe conditions prevail, an "all clear" shall be sounded.
- w. To prevent persons entering any danger zone during blasting operations notices shall be given to all concerned.
- x. Notices referred above shall indicate:
 - i. that explosives are in use;
 - ii. the audible warning sound and the "all clear" and state when they will be sounded; and
 - iii. the warning flags in use, including an "all clear" flag.
- y. Precautions against lightning shall be provided in accordance with the Indian Electricity Act and Indian Explosives Act and Rules and regulations framed there under.
- z. Package containing explosives shall not be dragged, dropped or handled roughly.
 - aa. Non-sparking tools shall be used to open keys.
 - bb. The explosives shall not be carried in the box or otherwise on any individual.
 - cc. Nothing shall be inserted in the open end of the blasting cap except fuses.

- dd. Deteriorated or damaged explosives shall not be used but shall be disposed or destroyed strictly in accordance with the approved methods and in the doing so the manufacturers or the appropriate authority's instructions shall be followed.
- ee. lightning shall be in accordance with Indian Electricity Act/Rules

10.2. TRANSPORTATION OF EXPLOSIVES

- a. Keep safe distance and to use non-sparking tools while opening packages containing explosives;
- b. Stop the use of explosives and handling thereof while the weather conditions are not suitable for such use or handling;
- c. Due precautions shall be taken to prevent accidental discharge of electric blasting caps from current induced by induced voltage, lightning, adjacent power-lines, dust storms or other sources of extraneous electricity or otherwise. These precautions shall include –
 - i. Suspension of all blasting operations and evacuation of persons;
 - ii. All warning signs shall be displayed within 200 m of blasting operations and in case putting up a sign at 200 m is impractical, the contractor shall consult the Engineer-in-charge for alternatives;
 - iii. All loading and firing shall be directed and supervised by competent persons thoroughly experienced in the field;
 - iv. To prevent persons entering any danger zone during blasting operations, notices shall be given to all concerned;
- d. In addition to these provisions, all measures and precautions that are required to be observed for use, handling, storing or transportation of explosives under the Rules framed under the Explosives Act, 1884 (4 of 1884) shall be observed;
- e. All the relevant statutory provisions, local laws and rules and regulations shall be complied with.
- f. Where the magazine is located near the construction site and blasting operation continues daily, actual requirement of explosives shall be drawn from the magazine and transported to the site. Any leftovers shall be returned to the magazine each time after the blast. In case of work at scattered places and for a small duration, portable magazines shall be used and kept within a fence in safe place and properly guarded.
- g. For carrying higher quantity (more than 5 kg of explosives) specially designed insulated containers shall be used. These containers shall be constructed of finished wood not less than 5cm thick or plastic not less than 6mm thick or pressed fibre not less than 10mm thick. There shall be no metal parts (not even nails, bolts, screws etc.) and the containers shall be provided with suitable non-conductive carrying device, such as rubber, leather or canvas handle or strap.
- h. Vehicles to be used for transportation explosives shall be in good working condition and shall have a tight wooded or non-sparking metal (copper, brass and the like) floor with sides and

ends high enough to prevent the explosives from falling off the vehicle. In open bodied vehicles, the explosives shall be covered with a waterproof and fibre tarpaulin.

- i. Electrical wiring in vehicle shall be fully insulated so as to prevent the danger of short-circuiting and at least two fire extinguishers of carbon dioxide type shall be carried. The vehicle shall be properly marked indicating adequate warning to the public in regard to the nature of cargo.
- j. No metals except approved metal truck shall be allowed to come in contact with cases of explosives, metal, flammable, or corrosive substance shall not be transported with explosives. As far as possible, transportation of any material along with explosives shall be prohibited.
- k. Smoking shall be prohibited in the vehicle carrying explosives.
- l. No unauthorized person shall be allowed in the vehicle, carrying explosives.
- m. Loading and unloading of explosives shall be done carefully.
- n. Explosives and detonators or blasting caps shall not be permitted to be transported in the same vehicle.
- o. Detonators and other explosives for blasting shall be transported to the site of work in the original containers or in securely locked separate non-metallic containers and shall not be carried loose or mixed with other materials.

10.3. STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES AND BLASTING AGENTS

- a. Explosives and related materials shall be stored in approved facilities.
- b. Blasting caps, electric blasting caps, detonating primers, and primed cartridges shall not be stored in the same magazine with other explosives or blasting agents.
- c. Smoking and open flames shall not be permitted within 50 feet of explosives and detonators storage magazine.
- d. No Explosives or blasting agents shall be permanently stored in any underground area until the area has been developed to the point where at least two modes of exit have been provided.
- e. Permanent underground storage magazine shall be at least 300 feet from any shaft or other active under ground working area.
- f. Permanent underground magazines containing detonators shall not be located closer than 50 feet to any magazine containing other explosives or blasting agents.

10.4. DRILLING AND LOADING

- a. Before planning out the drilling operations for blasting purposes, nature of stratum and the over burden shall necessarily be examined to avoid possibilities of landslides after blasting.
- b. The face or rock shall be carefully examined before drilling to determine the presence of unfired explosives. No attempt shall be made to drill at a site if un-detonated explosives are suspected. In such case the boreholes shall be thoroughly cleaned before a cartridge is

- inserted. Wooden tamping rods (not pointed, but cylindrical throughout) shall be used in the charging the holes. The cartridge will be on the top.
- c. The borehole shall be carefully checked for length, presence of water dust, etc. with a wooden temping pole or a measuring tape before loading.
 - d. Surplus explosives shall not be stacked near working areas during loading/unloading.
 - e. The line of detonating fuse extending into a borehole shall be cut from the spool before loading the remainder of the charge.
 - f. A bore shall not be loaded with explosives after springing (enlarging the hole with explosives) or upon completion of drilling without making sure it is cool and it does not contain any hot smoldering material. Temperatures in excess of 65° C are dangerous.
 - g. A bore near another hole loaded with explosives shall not be sprung.
 - h. No force shall be used for inserting cartridges or any explosives into a bore hold or pass any obstruction in a borehole.
 - i. No force shall be used for inserting a blasting cap or an electric blasting cap into explosive. The cap shall be inserted into a hole made with a pickers designed for the purpose. A hitch of the electric blasting cap leading wire shall be made on the primer cartridge so as to prevent pulling out the electric blasting cap from the explosive charge. In case of fuse, the fuse shall be tied to the explosive cartridge so that the blasting cap is not pulled out. Care shall be taken so that the blasting cap is not pulled out. Care shall be taken so that the electric blasting cap, leading wire or the length of the fuse does not get damaged during loading of the charge.
 - j. No attempt shall be made to slit, drop, deform or abuse the primer.
 - k. Blasting caps or electric blasting caps shall not be connected to detonating fuse except by methods recommended by the manufacturers of caps.
 - l. Explosive cartridge shall not be cut, nor explosive removed from the cartridge for use.
 - m. Metallic devices of any kind shall not be used in tamping. Wooden tamping tools with not exposed metal parts except non-sparking metal connectors for jointed poled shall be used. Violent tamping shall be avoided. Primer shall not be tamped.
 - n. Care shall be taken to confine the explosives in the bore hold with sand, earth clay or other suitable combustible stemming material.
 - o. Kinking or injuring of fuse or electric blasting cap wires shall be avoided when tamping.

10.5. ELECTRICAL SHOT-FIRING CIRCUIT

- a. In deciding the sizes of wires, fuses, circuits, blasting switches, etc., instructions issued by the manufacturers of these articles shall be followed, if they do not contradict with Indian Explosives Act or framed under it.
- b. No person shall attempt to uncoil the wires and open out the short-circuited bare leading wires of the electric blasting cap during approach of dust storm or near any source of large

charge of static electricity or near a radio transmitter. The manufacturer of the cap or the Inspectorate of Explosives shall be consulted regarding the distance from the transmitter beyond which electric short firing shall be conducted.

- c. Firing circuit shall be kept completely insulated from the ground of the other conductors, such as wires, rails, pipes or other paths or stray current.
- d. There shall not be any electric live wires or cables of any kind near electric blasting caps or other explosives except at the time and for the purpose of firing the blast.
- e. All electric blasting caps shall be tested singly and also when connected in a circuit in series using only an approved type of circuit continuity tester or ohmmeter.
- f. No attempt shall be made to use in the same circuit either electrical blasting caps made by more than one manufacturer or electric blasting caps of different design or function even if made by the same manufacturers unless such use is approved by the manufacturers.
- g. No attempt shall be made to fire a circuit of electric blasting caps with less than the minimum current specified by the manufacturer of that electric blasting cap.
- h. Care shall be taken to ensure that all wire ends to be connected are bright and clean.
- i. The electric cap wires or leading wires shall be kept short circuited until ready to fire.
- j. When energy for blasting is taken from power circuits the voltage shall not exceed 220v. The wiring controlling arrangements shall conform to the following:
- k. The blasting switch shall be strictly according to the specifications, externally operated double-throw switch, which when locked in the open position will short circuit and ground the leading wires. The switch shall be installed at the location where the firing is to be controlled.
- l. A 'safety' switch of the same type as the blasting switch shall be installed between the blasting switch and the firing circuit and lead lines, at a distance not to exceed 180cm from the blasting switch.
- m. Both the safety switch and the blasting switch shall be locked in the open position immediately after the shot and before any person is permitted to return to the blasting area. Key to the switches shall remain in the possession of the blaster at all times.
- n. Rubber covered or other adequately insulated copper wires in good condition shall be used for firing lines and shall have solid cores of appropriate gauge. Sufficient firing line shall be provided to permit the blaster to be located at a safe distance from the blast. Single conductor lead lines shall be used.
- o. Blasting operations in the proximity of overhead power lines, communication lines, utility lines, or other structures shall not be carried on until the operator or the owner, or both of such lines as been notified and precautionary measures deemed necessary, have been taken.
- p. All holes loaded on a shift shall be fired on the same shift.
- q. As far as possible, blasting shall be carried out using suitable exploder with 25 per cent excess capacity. Electric power from the mains shall be used only when it is absolutely necessary.

10.6. SHOT-FIRING WITH SAFETY FUSE

- a. The fuse shall be carefully handled to avoid damaging the covering. In very cold weather the fuse shall be slightly warmed before using so as to avoid cracking the waterproofing.
- b. Short fuse shall not be used. The length of a fuse shall not be less than 120cm. The rate of burning of the fuse shall be known and it would be necessary to make sure that it will take sufficient time in burning so as to enable all persons to reach a place of safety. The burning rate of the fuse shall not be more than 60 cm/min.
- c. The fuse shall not be cut until the operation to insert the fuse into a blasting cap is ready. The fuse shall be cut off about 2.5 to 5 cm to ensure a dry end. It shall be cut squarely across with a clean and sharp blade. The fuse shall be seated lightly against the cap charge and care shall be taken to avoid twisting after it has been placed in position.
- d. Blasting caps shall not be crimped by any means except by a cap crimper designed for the purpose. It shall be necessary to make sure that the cap is squarely crimped to the face.
- e. The fuse shall be lighted with a fuse lighter designed for the purpose. If a match is used, the fuse shall be slit at the end and the match head held in then slit against the power core and then the match head rubbed against an abrasive surface to light the fuse.
- f. The fuse shall not be lighted until sufficient stemming has been placed over the explosives to prevent sparks of live match heads from coming into contact with the explosives.
- g. The explosives shall not be held in hands when lighting the fuse.

10.7. UNDERGROUND WORK

- a. Only permissible explosives and in the manner as specified by the appropriate authority shall be used.
- b. Excessive quantities of explosives shall not be taken underground at any time. Black blasting powder or pellet powder shall not be used with any other explosive in the same borehole.

10.8. BEFORE AND AFTER FIRING

- a. Before firing, sufficient warning shall be given to enable the people working in the area to get off the danger zone. The danger zone shall be suitable cordoned off and flag men posted at important points.
- b. No loose materials, such as tools, drilling implements etc. Shall be left on the rock surfaces to be blasted.
- c. Blasting in the open shall be carried out during the fixed hours every day or on fixed days in the week. This information shall be amply publicized and the following precautions observed:
- d. On the project sites, where blasting operations are carried out, daily blasting hours shall be clearly printed on the sign-boards on all the roads approaching that area.
 - i. Road closing barriers should be provided to close the traffic on these roads, at least 400 meters away when the firing is to take place.

- ii. The beginning of the firing shall follow loud sirens and similarly loud sirens shall succeed the completion of the firing.
- e. The shot-firer shall not be allowed to return to the blasting site after firing, until at least 5 min have elapsed. In case of electric shot firing, the shot holes shall be examined after firing and in case of misfire no person shall be allowed to approach the blasting site for at least 5 min. In case of shot firing with safety fuse, utmost care shall be taken to count the number to ensure that all the shots have fired and in the event of misfire, no person shall be allowed to approach the blasting site for at least 30 min. In any case, a careful inspection for the remaining un-detonated explosive shall be made after firing the shots. All misfired shot holes shall be cross-marked. No other person than those duly authorized shall approach the holes until one of the following operations has been performed in respect of each of the misfired holes:
 - f. If the misfire is due to a faulty cable or faulty electrical connection the defect shall be remedied and the shot fired.
 - g. The stemming shall be floated out by use of water or air jet from hose until the hole has been opened to within 60 cm of the charge, whereupon water will be siphoned or pumped out, then a fresh new charge placed and duly detonated. Or
 - i. A careful search shall be made of unexploded material in the debris of the charge.
 - ii. If a shift charge is unavoidable, the person in-charge of one shift before leaving the work shall inform the person relieving him for the next shift of any cases misfired and shall point out their position duly cross marked and also state clearly what action has to be taken in the matter.

Note: The rules are made considering statutory provisions and other National/International standards. However, if any statutory provision overruling these laws is made, the statutory provisions shall overrule the NTPC Rules.

11.0 SAFETY IN EXCAVATION & TUNNELING WORK

SAFETY IN EXCAVATION

11.1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

- a. Before undertaking any activity, the soil shall be tested and in case of availability of any explosive gas, necessary arrangements must be made to remove/dilute such gases and in case they are found to be toxic or poisonous, the workplace must be purged and continuous ventilation maintaining the contamination below the permissible level ensured;
- b. The position of underground installations such as sewers, water pipes and electrical cables shall be verified and in case of their existence, they must be isolated;
- c. If they cannot be isolated or removed or shutdown, they shall be fenced, hung up or otherwise protected. On every part likely to be visited by persons or where transport vehicles ply, the area shall be suitably fenced, guarded or barricaded to prevent fall of persons, vehicles or livestock into the excavated area;
- d. Warning signs shall be erected and the in the night hours the area shall be illuminated to warn pedestrians and vehicular traffic;
- e. Arrangements shall be made to prevent external vibrations due to rail/road traffic;
- f. Blasting shall be carried out in accordance with the norms applicable in this regard. Special care shall be taken to control the impact of vibrations/tremor caused by blasting to protect excavations from cave-ins;
- g. Arrangements shall be made to save other buildings/structures in the affected zone or in the vicinity of the area of excavation, from collapse;

11.2 SHORING AND TIMBERING

- a. Site of excavations, where workers are exposed to danger from moving ground, shall be made safe by maintaining due slope not exceeding the angle of repose of different types of soil or otherwise by shoring, portable shields or other effective means;
- b. All trenches in the soil, other than rock or hard compact soil more than 1.5 m deep into which men enter, shall be securely shored and timbered under the supervision of a competent person and only the trained workers shall be allowed to substantially alter or dismantle the shoring or timbering;
- c. All struts, braces and walls in excavation shall be adequately secured so as to prevent their accidental displacement;
- d. In all excavations in soft or fissured rock or hard soil exceeding 2 m in depth, except those which are sloped to within 1.5 m of the bottom into which men enter, shall be securely shored and timbered;
- e. Where the sides of the excavations are sloped as outlined above, but not within the 1.5 m of the bottom, vertical sides shall be shored and the shoring shall extend at least 30 cm above the vertical sides. When open spaced sheathing is used, a toe-board shall be provided to prevent material rolling down the slope and falling into the excavated.

11.3. SHEATHING

- a. The sheathing should be placed against the side of the trench so that length of each piece of sheathing is vertical. It should be held securely in place against the wales by ensuring that sheathing is kept firmly pressed against the wall of the trench. Where the trench excavated is loose, sandy or soft soil or soil which has been previously excavated or soil which is under hydrostatic pressure, each piece of sheathing shall be driven into the bottom of the trench so as to firmly hold it in place;
- b. Where two or more pieces of sheathing are used one above another, the sheathing shall be so arranged that the lower pieces of sheathing shall overlap the lowest wales supporting the piece of sheathing next above it. These pieces of sheathing shall be firmly driven into the soil and securely supported by wales and struts, as the trench is made deeper.

11.4. WALES

- a. The wales shall be parallel to the bottom or the proposed bottom of the trench. Each wale shall be supported on cleats spiked to the sheathing or by posts set on the wales next below it and in the case of the lowest wale on the bottom of the trench itself. Where necessary, wedges may be provided between a wale and the sheathing it supports so that roughly uniformity is given to all individual pieces of sheathing.

11.5. STRUTS

- a. Struts shall be horizontal and at right angles to the wales or sheathing supported thereby. Struts shall be cut to the proper length required to fit in tightly between the wales. Where necessary, the struts shall be held securely in place by wedges, driven between the struts and the wales;
- b. Struts shall be placed on cleats spiked or bolted to the posts supporting the Wales.

11.6. LOOSE SITE MATERIALS:

No loose material shall be kept very close to the excavation creating possibility of its fall into the excavated area. A safe distance of at least 1 m shall be maintained.

11.7. PLANT & MACHINERY:

Movement of vehicles and heavy equipment shall be kept at a distance least equal to the depth of the excavation or at least 6 m for excavation deeper than 6 m and the workers shall be provided with proper tools.

11.8. MEANS OF ACCESS

- a. For trenches deeper than 1.5 m, safe means of access and egress shall be provided at intervals of every 15 m. Where it is not possible to provide safe means of access and egress as above, ladders shall extend from the bottom of the trench to at least 90 cm above the ground;
- b. Walkways, runways and sidewalks shall be kept clear of excavated materials or other obstructions and no side walls shall be undermined-undercut unless it is capable of carrying a minimum live load of 125 lbs per square feet;

- c. If planks are used for raising walkways, runways or sidewalks, they should be parallel to the length of the walk and fastened together against displacement;
- d. Lone worker shall not be allowed to work in the excavated area.

11.9. INSPECTIONS:

A competent person shall make inspections every day and necessary measures shall be taken to safeguard against possible cave-ins or slide or collapse of the excavations.

11.10. NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO CARRY OUT EXCAVATION AND TUNNELING WORK

- a. Within thirty days, prior to the commencement of such excavation or tunneling work, the contractor shall inform in writing the detailed layout plans, method of construction and schedule of such excavation or tunneling work to the Engineer in-charge of NTPC;
- b. In case compressed air is used in such excavation or tunneling work or any work incidental to or required for such excavation or tunneling work, the technical details and drawings of all man-locks and medical-locks together with names and addresses of all construction medical officers duly qualified and so appointed by such contractor for the purpose of such excavation or tunneling work shall be sent to the Engineer in-charge.

11.11. PROJECT ENGINEER

- a. The contractor undertaking any excavation or tunneling work shall appoint a Project Engineer for safe operation of such projects;
- b. Such Project Engineer shall exercise overall control of the operations and the activities at such project and be responsible for carrying out the activities safely.

11.12. RESPONSIBLE PERSON

- a. The contractor undertaking excavation or tunneling work at construction site of a building or other construction work shall appoint a responsible person for safe operation of such excavation or tunneling work;
- b. The name and addresses of such responsible persons shall be forwarded to the Engineer in-charge;
- c. Duties and responsibilities of the responsible person referred to above person shall include
 - i. To carry out smoothly such excavation or tunneling work;
 - ii. To inspect and rectify any hazardous situation relating to such excavation or tunneling work;
 - iii. To take remedial measures to avoid any unsafe practice or conditions relating to such excavation or tunneling work.

11.13. WARNING SIGNS AND NOTICES

- a. Suitable warning signs or notices, required for the safety of building workers carrying out the work of an excavation or tunneling, shall be displayed or erected at conspicuous places in Hindi

and in language understood by the majority of such building workers at such excavation or tunneling work;

- b. Such warning signs and notices with regard to compressed air working shall include:
 - i) The danger involved in such compressed air work;
 - ii) Fire and explosion hazards;
 - iii) The emergency procedures for rescue from such danger or hazards.

11.14. REGISTER OF EMPLOYMENT

- a. The contractor shall ensure that at a construction site of a building or other construction work where an excavation or tunneling work is being carried on, a register of employment of building workers carrying out such excavation or tunneling work is maintained and produced on demand;
- b. Periods of work of such excavation or tunneling work shall be maintained in a register on day-to-day basis and such register shall be produced on demand

11.15. ILLUMINATION

- a. All contractors carrying out excavation or tunneling work at a construction site of a building or other construction work shall provide for emergency generators on such construction site to ensure adequate illumination at all work places where such excavation or tunneling work is being carried out;
- b. In case of power failure, all workplaces where excavation or tunneling works are carried out shall be adequately illuminated

11.16. PNEUMATIC TOOLS:

Supply lines to pneumatic tools used within a tunnel are fitted with water trap or safety chain or safety wire, as the case may be.

11.17. STABILITY OF STRUCTURE DURING GENERAL EXCAVATION & TUNNELING:

The contractor shall ensure that where there is any doubt as to the stability of any structure adjoining the workplace or other areas to be excavated or where tunneling work is to be carried out –

- a. The Project Engineer shall arrange for measures like underpinning, sheet piling, shoring, bracing or other similar means to support such structure and to prevent injury to any building worker working adjacent to such structure or damage to property or equipment adjacent to such structure;
- b. Where any building worker engaged in excavation is exposed to hazard of falling or sliding material or article from any bank or side of such excavation which is more than 1.5 m above his footing, such worker shall be protected by adequate piling and bracing against such bank or side;

- c. The excavation and its vicinity shall be checked by a responsible person after every rain, storm or other occurrences carrying hazards and in case a hazard is noticed at such checking, adequate protection against slides and cave-in to prevent such hazard shall be provided;
- d. Temporary sheet piling installed for the construction of a retaining wall after excavation shall not be removed, except on the advice of the responsible person after an inspection carried out by such responsible person;
- e. Where banks of an excavation are undercut, adequate shoring shall be provided to support the material or article overhanging such bank;
- f. Excavated material shall not be stored at least 0.5 m from the edge of an open excavation or trench and the banks of such excavation or trench shall be stripped of loose rocks and other materials which may slide, roll or fall upon a building worker working below such bank;
- g. Adequate and suitable warning signs shall be put-up at conspicuous places at the excavation work to avoid any person falling into the excavations or trenches;
- h. The responsible person shall ensure at the excavation that no building worker is permitted to work where such building worker may be struck or endangered by the excavation machinery or material or article used in such excavation.

11.18. SAFE ACCESS AND EGRESS:

Ladders, staircases or ramps are provided, as the case may be, for safe access to and egress from excavation where the depth of such excavation exceeds one point 1.5 m and such ladders, staircases or ramps comply with the relevant national standards.

11.19. TRENCHES

- a. A trench or excavation shall be protected against falling of a person by suitable measures if the depth of such trench or excavation exceeds 1.5 m and such protection shall be an improved protection in accordance with the design and drawing of a Professional Engineer, where such depth exceeds 4 m;
- b. Where the depth of a trench requires two lengths of sheet piling, one above the other, the lower piling shall be set inside the bottom strings or wales of the upper piling and such sheet piling shall be driven down and braced as the excavation continues;
- c. All metal sheet piles used in excavation or a trench shall be welded end-to-end and secured by other similar means.

11.20. POSITIONING AND USE OF MACHINERY:

Any machinery used in excavation and tunneling work shall be positioned and operated in such a way that such machinery will not endanger the operator of such machinery or any other person in the vicinity.

11.21. BREATHING APPARATUS:

Suitable breathing apparatus shall be provided to a building worker while working in compressed air environment for his use at excavation or tunneling work and such breathing apparatus shall be maintained in good working condition at all times.

11.22. SAFETY MEASURES FOR TUNNELING OPERATIONS

- a. Where there is a danger of falling or sliding of material from the roof face or wall of a tunnel, adequate measures such as shoring, supporting by means of rock bolts, segments or steel sets shall be taken for the safety of building workers;
- b. The excavated areas shall be made safe by use of suitably designed and installed steel sets, rock bolts or similar other safe means;
- c. The responsible person shall examine and inspect the workplaces in a tunnel before the commencement of work in such tunnel and at regular intervals thereafter to ensure safety of the building workers in such tunnel;
- d. The portal areas of a tunnel with loose soil or rock, likely to cause injury to a person shall be adequately protected with supports.

11.23. SURROUNDINGS OF A SHAFT

- a. Surroundings of a shaft used in excavation or tunnel work shall be protected from being washed away by construction of sufficient height;
- b. Where a building worker is required to enter a shaft at an excavation or tunneling work, safe means of access shall be provided for such entry;
- c. Every shaft at excavation or tunneling work shall be provided with a steel casing, concrete piping, timber shoring or other materials of adequate strength for the safety of building workers working in such shaft;
- d. Such casing and bracing shall be provided to shafts at an excavation or tunneling work according to the appropriate design for such casing and bracing;
- e. A reinforced concrete raft and beam shall be provided around the opening of a shaft at an excavation or tunneling work if the ground surrounding such opening is unstable or unsafe.

11.24. LIFT FOR SHAFT:

Lift shall be provided for transport of building workers and materials or articles at an excavation or tunneling work required to descend more than 50 m in a shaft.

11.25. MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

Reliable and effective means of communication such as telephone or walkie-talkie shall be provided and maintained in working order for arranging better and effective communication at an excavation or tunneling work at the following locations, namely:

- i. Working chamber of an excavation;
- ii. Intervals of hundred meters along the tunnel;
- iii. Working chamber side of a man lock near the door of such man lock;
- iv. Interior or each chamber of a man lock;
- v. Location conspicuous lock attendant's situation;
- vi. A compressor plant;

- vii. A first-aid station, and
- viii. Outside the portal or the top of a shaft;
- ix. Such number of bells and whistles shall be made available at all times at the locations as are necessary for the safety of persons at such locations.

11.26. SIGNALS:

The standard audio or video signals shall be used in excavation or tunneling work and conspicuously located or displayed near entrance to the workplace and in such other locations as may be necessary to bring such signals to notice of all building workers employed in such excavation or tunneling work.

11.27. CLEARANCES

- a. The minimum lateral clearances of 0.5 m shall be maintained between any part of a vehicle and any fixture or any equipment used in an excavation or tunneling work after allowing the throw or swing of such fixture or equipment;
- b. The overhead clearance for a locomotive drive at excavation or tunneling work shall not be less than 1.20 m above the seat of such driver and not less than 2 m above the platform where such driver stands or of any other dimension in accordance with the approved standard.

11.28. SHELTERS:

The adequate number of shelters for the safeguard of the building workers are provided where, in the course of working, they are liable to be struck by a moving vehicle or other material handling equipment in a tunnel.

11.29. USE OF INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE:

No internal combustion engine shall be used underground in excavation or tunneling work unless such engine is so constructed that the air entering the engine gets cleared before entry and the engine emits no fumes or sparks.

11.30. INFLAMMABLE OILS:

Inflammable oils with the flash point below the working temperature that is likely to be encountered in a tunnel shall not be used in excavation or tunneling work.

11.31. COUPLING AND HOSES:

All high-pressure hydraulic hoses and couplings shall be adequately protected against any possible damage in excavation or tunneling work.

11.32. HOSE INSTALLATION:

All hydraulic lines and plants working at a temperature exceeding 750 c shall be protected by adequate insulation or otherwise against accidental human contact in excavation or tunneling work.

11.33. FIRE RESISTANT HOSES: