

Awareness-cum Training Workshop on **On-site Emergency Planning and Chlorine Safety**

Organized at Kymore, Dist. Katni (M.P.) on 04/01/2014 by
Emergency Response Centre, M. P. Pollution Control Board

A Note on the proceedings of the Workshop

The Emergency Response Centre, Bhopal, in coordination with Regional office, MPPCB, Katni and Jabalpur organized an awareness workshop, under its out-reach programme on "On-site Emergency Planning and Chlorine Safety" at conference hall of M/s Associated Cement Company Limited Kymore, Dist. Katni, Madhya Pradesh on 04th January 2014. The programme was aimed to create awareness among the industry personnel, district administration and the first responder groups regarding concept and importance of on-site emergency plan and preparedness for safe management of chlorine. The programme also served the objective to provide a platform to the industry people to interact with the leading technical experts in issues of their interest.

A total of 85 participants from various industries, first responders and the regulators attended and benefitted from the programme. Among the resource persons Shri H.S. Sehgal, Former Dy. DGM, M/s Gujarat Alkali & Chemicals Limited, Vadodara (who was also chief guest of the function), Shri TEC Vidyasagar, former Dy. Chief Inspector of Factories, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and Shri H.S. Das, Joint Director and Head, Health, Safety & Environment, Alkali Manufacturers' Association of India, New Delhi were present. Shri S.K. Dubey, General Manager, M/s A.C.C. Ltd. and other senior officials, viz. Shri Suresh Patel and Shri Mahendra Singh etc were also among the others present at the workshop.

The programme started with the lighting of ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest Shri H.S. Sehgal, Former Dy. General Manager, M/s Gujarat Alkali &

Chemicals Limited, Vadodara. This was followed by floral welcome of the dignitaries and welcome address by Shri R.S. Rathore, Plant Head and Director, M/s Associated Cement Company Limited, Kymore. While welcoming the guests, faculty members and delegates Shri Rathore praised the idea of conducting awareness activity for industry and other target groups at such small industrial area like Kymore and urged the participants to take full advantage of this occasion. He appreciated the concept of 'out-reach' programme to reach out to the people at their work places to make them aware and help them to appreciate the importance of on-site emergency planning and safe handling & management of hazardous chemicals to prevent the chemical accidents.

Dr. Gunwant Joshi, Chief Chemist and Head of Emergency Response Centre, in his opening remarks, explained the need of organizing such out-reach programme and highlighted the importance of on-site emergency planning in dealing with the chemical emergencies and also gave a brief introduction about ERC. He presented the aims, objectives and functions of ERC. The participants were also apprised about the strengths that ERC possess to assist the target groups in times of chemical crisis situation. The participants were also briefed about the operation and functioning of ERC and how the industry people and other relevant groups can take the benefit of ERC's facilities.

The special guest of the function Shri Shiv Govind Markam, S.D.M., Vijayraghavgarh, Dist. Katni urged that the safety is responsibility not only of the Government departments or industry people but it is a collective responsibility of every individual in the society and therefore should be taken in the right spirit. He congratulated the organizers and wished the programme a grand success.

The chief guest of the function, Shri H.S. Sehgal highlighted the issue and stressed the need to observe the environment and safety related aspects at

industrial installations, specially at places where chlorine is used . He also stressed on the importance of the safety and high level of preparedness to avoid the chemical accidents culminating into disasters. He asked the industries to avail full benefits of this workshop and share freely all their concerns with the ERC and the MPPCB in order to prevent and control chemical accidents in the national interest.

The Vote of Thanks was extended by Shri P.R. Deo, Regional Officer, M.P. Pollution Control Board, Katni. In his address he appealed the audience to carry the message of safe practices to their works and requested the industries to adopt the safe practices in their own industrial installations by implementing the lessons learnt at the workshop. He thanked the dignitaries, all the expert resource persons and distinguished guests present on the occasion.

The technical programme was divided into two sessions, the first comprising of two lectures and the second technical session comprising one technical deliberation followed by Question-Answer session and interaction with the experts.

The 1st technical session was opened with the deliberation by Shri TEC Vidyasagar, Hyderabad. He deliberated on 'On-site planning for effective emergency response' and highlighted the components that are essentially needed to prepare an effective on-site emergency plan. He elaborated statutory as well as corporate importance of on-site emergency plan (OSEP) and explained its various components which need to be essentially considered while preparing the same. The OSEP preparation and its regular evaluation was also explained to the participants in detail. While talking about chemical emergencies, He also illustrated with the help of case studies, various types of industrial emergencies that may occur in sectors such as petrochemical plants, chemical industries, pharmaceutical units, textile establishments etc. and their probable consequences.

This was followed by presentation by other expert guest speaker Shri H.S. Das who deliberated on 'Case Studies on Chlorine Hazard and Chlorine Network in the Country'. He made an effective presentation on chlorine emergency response network that has been established in the country to promptly respond to the chlorine accidents in order to minimize possible damage to the people and the environment. The network consists of 32 units and equal number of sub-units, grouped region-wise in four different regions, in the country for the benefit of manufacturers, consumers, transporters, local administration, police and general public. All the networked units are well connected through dedicated telephones including Tata Walky telephones, besides a Pan-India Toll free telephone number 1800-11-1735 which is connected with the chlorine emergency response units. The reporting protocol of chlorine accidents, emergency action by AMAI, role of transporters and chlorine consumers etc. were also presented before the participants.

Shri Das also presented few case studies related with chlorine hazards and covered all the aspects including the cause of incident, observations and the recommendations. The recurrence of chlorine accidents can be minimized if one takes note of the causes and stick to the recommendations made by Shri Das in the case studies.

The second technical session started with the presentation by Shri H.S. Sehgal who deliberated on 'Safe Handling, Management and Containment of Chlorine'. He discussed the basic and fundamental issues related with safe management of chlorine while handling by manufacturers, consumers and transporters. Various parts of a tonner, their safety standards, handling protocol at the time of storage, transportation and leakage were also covered in the presentation. General precautions and the complex technicalities involved in the chlorine handling were also explained. Technical queries from participants were also responded during the session.

The experts and the participants praised the idea to conduct such training programmes at industrial sectors to extend the opportunity to more people to attend and take benefit from it. They also felt the need of such programmes on regular basis in other pockets of the State for wider awareness. The feedback received from the participants indicated their keen interests in such training and awareness programmes. Few delegates advocated the need to cover other hazardous chemicals like ammonia etc. Demand was made that specific programme for process based industries should also be planned looking to the presence of major units in the State like M/s BORL, M/s GAIL, M/s NFL etc.

A quite comprehensive and relevant course literature, compiled by ERC, including material safety data sheets of over 1000 chemicals, international chemical safety card of nearly the same number of chemicals, poison monographs, antidote information, first-aid info, environmental laws, analytical methods of some toxic pollutants, general safety guidelines, info on emergency planning, document on Chlorine Emergency Response Network and chlorine safety etc were distributed to the participants in the form of C.D. The Pan-India (chlorine emergency response network) and drinking water chlorination information was also provided to the delegates as part of awareness.

The programme was concluded with the distribution of the Certificates of Participation to the participants and ended with thanks to the Chair, dignitaries and the participants by Shri P.R. Deo, Regional Officer, Katni, Shri Khare, Scientist, M.P. Pollution Control Board, Jabalpur and Shri Manoj Jain, ERC, Bhopal who put in sincere endeavour and great efforts to make the event successful. Dr. Rajendra Chaturvedi, Scientist, ERC conducted the programme.

----- .. ----- .. ----- .. -----



Dignitaries on Dias (*above*) and Opening Ceremony (*below*) during the Workshop





Technical Session in Progress



Awareness-cum-Training Workshop on
On-site Emergency Planning and Chlorine Safety
Saturday, 04th January 2014

Venue – Conference Hall, M/s. A.C.C. Limited, Kymore, Dist. Katni (M.P.)

| |
|--------------------|
| Programme Schedule |
|--------------------|

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---|
| 09.00 - 09.45 a.m | REGISTRATION | |
| 09.45 - 10.45 a.m | Inaugural Session | |
| 09.45 - 09.55 a.m. | Welcome address | Shri R.S. Rathore, Plant Head & Director, M/s A.C.C. Limited, Kymore |
| 09.55 - 10.10 a.m. | Opening Remarks and ERC Overview | Dr. Gunwant Joshi, Chief Chemist, Emergency Response Centre, MPPCB, Bhopal |
| 10.10 - 10.25 a.m. | Address from the Guest of honour | Shri Shiv Govind Markam, S.D.M., Vijayraghavgarh, District Katni |
| 10.25 - 10.35 a.m. | Address by the Chief Guest | Shri H.S. Sehgal, Former DGM, M/s GACL, Vadodara, Gujarat |
| 10.35 - 10.40 a.m. | Vote of Thanks | Shri P.R. Deo, Regional Officer, M.P. Pollution Control Board , Katni |
| 10.40 - 11.00 a.m | High Tea | |
| | <u>Technical Session I & Discussion</u> | |
| 11.00 - 01.00 p.m | 1. "Significance of On-site Emergency Planning in Industrial Safety " by Shri TEC Vidyasagar, Former Dy. Chief Inspector of Factories, Govt of A.P. | |
| 01.00 - 02.15 p.m | 2. "Case Studies on Chlorine Hazard and Chlorine Network in the Country – An Overview", by Shri H.S. Das, Joint Director & Head HSE, AMAI, New Delhi | |
| 02.15 - 02.45 p.m | Lunch Break | |
| | <u>Technical Session II & Discussion</u> | |
| 02.45 - 05.15 p.m | "Safe Handling, Management & Containment of Chlorine" by Shri H.S. Sehgal, Former DGM, M/s Gujarat Alkali & Chemicals Ltd., Vadodara | |
| 05.15 – 05.45 pm | Panel Discussion (Regional Officer, MPPCB, Jabalpur and Katni, Dy. Director, DIHS, GoMP, Head E.R.C. and Faculty Members) & Valedictory Session. | |

Organised by : Emergency Response Centre, M.P. P.C.B., Bhopal
Ph. : 0755-2469180, 2466191 Fax : 075-2463742, E.mail - ercmpcb@nic.in, Web : www.ercmp.nic.in