CIRCULAR


We are aware that lock down is implemented throughout the country owing to COVID-19 pandemic and in a bid to start up of the industries as, when and where Government permits, it is hereby cautioned that extreme precautions must be taken to ensure that no untoward incident takes place jeopardizing safety of men, machinery and public.

In view of the above and in the interest of industries Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) hereby recommends following guidelines in public interest for all the industries involved in storage and handling of compressed gases while restarting their industries after lock down.

1. Strictly follow the provisions of Static and Mobile pressure vessels Rules and conditions of the license. Do not deviate for any reason.
2. Fire fighting facilities, and addressing any toxic leakage must be assessed and prior to starting up plant must be in readiness mode.
3. During the lock down period if danger of toxicity or leakage of flammable substance exists please do not leave the premises unattended. And take all precaution to address that storage parameters are maintained within safe range.
4. Implement written operating procedures for start up after shutdown. The procedure must be thoroughly reviewed and must include complete detail prior to implementation.
5. Do not bypass critical safety equipments namely Safety Relief Valves, Excess flow valves, drain lines and control valves. Re-check if any valve is passing, mark for close and in open position as may be necessary.
6. Level gauges pressure gauges. Alarms, scrubber system and automation equipments must be maintained and calibrated.
7. Inspect and check each pipeline for proper functionality w.r.t physical parameters and leakages and test/purge with inert gas wherever required.
8. Check the physical parameters as may be necessary for start up and ensure that these are within safe range.

9. Do not involve apprentices and unskilled labors while start up. Sensitize the experienced and skilled labors and inform the dangers associated while start up with comprehensive check list. Only necessary and vital work force be allowed to be present.

10. Examine the process raw material, intermediates and products for toxicity, corrosiveness and working/ design pressure. Take necessary precautions in view of safety of plant as well as anticipated risk to public outside the premises.

11. Wherever possible simulate, have a dry run/mock drill with non toxic and nonflammable gases. Make inert atmosphere wherever necessary.

12. Start up procedures be started only in the morning hours and verify that employees are in the right and safe state of mind.

13. Take extreme precautions while handling/ processing toxic and inflammable gases. Monitor wind speed and direction on daily basis and ensure that adequate Personal protective equipments are available.

14. Any unsafe conditions prior to start up/accidents and near misses shall mandatorily be reported to explosives@exploosives.gov.in and to mkjihala@exploosives.gov.in Nearest police station and concerned district magistrate may also be intimated.

15. Be safe while start up. Do not hurry. Cost of delay is miniscule in comparison to human lives.

Jt. Chief Controller of Explosives & HOD