

13.0. SAFETY IN THE ERECTION, USE AND DISMANTLING OF SCAFFOLDS

13.1. SCAFFOLD CONSTRUCTION

- a. Every scaffold and every component thereof shall be of adequate construction, made of sound material and free from defects and safe for the purposes for which it is intended for use;
- b. In case bamboo is used for scaffolding, such bamboo shall be of suitable quality, good condition, free from protruding knots and stripped off to avoid any injury to building workers during handling such bamboo;
- c. All metal scaffolds used in building or other construction work shall conform to the approved standards;

13.2. SUPERVISION BY A RESPONSIBLE PERSON: No scaffold shall be erected, added, altered or dismantled except under the supervision of a responsible person.

13.3. Maintenance

- a. The scaffold used in building or other construction work shall be maintained in good repairs and the measures taken against its accidental displacement or any other hazard;
- b. No scaffold or part thereof shall be partly dismantled and allowed to remain in such a condition unless –
 - i) The stability or safety of the remaining portion of such scaffold has been ensured by a responsible person for the safety of such scaffolds;
 - ii) In case the remaining part of such scaffold cannot be used by the building workers, necessary warning notice written in Hindi and in a language understood by the majority of the building workers that such scaffold is unfit for use, shall be displayed at the place where such scaffold is erected.

13.4. STANDARDS, LEDGERS, PUTLOGS

- a. Standards of a scaffold shall be plumb, where practicable, fixed sufficiently close together to secure the stability of such scaffold having regard to all the possible working situations and conditions for the intended use of such scaffold, spaced, as close as practicable, to ensure safety and stability of such scaffold;
- b. Adequate measures are taken to, prevent displacement of a standard of a scaffold either by providing sole plate or a base plate, as necessary;
- c. Ledgers of metal scaffold are placed at vertical intervals with due regard to safety and stability of such scaffold;
- d. Bamboo ledgers are kept as nearly as possible and are placed and fastened to the standards of a scaffold with due regard to the stability of such scaffold.

13.5. WORKING PLATFORM

- a. Working platform shall be provided around the face or edge of a building adjoining at every upper most permanent floor of such building under construction and at any level where construction work of such building is carried out;
- b. A platform shall be designed to suit the number of building workers to be employed on each bay of a scaffold work on such platform and the materials or articles and tools to be carried with them in such bay;
- c. The safe working load and the number of building workers to be employed in each bay of a scaffold shall be displayed for the information of all the building workers employed at such construction site.

13.6. BOARD, PLANK AND DECKING

- a. Board, plank and decking used in the construction of a working platform shall be of uniform size and strength and shall be capable of supporting the load and number of building workers keeping in view the safety of such building workers;
- b. Metal decking, which forms part of a working platform, shall be provided with non-skid surface;
- c. No board or plank which forms the working platform shall be projected beyond its end support unless it is effectively prevented from tripping or lifting and board, plank or decking shall be fastened and secured;
- d. At any one time, not more than two working platforms per bay, shall be used to support building workers or materials or articles at such bay;
- e. Adequate measures shall be taken to prevent injury which may be caused by falling material and objects by using safety nets or other suitable means;
- f. Concrete, other debris or materials shall not be allowed to accumulate at any platform on a scaffold;
- g. Where a work is to be done at the end of a wall, working platform at such workplace shall be faced or, wherever practicable, at least 0.6 m beyond the end of such wall.

13.7. REPAIR OF DAMAGED SCAFFOLD

- a. No building worker shall be permitted to work on a scaffold that has been damaged or weakened unless adequate safety measures have been taken to ensure the safety of such building worker;
- b. Necessary warning signs shall be displayed at such places where repairs of scaffold are undertaken.

13.8. OPENING

- a. There shall be no opening in any working platform except for allowing access to such working platform;
- b. Wherever opening on a platform is unavoidable, necessary measures for protection against falling of objects or building workers from such platform shall be taken by providing suitable safety nets, belts or any other similar means;
- c. Access from one working platform to another platform on a scaffold, if required, shall be provided with suitable and safe ladder for the use of building workers working on such platforms;

- d. Every opening or shaft in the floor shall be provided with suitable means to protect the fall of a person or material by providing suitable fencing or railing of height not less than 900 mm.

13.9. GUARDRAILS: Every side of a working platform from which a person is liable to fall shall be provided with suitable and safe guardrails and toe board of adequate strength to prevent fall of any building worker, material or tools from such platform.

13.10. SCAFFOLD USED BY BUILDING WORKERS OF DIFFERENT EMPLOYERS

- a. Where a scaffold or a part of a scaffold is used, which has previously been used by another employer for his building workers, such scaffold or part thereof shall be used only after its inspection and examination by a responsible person for ensuring that such scaffold or part thereof is safe and fit for such use;
- b. If any rectification, alteration or modification in a scaffold or part thereof, needed to suit its use, shall be made in consultation with the responsible person.

13.11. PROTECTION AGAINST ELECTRIC POWER LINE:

The contractor shall ensure that all necessary and practical measures for protection are taken to prevent any building worker, working on a scaffold, from coming into contact with the electric wires or dangerous equipment.

13.12. SCREENING NET AND WIRE NETS:

Where a scaffold is erected in an area where the construction activities may pose hazards to pedestrians or vehicular traffic nearby from the falling of objects, wire nets or screening nets shall be used to envelope such scaffold.

13.13. TOWER SCAFFOLD

- a. The height of every tower scaffold used in building or other construction work shall not be more than eight times the lesser to the base dimension of such scaffold;
- b. A tower scaffold shall be lashed to a building or a fixed structure before being used by the building workers;
- c. Any tower scaffold which can be moved or castered shall be –
 - i) Constructed with due regard to the stability and, if necessary, adequately weighted at the base;
 - ii) Used only on plain and even surface; and
 - iii) Has casters provided with positive locking devices to hold such scaffold in position;
- d. No building worker shall remain on board scaffold or leave behind tools and material when it is being shifted from one position to another position.

13.14. GEAR FOR SUSPENSION OF SCAFFOLD

- a. Chains, ropes or lifting gears used for suspension of a scaffold shall be of adequate strength, made of sound material and suitable for the purpose of their use and maintained in good repairs;
- b. Chains, wires, ropes or metal tubes used for the suspension of a scaffold shall be:

- i) Properly and securely fastened to every anchorage point and to the scaffold ledgers of other main supporting members used for the support of such scaffold; and
- ii) So positioned as to ensure stability of the scaffold.

13.15. TRESTLE SCAFFOLD AND CANTILEVER SCAFFOLD

- a. No trestle scaffold shall be constructed with more than three tiers or if its working platform is more than 4.5 m above the ground or floor or other surface upon which such scaffold is erected;
- b. Trestle scaffold shall be designed by professional engineer and shall have the approval of the Engineer in-charge before being taken into use.
- c. No trestle scaffold shall be erected on a suspended scaffold;
- d. No cantilever or jib scaffold shall be used unless it is adequately supported, fixed and anchored on opposite side of its support and have out triggers of adequate length and, where necessary sufficiently, supported and braced to ensure safety and stability of such scaffold;
- e. No working platform resting on bearers let into a wall at one end and without other support shall be used unless such bearers are of adequate strength, braced through the wall and securely fastened on the other side.

13.16. SCAFFOLD SUPPORTED BY BUILDING

- a. No part of a building shall be used as support or part of a scaffold unless such part of the building is made of sufficient strength and made of sound material to afford safe support;
- b. Overhanging eaves gutters shall not be used for supporting scaffold;
- c. Suspended scaffold shall be made of in accordance with the approved standards before being used by the building workers.

13.17. USE OF WINCHES AND CLIMBERS FOR SUSPENDED SCAFFOLD

- a. No scaffold shall be raised or lowered by winches or climbers unless such scaffold is made of sound material, adequate strength and has been tested and certified safe for use of winches or climber by a competent person before being taken into use;
- b. All suspended scaffolds counter-balanced by counter weights shall be of approved types before being taken into use for building or other construction work;
- c. The working platform of a suspended scaffold shall be securely fastened to the building or structure as to be safe and to prevent such platform from swing;
- d. The safe working load that a suspended scaffold can carry, shall be displayed where such scaffold is being used

13.18. SAFETY DEVICES FOR SUSPENDED SCAFFOLD

- a. Every suspended scaffold, raised or lowered by the winches or climbers, shall be provided at each of its suspension point with a safety rope with automatic safety device mounted on each of such rope so that such safety rope with such automatic safety device support the platform of such

scaffold in the event of failure of the primary suspension wire ropes, winches, climbers or any part of the mechanism used for raising or lowering such suspended scaffold;

b. Provided that the clause (a) shall not apply -

- i) Where the platform of such scaffold is supported at two independent suspension wire rope at or near each end of such platform so that in the event of failure of one of such suspension wire rope, the other wire rope is capable of sustaining the weights of such platform and its load and prevent it from tilting; or
- ii) Where a system is incorporated which operates automatically to support the platform of such scaffold and its load in the event of failure of the primary suspension wire rope of such scaffold.