Buildings Department

Practice Note for Authorized Persons and Registered Structural Engineers

210

Amendments and Clarification to Code of Practice for the Provision of Means of Escape in Case of Fire 1996

This practice note is to announce the following amendments to paragraph 14(3)(b) of the Code of Practice for the Provision of Means of Escape in Case of Fire 1996 in order to clarify the interpretation relating to travel distance involving 'dead-end' situation:

The original paragraph 14(3)(b) should be deleted and substituted by -

"Where the direction of travel from an exit door of a room to a staircase or a point of discharge to a street or to an open area at ground level complying with paragraph 8.2, as the case may be, is possible in one direction only (i.e. dead-end), no point of a room should be more than 18m (i.e. the sum of direct distance and travel distance) from an exit or from a point, from which travel in different directions to 2 or more exits is available. In the latter case, the maximum distance to one of the exits should not exceed the limitations on direct distance and travel distance stipulated in paragraph 14."

2. The above amendments would be incorporated in the next reprint of the Code.

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Index under: Code of Practice for, Means of Escape