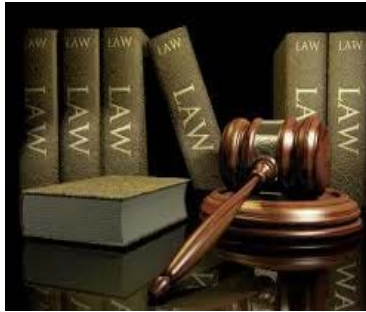


Safety and Health at Work Act, 2005

SHaW at a Glance



- ❖ Applies to all workplaces except the military, armed forces, domestic service in private households, some aspects of work done on board ships.
- ❖ Safety and Health Officers will be able to issue improvement and prohibition notices where they observe conditions that are not in keeping with the provisions of the SHaW Act.
- ❖ Safety and Health Officers will have the right to enter unannounced and inspect at all reasonable times any premises which they have reasonable cause to believe are workplaces covered by the Act.
- ❖ Safety and Health Committees should be established or Safety Delegates selected to assist the employer in managing OSH issues at the workplace.
- ❖ Employers have a duty to appropriately cater to employees with special needs, such as persons with disabilities. Fire alarms need to be visible and audible.
- ❖ Employees as well as their representatives on safety committees and trade unions, have the right to access health and safety information and copies of all reports relating to workplace safety and health conditions and the environment.
- ❖ Employers are required to conduct risk assessments; this should be done prior to introducing any new material, article, equipment or process. This duty is also extended to any person who undertakes the design, importation or manufacture of any article for use at work.
- ❖ Adequate arrangements should be made to respond to emergencies, a sufficient number of persons should be trained in first aid where necessary; all workplaces should have a well-stocked first aid kit in accordance with the approved list; fire drills should be carried out and persons should be trained in the use of fire extinguishers.
- ❖ It is recommended that organisations obtain a copy of the Act from the Government Printing Department, Bay Street, St. Michael.

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