

TEST

MRSE 2573 Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Management

QUESTION 1

- (a) An employer of a Malaysian telecommunication company (telco) has a legal duty to ensure the safety, health and welfare of his employees. Identify and explain the duty of the employer under the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1994.

(8 marks)

- (b) The appointment of a Safety and Health Officer is an obligation of the employer in certain class or description of industries (as prescribed under Section 29 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1994). Discuss any FIVE (5) duties of a Safety and Health Officer working in a telecommunication company.

(10 marks)

QUESTION 2

A company based in Penang which assembled PCB based has been operating for the past 7 years with 1000 employees. In 2010, two accidents occurred:

- First accident: One employee had the front portion of the finger (right hand) severed during a mechanical assembly process.
- Second accident: Another employee accidentally stucked his hand in a conveyor belt during a maintenance process.

The cases were not reported to DOSH and no claim was done under PERKESO. It appears that the company does not have a safe working environment or a safety policy in their workplace.

- (a) Describe the roles and responsibilities of the employer and employees in ensuring a safe and healthy workplace.

(8 marks)

- (b) Explain ways to improve the safety awareness to the workers.

(10 marks)

- (c) Suggest the safety measures to be implemented in preventing accidents from recurring.

(9 marks)

QUESTION 3

Occupational Safety and Fire Investigation:

Company ABC (M) Bhd is a manufacturing plant. In the process of Mr. Chandran transporting toxic chemicals with a fork-lift, the chemical drums fell and the chemicals flowed out onto the factory floor. A welding maintenance job carried out nearby created a spark which initiated a fire from the spill chemicals in the factory. The whole factory was burned to the ground in 50 minutes. Mr. Fadzil, the Production Supervisor, was injured from the fire since he did not get out of the burning factory in time. Ms Siti, a factory worker, in a state of panic due to the fire injured her hand in a production equipment at her work place. Mr. Pairat, a foreign general worker, tried to offer first-aid to Ms. Siti's hand however he used the wrong medicine thus making the wound of Ms Siti's hand even worse and more painful.

Facts from Investigation:

- The fork-lift machine involved in the incident was rented from AKT Company. The mentioned fork-lift was not installed with any safety devices such as alarms. Mr Chandran is a contract worker who has just started work for only one week at AKT Company; and had not attended any safety induction courses whatsoever.
- The toxic chemicals and other types of chemicals were imported from an African country via their agent in Thailand. The chemical containers were not attached with any labelling and warning stickers.
- Mr. Fadzil, who was hurt in the fire, did not know how to put out a fire even though he has been working in this factory for 15 years.
- Ms Siti is a temporary staff waiting for her SPM examination results.
- The contract welding staff from WEL Engineering has been commissioned to carry out maintenance work by the ABC Company's Factory Manager. However no 'Permit to Work' directive for this job was ever issued by the Senior Management of ABC Company.
- Mr. Pairat was never trained in First-Aid.

(a) From the above facts as outcome of the investigation; assess and discuss the rationale of your opinion on who is guilty, and in which instances, corresponding to the various 6 facts obtained from the point of view of the OSHA Act and Malaysian Law.

(8 marks)

(b) As the company's Safety Officer, offer your opinion and recommendations on what needs to be done so that this unfortunate incident does not happen again.

(7 marks)