

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 14 December 2006 (Thursday)
Time : 1500 hours
Venue : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

Matters Discussed in the Meeting :

1. Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap. 572

HAD had decided to withdraw the proposal of empowering OCs to borrow from the Government on behalf of the defaulting owners to carry out statutory repair works from the Building Management (Amendment) Bill 2005, having regard to the many problems associated with the proposal and the availability of other loan and grant schemes to assist eligible OCs and owners. The concerned Bills Committee agreed in its meeting on 7.12.2006 that such empowering provision should be withdrawn. SB would thence consult the Panel on Security before appointing a date for commencing FS(B)O. A pamphlet of “An introduction to the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap.572” was tabled for members’ advance information.

2. Proposed New Arrangements for the Submission of Fire Service Installation Drawings for New Development

A working group would be established shortly to work out the details of providing a help desk service instead of going through Stage I FSI drawing submission. The agreed arrangement would be promulgated in FSD Circular Letter in due course.

3. Fire Protection Measures in Construction Sites of Super Highrise Buildings

A meeting among stakeholders would be arranged shortly to discuss on the implementation details.

4. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs

The Meeting noted that the Graphical Symbol Exit Signs Sub-working Group agreed in its meeting that three instead of two types of graphical symbol exit sign would be adopted for buildings in future. The details of the endorsed design and its implementation arrangement would be promulgated in FSD Circular Letter in due course.

5. Uncollected General Building Plans in FSD

Legal advices on the procedures for disposal of prolonged uncollected plans were being sought and FSD would inform the trade of the detailed arrangement as soon as possible.

6. Premature Submission of FSI/501 by FSIC

The Meeting noted that the irregularities due to pre-mature submission had been greatly reduced.

7. Staircase Pressurization System

FSD would soon conduct a seminar jointly with the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) in early 2007 for experience sharing in respect of the topic of staircase pressurization system.

8. Design of Fuel Tank Room

It was considered technically difficult to lay down generic requirements for fuel tank room. However, FSD would prepare a "Dos" and "Don'ts" list and which would be posted onto the FSD homepage once available.

9. Uploading of Brief Notes of Meeting onto FSD Homepage

The gist of last meeting had been uploaded onto FSD homepage.

10. Inspection Standard and Arrangement for Sprinkler Installation before completion of false ceiling for complying with LPC Rules

There was concern on the inspection standards of FSD towards the sprinkler installations under false ceiling while the false ceiling was still incomplete. It was proposed that the inspection on sprinkler installations under such circumstances should be treated as system without false ceiling. When the installation was fully completed in the course of fitting out work after issuance of Fire Certificate, current procedures of FSI/314A should be adopted to cover the alteration works and then to update the record plan of FSD as well. The AP representatives would look into the proposal and forward their comments to FSD.

11. Provision of Mobile Phone Antennae and CCTV Cameras inside Exit Staircases and Protected Exit Routes

Some showed concern on that the current FSD requirements did not allow any services installation other than fire service installations inside protected staircases and exit routes. However, provision of mobile phone antennae and CCTV cameras in these protected areas would facilitate calling for help and rescue operation in case of emergency.

Indeed, FSD had no objection to the proposal provided that these provisions :

- (i) should comply with the Code of Practice of Fire Resisting Construction;
- (ii) would not reduce the effective width of MOE; and
- (iii) would not cause any obstruction to FSI/ equipment such as sprinkler heads.

The trade would approach BD to look into the details separately.

12. Zoning of Fire Alarms

Members' attention was drawn to the paragraph 4.1 and 4.3 of Part VIII, FSD Circular Letter 4/96 regarding the zoning of operation of manual fire alarms. In particular, for sprinklered commercial buildings and hotel buildings, manual fire alarms on actuation were to sound on the floor below and two floors above the floor involved. The AP representatives' views on this subject would be welcomed.

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