

**Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between Fire Services Department (FSD)**  
**and the Authorized Persons (APs)**

**Date** : 15 February 2023 (Wednesday)  
**Time** : 1600 hours

\*Video conference was conducted

**Matters Discussed in the Meeting :**

1. **General Building Plan (GBP) Submission and FSI Acceptance Inspection**

**Performance Indicators**

The figures related to the performance indicators for GBP processed and FSI acceptance inspection for New Projects Division, Airport Expansion Project Division and Railway Development Strategy Division were presented. APs had no comment on the performance indicators presented.

**Repeated Irregularities Found in GBP Submission / during Acceptance Inspection**

A number of repeated irregularities noted in recent GBP submissions and acceptance inspections:

- ◆ Amendments made in previous submissions were not incorporated in the latest submission;
- ◆ The current version of Codes of Practice for GBP new submission w.e.f. 1.9.2022 was not observed;
- ◆ The following updated standards were not applied in FS Notes-
  - ◇ Sprinkler Installation – 5/2020 for BS EN 12845:2015 (w.e.f. 1.1.2021)
  - ◇ Emergency lighting – 4/2021 for BS 5266-1:2016 (w.e.f. 1.1.2022)
  - ◇ Fire Detection and Fire Alarm System – 6/2021 for BS 5839-1:2017 (w.e.f. 1.1.2022); and
- ◆ Recessed and concealed sprinklers should not be used in the areas with fast response type sprinkler provision.

2. **Car Parking Facilities with Automated Parking System**

While response from BD on the information paper was still pending, RtoC documents to other government departments were prepared and would be circulated in due course. Meanwhile, Stage 2 of consultation exercise for stakeholders would commence shortly.

3. **Review on Fire Safety Requirements for Car Ports**

The consultation exercise among relevant stakeholders and government departments was completed. As such, a Circular Letter for promulgation of the additional fire safety requirement i.e. sprinkler system for car ports with total floor area exceeding 230m<sup>2</sup> would be issued soon.

4. **Review of FSI Code (2012)**

The translation of Chinese version of the new Code of Practice was underway and it was expected to be issued in mid-2023.

The Chairman thanked APs for their support and valuable comments throughout the review.

5. **Enquiries from AP on GBP Submission**

In response to a member's enquiry regarding the hose reel (HR) requirement for lift pit, it was advised that a PNAP APP-29 was issued by BD to promulgate the amendments to the 2011 Lift Code in September 2019. One of the amendments in paragraph 3.8.2 included the requirement that an access door leading to a stair should be provided to the pit if the pit depth exceeded 2m. As such, all FSI provisions including HR, if any, should be extended from the area connecting to the access solely for the lift pit to cover those access areas.

In response to a member's enquiry on whether the approval process for GBP involving DG stores could be streamlined, it was advised that while FSD, as always, endeavoured every effort to facilitate the trade in the processing of GBP, accurate and up-to-standard submissions should always come first and foremost in the approval process. As far as plans with DG storage facilities were concerned, case officers of the Dangerous Goods Control Division very often might contact the AP directly for enquiries and clarifications in order to streamline the process. As a

general practice, should minor discrepancies, which could be rectified instantly, were noted and if the case officers considered practicable, the AP concerned would be invited to make rectification.

The Chairman supplemented that following the implementation of improvement measures for processing of GBP in 2014, continuous efforts were made to streamline and enhance plan processing procedures. He welcomed the AP concerned to provide more details in relation to the specific case referred to in the enquiry for further discussion.

6. **Voluntary Recognition Scheme for FSI Technicians**

In response to a member's enquiry regarding the Voluntary Recognition Scheme (VRS) for FSI Technicians, it was advised that eligible FSI practitioners could apply to become a recognized FSI Technician after completing prerequisite trainings organized by FSD and Recognized Training Providers. A register providing a list of recognized FSI Technicians with their recognized FSI categories would be maintained and uploaded to FSD homepage periodically for easy verification by RFSICs and other organizations. FSI practitioners were welcome to join the scheme on a voluntary basis.