OPERATIVE MEASURES FOR MECHANICAL PRODUCTION AFTER RELAXING THE LOCKDOWN IN PANDEMIC SITUATION

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ABSTRACT

The main aim of this paper is to visualize the existing operative practices of the mankind in the mechanical production and analysing the various SOPs and advisories given by the Government, its functionaries and other bodies. These types of accidents and mishappening that are takes place there and then expresses the operatives' ignorance and negligence in the duty in the production process which leads to huge loss for their family, company and country. For minimising or avoiding accidents in the restarting the business or mechanical operations after suspending the operation due to pandemic situation is not an easy a task like in other situations. It requires various processes to undergone for inspecting the trustworthiness of the machines and materials. However, this article mainly assisting the operatives for saving their lives and protecting other lives from industrial accidents and danger.

KEYWORDS: Standard Operative Procedures (SOPs), Advisories, Negligence, Mechanical Operations

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INTRODUCTION

This Paper mainly protects the operatives' personal life and safeguarding outside environment by constantly insisting to the operatives for familiarizing the new way of life with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and observes Standard Operative Procedures given by the Government, Ministries and employer of the firm. Prevention better then cure is leads to solve all sorts of problem in personal and mechanical life. Since Novel Corona virus Covid-19 is new to the world community and also, we don't have any vaccines and medicines for that so far, the concerned State and Government are making protective steps by implementing different levels of lock down across the world. But it mayn't good for industrial economy and national economy. Most of the operatives of the country are depending on their livelihoods which is the result of the industrial production alone. Others were jointly engaged with family business or family farming in their hamlets. So, control over such people is very difficult because more than 4 crore migrant worker is in India (as per 2011 Census of India) i.e., 70 percent of population are under migrant category. Their livelihood is depending with only their wages, they mayn't afford to other expenses including medical, education and other domestic expenses. The government has to extend the support for reconstructing vigorous, powerful and high-spirited India by inclusion this energetic young workforce in coming days. This article is an eye opening for all the stake holders of the country's development. And removing myths and misconceptions in the mindset of such stake holders and being a part of the country's progress and development, they require to actively renunciation of such blocks in their mind and promote active developments in all fields and construct the renowned nation in the world.

BACK GROUND OF THE STUDY

COVID-19 affects all sections of the society particularly the vulnerable sections of the community such as daily operatives, wage workers, construction workers, agricultural labours and all migrant labour in the society. The worst affected people are operatives, migrant workers, and homeless people. The entire informal sector livelihood has become standstill. Government with its department and authorities has been implementing disaster management actions and controlling measures of such pandemic diseases in best of their ability. Civil society Organisations such as NGOs, trade unions, grass root volunteer movements, residential associations, Panchayat Raj Institutions will be reaching the community in their own style with available resources. Even companies also sharing the government responsibility to provide certain measures for coming out this endanger situations which never facing by any one nation. At the time of Scandinavian Flu in 1920. In India it was called as Bombay Flu 1920-21, including our freedom fighters and leaders at that time were severely affected in that flu including our father of nation Mahatma Gandhiji has also recovered even we didn't have medicine and that much awareness what we have right now. Some companies are paid the full wages and salaries to their workers and employees during lockdown period in most of the areas, the country is owing to these people for their dedicated sacrifice during the pandemic period. Some were contributed under social responsibility and corporate social responsibility scheme to Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund (PMCARES) to caters the situation for sharing the burden of the Government for fighting against this COVID-19 during pandemic situations. After reopening of the lockdown some companies are having difficulties to run its operations without regular audit in the plant. Some plants were facing mis happenings and accidents at the time of inspections/audit. So, this study is more vital to cater the present situation and bring some remedial measures for the betterment of the all the deserved sections of the society.

MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTION

According to *Encyclopaedia of Britannica*, the word '*myth*' means a symbolic narrative, usually of unknown origin and at least partly traditional, that ostensibly relates actual events and that is especially associated with religious belief. It is distinguished from symbolic behaviour (cult, ritual) and symbolic places or objects (temples, icons).

Myths are specific accounts of gods or superhuman beings involved in extraordinary events or circumstances in a time that is unspecified but which is understood as existing apart from ordinary human experience.

According to *Merriam Webster Dictionary*, the word '*Misconception*' means a wrong or inaccurate idea or conception.

According to *Cambridge Dictionary*, *Misconception* means an idea that is wrong because it has been based on a failure to understand a situation.

In general, Misconception may understand that "a view or opinion that is incorrect because based on faulty thinking or understanding".

The Myths and misconception are most viral and prevailed during the pandemic situations through social networking. It is big headache for the Government and authorities to re-establish the conditions/situations in the containment and quarantine zones. Some outdated messages without any ground realities or proofs, the people circulated to other and creating panic situations and making disturbances to Government interventions in all the areas. Even World Health Organization (WHO) also requesting the citizens of every country stating that only verified messages could be

shared and circulated to others rather unconfirmed, unrealistic, untrustworthy, deceitful and all sort of rumour messages should be avoiding by the public and the same should be forbidden by the state and Governments especially in the pandemic situations. The following myths and misconceptions are more viral among the public during the pandemic across the world, this article has listed out some major myths and conceptions here, namely,

- COVID-19 virus is automatically destroyed in high temperature areas.
- Consuming Alcohol protects COVID-19 Virus.
- COVID-19 is an Airborne disease. It is mainly transmitted through saliva droplets when affected sneezing, cough and speaks to others.
- Intake of Lemon and Turmeric prevents COVID-19 virus.
- Sunlight or standing long hours in Sunlight kills COVID-19 virus.
- Inhaling steam or hot steam kills the COVID-19 virus.
- Taking antibiotics without doctor's prescription is protecting from COVID-19 virus.
- Applying neem paste or neem oil in the body before taking bath is protecting from COVID-19 virus.
- Applying oil inside the nasal area is forbidding the transmission.
- COVID-19 virus is spread through Animals
- Since the village dwellers are strong, they will not suffer in COVID-19 virus.
- Drinking Hot water, Tea, Coffee and consuming hot liquid items prevents from COVID-19 virus.
- COVID-19 virus will not affect the children, young ones and women since they are having strong immune system.
- The person recovered from COVID-19 virus will not affect again.
- Wearing face mask is sin.
- Using the same place of accessed by the COVID-19 Positives.
- Taking common bath in the pond, river, pool along with COVID-19 positives.
- Fasting or abstain from all or some kinds of food or drink, especially as a religious observance prevents from the COVID-19 virus.
- Tonsured to fulfil their vows (Sacrificing hair in the head prevailing in all the religion) prevents from the COVID-19 virus.
- Domestic Animals, poultry and birds slaughtering or Sacrifice to God prevents the community from the COVID-19 virus. Similarly shedding one's own blood in their religious places also saves from the COVID-19 virus.
- Marriages to domestic animals and amphibians are safeguarding the community.

- The younger girl of the villages is offered to the Marriage of the priest (Child Marriages) for safeguarding from the COVID-19 virus.
- Hanging the leaves of the Neem, Mango, Mango tree leaves in their houses are protecting from the COVID -19 Virus.
- Spraying the water with Cows' dung or turmeric water at the main entrance or main door as disinfectant spray.
- Second Hand Smoke (SHS) or environmental Tobacco Smoke or Pukka smoking are leads to away from affecting COVID-19 virus.
- Affected or Positives of COVID-19 virus are sinners or amartia. They will be punished by the law of God. And these people are to be isolated or away from the villages' practices. Not offering anything to them as collectively.

The above list is not exhaustive one, even there are some myths and misconceptions are not bringing it here because it is worst practices due to people' ignorance and illiteracy. They require only awareness and counselling for overcoming such practices. The village panchayat and Village smriti are doing wonderful dedicated work for forbidding these kinds of atrocities in many places even in the pandemic situations. But how these practices affecting the operatives of the manufacturing in the sense, they are being part of such community are fulfilling these any of the above misconceptions which relates to their religious practices for protecting their livelihoods.

METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

The methodology of the research explains the research objectives, field of study, research design adopted, tools used, sampling technique, pilot study, and pre-test, actual data collection, working definitions, methods of analyses and interpretations and limitations of this study.

Research Objectives

The main aim of this research is to study the operative measures for mechanical production after relaxing the lock down in pandemic situation. And assisting to the operatives for saving their lives and protecting other lives from industrial accidents and danger

Field of Study

The field of study is all mechanical production units in Kancheepuram District, State of Tamil Nadu, India. The reported numbers of operatives are 583. The population of the study is the entry level operatives in this cluster.

Research Design

This study mainly used descriptive research design to identify standard operative procedures for mechanical production after relaxing lock down in pandemic situation by assisting the structured questionnaire shared through Google forms and got assistance from HR executives and managers of the organizations in the identified areas for collecting such given forms from the respondents.

Tool for Data Collection

A detailed Questionnaire was constructed based on the research objectives to collect the data from the operatives in the mechanical production units in the specified areas of Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu State. The questionnaire having

two parts i.e., socio economic background details of the respondents as basic details and opinion on existing standard operative measures and expected standard operative measures.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

The collected data were codified and analysed by using SPSS. The analysed data were presented with tables, frequency tables, and diagrammatic representation in the main course of the study in the project.

Limitations

The researcher has faced end number of limitations for collecting data from the respondents especially during the lockdown period in these pandemic situations i.e. between April 2020 to June 2020. Finally, the government made a measure for relaxing Lockdown 1.0 and insisting that 1/3 work force or operatives could be utilised for mechanical production and remaining are leads to work from home. So, the researcher targeted this entire population. But some of them were not sent back their questionnaire due to unavailability of such facilities at the work spot. This research wouldn't be materialised without the assistance and help from the HR manager or Executives.

Major Findings

Socioeconomic Backgrounds

- The reported operatives during this pandemic situation for duty i.e., nearly 100 % of the respondents are male.
- 83 % of the respondents is from the local residents' category and remaining are from contract labourers, migrants labour was temporarily resided in adjacent areas of the premises.
- Two-third of the respondents is from entry level operatives.
- Among the total population, substantial proportions i.e. 67% are in the age group of 25 to 35 years. Around 29% are from the age group of 35 to 45 years. Very minimal (4%) percentages are from the age group of 45 to 55 years.

Opinion on Existing Standard Operative Measures

- A majority of the respondents (85%) viewed that they are satisfied with the provisions of standard operative measures as per the factories act.
- A majority of the respondents (96%) are satisfied with companies' arrangement on disinfectant the establishments.
- Cent percent of the respondents are satisfied with arrangements made for providing sanitizers, face masks and gloves for the operatives at the main entrance of the premises.
- Nearly 67 % of the respondents are felt that the Passing areas and common passages are to be disinfectant in increased the number/times.
- 54 % of the respondents are expected that operative vehicles are to be disinfectant at the main gate and allow to park in original positions rather keeping their vehicles outside gate/premises.

- A majority of the respondents (78%) are felt that to provide healthy dietary food for improvising immune system in addition with regular provisions at the Canteen.
- Cent percent of the respondents are satisfied with work place arrangements.
- Nearly 77 % of the respondents are viewed that the chemical storage areas and hazardous areas are properly monitored during the lock down period with sufficient provisions of maintenance. It is made ease for resumption of work without any mis-happenings.

Expected Standard Operative Measures

- A cent percent of the respondents are expected to use the dining hall for taking food instead of giving packed food.
- Around four-fifth of the respondents perceives that the company has to take a step for testing them with COVID-19 kit at the company's clinic or medical facility centres/ ambulance room.
- Nearly 92 % percent of the respondents are expected to have a facility for washing their hands with hand wash or liquid soap or any other as per the govt advisories in every corner of the premises.
- 70 % of the respondents are expected to operate company owned vehicle for transportation facility i.e. pick-ups and drop-off facility for different time shift. This will be reducing their waiting period for their turn.
- 63 % of the respondents are expected that the company has to make arrangements for e-pass for all the employees' vehicle rather making disparity with designation and experienced operatives.
- 83 % of the respondents are felt that they are dumbled with additional workload in the given shift having standard working hours.
- 93% of the respondents are expected from the management to provide with additional number of masks and gloves when returned from the duty or returned to home for outside access.
- 59% of the respondents are viewed that to give access for their own mobile phones inside the premises with using Arogya setu app. They felt that in case any emergency from the home to be addressed in a right time. But company policy is forbidden.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There is no conflict of interest in this paper

CONCLUSIONS

The result of this study is to visualize the existing pattern of the operative measures in the mechanical production units during pandemic situations. The government and its machineries are imposing more sanctions and measures for controlling the pandemic but certain measures are not reliable to operate the plants. It requires specific measures for each and every type of the mechanical units then only we could avoid the industrial mishappening occurred like in the LG polymers industry vapour billows leakage in Visakhapatnam, Steam boiler blasted in the Thermal Power Station/Plant II in Neyveli Lignite corporation, Causalities in cleaning the swage tank in Tuticorin, Severe injury at the time of cleaning storage area in manesar plant, migrant workers killed in Bhopal, Truck hit in Bilaspur Industrial Area of Gurugram.

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