

CMWSS Board deeply regrets the death of Thiru D. Doss aged 32 years, a labourer engaged by one of the CMWSS Board's contractor inside the manhole in Maraimalai Adigal Salai, Mogappair East, Chennai, during execution of sewer pipeline work. As per preliminary information available, the deceased labourer entered the manhole to rescue a fellow worker who had fallen into the manhole accidentally when the latter opened it to verify the flow level in the manhole to facilitate further necessary work in the alignment of pipeline.

This unfortunate incident has happened in spite of the strict safety norms and procedures which are included in the contract agreement conditions to be implemented by the contractors while carrying out sewage related works. To prevent such incidents in future, CMWSS Board has taken the following further steps in order to ensure safety to the workers involved in such works.

1) All non-emergency sewage related works by the contractors have been suspended for one week. The works will resume only after concerned supervising engineers are satisfied about the adequate availability of safety gear to the workers.

2) A meeting of all contractors engaged in sewer related works has been convened today at Board's Head office to impress upon them the need for safety and the penal provisions available in the agreement.

3) Termination notice has been served on the contractor in addition to Police case already registered.

4) The Assistant Engineer incharge of the location has been placed under suspension and the Area Engineer has been transferred.

5)The contractor was instructed to immediately pay the applicable compensation to the deceased labourers's family failing which CMWSS Board will pay the same and it will be recovered from the contractor.

6) A safety training programme will be conducted for all contract employees engaged in sewage contract works and this will be completed within one month at Metro Water Training Centre.

PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER  
Chennai Metrowater