

कासारवाडीत जीवरक्षकांच्या सतर्कतेमुळे जीवितहानी टळली

पुणे, ता. ११ : कासारवाडीतील जलतरण तलावात क्लोरिन गॅसची गळती झाल्यानंतर महाराष्ट्र माजी सैनिक महामंडळाच्या (मेस्को) जीवरक्षकांनी प्रसंगावधान दाखवून तातडीने हालचाली केल्यामुळे जीवितहानी टळली.

सचिन कदम, पांडुरंग कालुंगे, दादासाहेब पानस्कार आणि राजकुमार जाधव यांनी नागरिकांना सुरक्षितपणे

बाहेर काढले. गॅसगळती होताच त्यांनी सर्वप्रथम शिड्ड्या वाजवून तसेच अलार्म सिस्टम सुरू करून जलतरण तलावामधील लोकांना सावध केले. त्यानंतर त्यांना बाहेर काढण्याचे काम सुरू केले. यात चारही जीवरक्षकांना गॅसचा संसर्ग झाला. त्यामुळे त्यांना यशवंतराव चव्हाण रुग्णालयात दाखल करण्यात आले.

राज्यभरात मेस्काचे जीवरक्षक नियुक्त करण्यात आले आहेत. अनेक वेळा त्यांच्या सतर्कतेमुळे अनर्थ टळले आहेत. महाराष्ट्र शासनाच्या अंतर्गत असलेली ही कल्याणकारी संस्था विविध व्यावसायिक उपक्रम हाती घेऊन माजी सैनिक आणि त्यांच्या अवलंबितांना रोजगार उपलब्ध व्हावा म्हणून कार्यरत आहे.

al. : "I want to continue to guide us," Durgade added. we do work and show the people," Sarvankar said. are only worried about how to protect their own chair."

Lifeguards save swimmers after chlorine leak in tank

MAINTENANCE OF CYLINDERS

Chlorine gas is supplied to the pool through a pipeline to purify water

- Periodic maintenance is done to check the condition of pipes and cylinders
- If a cylinder is used for a long period, the chances of corrosion become high and only expert inspection can identify the fault
- In this case, it is possible

the inspection may have not been done properly

- The inquiry will establish the reasons behind the leak



The breach in the cylinder



Pics courtesy: PMC

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Prakash Shingte, who goes swimming to the pool in the morning, said, "There was no issue till 8.30pm. However, suddenly people started to cough, feel dizzy and developed breathing issues. The lifeguards evacuated us from the pool and we were rushed to the hospital. They saved our lives by responding on time and not paying heed to their personal safety."

Meanwhile, two fire brigade vehicles and 29 personnel were sent to the spot. Civic officials surveyed the surrounding areas of the swimming pool as a precautionary measure. "We gave holiday to a school near the pool," Singh added.

PCMC officials have told people of the nearby areas to approach them if they face any issue with breathing or vomiting.

Singh said, "Ambulances are stationed in Kasarwa-

di to respond to any emergency call. Also, we have reached out to the masses through social media platforms and sent messages to prevent panic in the locality."

Compressed liquefied chlorine gas is used for water purification. The chlorination is done scientifically to avert gas leaks.

"Standard operating procedures are categorically laid down to keep a check on the gas cylinders, since it needs to be handled carefully at public facilities," Singh said. Civic staff has been doing it sincerely for years. This is the first instance of a leak. We have ordered an inquiry to find out what went wrong and people responsible for the negligence. We will act against them upon completing the probe," he added.

Ex-servicemen become saviours

Four ex-servicemen who work as lifeguards at the

civic tank risked their lives to save the swimmers.

Lifeguards Sachin Kadam, Padurang Kalange, Dadadasaheb Pansakar and Rajkumar Jadhav were on duty and immediately alerted everyone by blowing whistles and activating the alarm system.

Kadam, who is recuperating at the YCMH, told TOI, "I heard the gas leak sound around 8.30 am. It was emanating from a filtration chamber. I informed the other three guards and two staffers."

"We returned on the alarm system and pulled people out of the pool within 10 minutes," Kadam further said.

"We informed people present in the garden and ground nearby. However, by then, we were ourselves breathless since we were exposed to the gas for long. As former soldiers of the Indian Army, our aim is to save people and that is what we did," he added.

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