

**GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA**

**No. MFS/51/2023/1466**

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**Directorate of Maharashtra Fire Services**

Maharashtra Fire Service Academy

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Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

**CIRCULAR**

In accordance to National Building Code of India-2016 (Part 4), Petrol Retail Outlet and CNG Pumps are classified under Group J- Hazardous Buildings and for such building as per Table 7, the minimum water requirement for fire-fighting is mentioned as minimum 240 min.

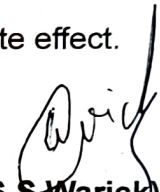
Similarly, as per Schedule I of the Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Act, (Amendment), 2023 (hereinafter referred as "Fire Act"), the water requirement for fire fighting is "not recommended" which needs to be read with note 21(a) which states that as "wherever water requirements are not indicated, reference shall be made to the concern Indian Standards" and thus for installation such as Petrol Retail Outlet and CNG Pumps, reference has to be made to guidelines issued by competent authority such as Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) such as for CNG pumps standards is OISD-179 Standard – Standards for Safety Requirements on Compression, Storage, Handling and Refueling of Natural Gas for use in Automotive Sector" and for Retail Outlet of Petrol, OISD-225 – Storage, Handling and Dispensing at Petroleum Retail Outlets wherein both the standards does not recommend any water tank for fire fighting purposes.

But it has come to the notice of the undersign that local fire and emergency service while issuing Fire Safety Approval (Provisional) recommends water requirement for fire fighting in form of underground / above ground water tank. In lieu of external hydrant system (yard hydrant) and fire fighting pumps, recommending fire fighting water tank does not justify and it is also in contrast to standards issued by Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) under OISD-179 Standard – Standards for Safety Requirements on Compression, Storage, Handling and Refueling of Natural Gas for use in Automotive Sector & OISD-225 – Storage, Handling and Dispensing at Petroleum Retail Outlets.

In order to bring about the uniformity while issuance of fire safety approval, the undersign hereby issue necessary directives that "Water Tank for Fire Fighting – Underground / Above Ground" for Petrol Retail Outlet & CNG Pumps not to be insisted for.

The compliance given in OISD-179 Standard – Standards for Safety Requirements on Compression, Storage, Handling and Refueling of Natural Gas for use in Automotive Sector & OISD-225 – Storage, Handling and Dispensing at Petroleum Retail Outlets has been followed scrupulously shall be certified by owner or occupier before issuance of Final Safety Approval to Petrol Retail Outlet or CNG Pumps

The said directives shall be implemented with immediate effect.

  
(S S Warick) 03/10/23 -

Director  
Maharashtra Fire Services.

Copy submitted to:

1. The Principal Secretary, UD-2, Mantralaya for information, please
2. The Principal Secretary, Industries, Mantralaya for information, please

Copy to:

1. All the Head of Fire & Emergency Services, Urban Local Bodies & Special Planning Authorities