



Work Safety Alert **Fall from a Planter**

- 1. Date of Accident :** December 2019
- 2. Place of Accident :** A residential estate
- 3. Summary :**

A female worker while carrying out plant pruning work on a concrete column planter fell from the planter and plunged to her death for a distance of about 4 metres.

4. Work Safety Alert for Proprietors/ Employers :

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height while undertaking gardening work, the proprietors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work and the work environment, particularly those dangerous places where workers/ employees will work and are liable to fall;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and following the requirements of safety legislation and guidelines;
- ensuring the work can safely be done from the ground or a safe place and avoiding workers/ employees performing work at any dangerous places with falling hazard by using specially designed hand tools/ equipment;
- providing and maintaining suitable and adequately safe means of access



to and egress from every place of work;

- taking steps to ensure that all dangerous places where workers/ employees will work and from which they are liable to fall are securely fenced in accordance with the safety legislation;
- providing and ensuring the use of suitable working platforms or other means of support with adequate fall protection where necessary;
- where the erection of fencing to places with falling hazard or use of suitable working platforms are not reasonably practicable and working at such dangerous places cannot be avoided, providing every worker/ employee with a suitable safety harness with its lanyard continuously attached to a suitable and secure anchorage throughout the work and taking all reasonable steps to ensure the proper use of them by the worker/employee;
- providing all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)¹
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



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