

Instructions No. (1) of 2013: Instructions for Preventing the Occurrence of Health Hazards

Related to Health Damage Resulting from Housing Units of Workers' Gatherings

Issued under the provisions of Article 49 of the Public Health Law No. (47) for the year 2008

Article (1)

These instructions shall be called "Instructions for the Prevention of Health Hazards Related to Health Damage Resulting from Housing Units of Workers' Gatherings" (hereinafter referred to as "Instructions") and shall be effective from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

Article (2)

In the event that an employer or factory owner provides residential units for the accommodation of their employees, they shall ensure that these facilities meet the following general conditions:

- a) The residential unit shall not be located adjacent to sources of pollution and noise, and the distance between the unit and these sources shall not be less than 500 meters.
- b) In the residential unit, separate places shall be allocated for the purposes of sleeping, sitting, cooking and eating food and sanitary facilities in accordance with the conditions specified in these Instructions.
- c) It is not permitted to use the residential unit or any part of it for work purposes or to store raw materials or produced materials for work.
- d) There shall be a sign or plate with the name of the residential unit clearly installed at the entrance to the unit.
- e) A supervisor shall be designated for each residential unit, who is knowledgeable about public health and safety issues.

Article (3)

The following conditions shall be met in sleeping areas:

- a) A floor area of at least 3.5m² per worker shall be provided.
- b) If bunk beds are used, the floor area mentioned in Clause (A) above shall cover the requirements of the workers in the lower bed and the upper bed.

- The vertical distance between the two floors is not less than 70 cm, and that the safety conditions are met.
- c) The height of the bed shall not be less than 30 cm from the surface of the ground, and the beds shall be separated from each other by a distance of not less than 70 cm.
 - d) Each room shall have a suitable bed and closet for each worker.
 - e) The height of the room shall not be less than 2.8 m.
 - f) The room shall not house more than 12 workers.
 - g) Shoe cabinets or shelves shall be provided in the corridors on each floor with a sufficient number.

Article (4)

- 1- Places for cooking food (kitchens) shall have walls covered with tiles to a height of at least 2 meters, equipped with a reliable source of safe drinking water, sinks for washing, sufficient and suitable cabinets for storing foodstuffs and cleaning supplies, a refrigerator for food storage, and a cooker or oven for cooking. In addition, the following shall be provided:
 - a) Closed sieve door shall be provided for kitchen door.
 - b) Fan/ extractor fans shall be provided inside the kitchen.
 - c) Means of controlling insects and rodents shall be provided.
 - d) Suitable waste containers with lids shall be provided.
 - e) Valid sickness certificates for kitchen staff, if any.
- 2- It is strictly forbidden to cook inside bedrooms.

Article (5)

Each residential unit or group of housing units shall contain sanitary facilities in appropriate numbers, provided that they have walls tiled with tiles that are easy to clean (ceramics), and that they are in a suitable location so that their presence does not cause health coercion such as odors, water flow, dirt collection, etc. Each facility shall meet the following requirements:

- a) The distance between the health facilities and the residential unit (building) shall not exceed 20 meters if it is separated from the building and the road leading to the facility/ facilities shall be roofed to protect workers from exposure to weather factors.

- b) The door of the health facility shall not open directly to the kitchen or dining room.
- c) The distance between the door of the health facility and the door of the kitchen or the door of the dining room shall not be less than 4 m.
- d) The health facility shall have at least one toilet for every 15 workers and be equipped with a rinse tank.
- e) The facility shall contain at-least one shower for every 15 workers.
- f) The facility shall contain at least one sink for every 15 workers. If the sink is a shared sink with a number of water taps, each tap is considered a single sink.
- g) A waste basket shall be provided in each toilet.
- h) A waste basket of appropriate size shall be provided for each health facility.
- i) It shall have a suitable place for changing clothes.
- j) The facility shall have cold and hot water.

Article (6)

Each residential unit or group of residential units shall have a dining and sitting room with an appropriate number of tables and chairs.

Article (7)

A dedicated laundry area or sink, equipped with manual or mechanical equipment, shall be provided. Additionally, special drying lines shall be installed to facilitate airflow and drying of laundry outside sleeping areas or kitchens, with a minimum of 1 meter of drying space per worker.

Article (8)

All facilities shall be tiled and equipped with a suitable drainage system, ensuring that floor drains are properly covered. Additionally, the walls and floors shall be free from cracks, ruptures, and any other construction defects.

Article (9)

The residential unit, with all its facilities and parts, shall be equipped with good ventilation and lighting, and part of these means shall be natural.

Article (10)

Mesh screens shall be provided on the windows of the rooms of the residential unit and all its facilities.

Article (11)

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Safe means of heating shall be provided in each residential unit, and the electrical fittings, connections and chips shall be safe, and electrical enclosures shall be covered.

Article (12)

The residential unit shall be provided with water from a safe source that complies with the Jordanian standard in force, provided that the quantity available for consumption per person is not less than 60 liters per day. Water tanks shall be provided in sufficient numbers to achieve the required quantity mentioned in this Article, provided that they are clean and equipped with an airtight cover.

Article (13)

Wastewater shall be discharged from residential units in one of the following ways:

- a) By connecting to the public sewage network, if available, and with the approval of the competent official authority.
- b) By draining into a deep cement pit with appropriate specifications, emptying it before being refilled, and then disposing it in locations designated by the competent official authority.

Article (14)

Each level of the residential unit shall be equipped with household solid waste containers sufficient to hold a minimum of 3 liters per worker, and emptied at least once a day.

Article (15)

Outdoor areas of the residential unit shall be clean and free from waste, debris and standing water.

Article (16)

Each residential unit shall be provided with a first aid box equipped with the necessary medical supplies for first aid and placed in a clear and known place to all residents of the residential unit.

Article (17)

- a) The means of fire protection shall be provided in accordance with the instructions of the civil defense.
- b) Gas cylinders shall be stored securely.
- c) A map shall be installed on the entrance to each floor showing emergency exits and directions.
- d) A plate shall be installed in the residential unit with emergency numbers, civil defense, and accident handling instructions in the language of the residents of the units.

Article (18)

Existing establishments shall correct their conditions within a period not exceeding two months from the effective date of these Instructions.

Article (19)

Whoever violates the provisions of these Instructions shall be punished with the penalties stipulated in the Public Health Law in force.

Article (20)

Instructions No. (1) of 2011 (Instructions for the Prevention of Health Hazards Related to Health Damage Resulting from Residential Units of Workers' Gatherings) shall be repealed.

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