

INITIAL FIRE SAFETY INSPECTION REPORT

G.A.B. Limited (Extension)

RSC ID: 26011

Address: Palashbari, Ashulia, Savar

Geographical Coordinates of factory building: 23.934823, 90.268478

Other Factories: Yes (G.A.B Limited, ID-11479)



Inspected By: Dilip Kumar Mondal

Date: 10 February-2025

Fire Safety Inspection Report

G.A.B. Limited (Extension)

Introduction:

G.A.B. Limited (Extension) complex was surveyed for fire safety on **10 February-2025** by The RSC Inspection Team. The purpose of the survey was to identify significant fire safety issues and to provide recommendations for remediation based on applicable standards specified by the RSC. The scope of this initial fire safety inspection was limited to the review and identification of major fire safety issues. The inspection did not include identification of minor deficiencies, which will be further addressed as part of follow-up inspections.

Limitations

The information in this fire safety inspection report was obtained during a visit to the facility and during interviews with local factory management. It has not been possible to provide independent verification for all the information and data collected, and, therefore, The RSC cannot accept general responsibility for omissions or errors arising from inaccuracies in this report from the information obtained.

The findings and recommendations in this report are not intended to imply, guarantee, ensure or warrant compliance with any government regulations. Additionally, the results do not imply in any way that compliance with the findings or recommendations as stated in this report will eliminate all hazards, risks or exposures or that hazards, risks or exposures not referred to in this report do not exist. Compliance with the findings and recommendations stated in this report does not relieve the factory owner from obligation to comply with specific project requirements, industry standards, or the provisions of any local government regulations.

General Factory Information

SI No	Building Name & Description	Construction History	Period
1	Building No-5: Two Storied RCC Building, Textile Utility Building, Total Approx Area: 484 (242+242) sqm	Construction Start: February 2017 Construction End: December 2017 Date of first Operation: Feb 2018 Building Approval: January 2017 from Savar Cantonment Board	Interim
2	Building No-6: Two Storied RCC, Power House Building, Total Approx Area: 1422 (697+125+600) sqm	Construction Start: January 2022 Construction End: Jun2 2023 Date of first Operation: June 2024 Building Approval: August 2022 from Savar Cantonment Board	New
3	Building No-7: RCC Shipping Building, Total Approx Area: 1115 (Plan for 1580 sq.m, Ground floor only, and proposed 1 to 6 floor but not constructed yet.)	Construction Start: July 2023 Construction End: Under Construction Date of first Operation: Partially (July, 2024), Only Ground Floor. Building Approval: July 2023 from Savar Cantonment Board	New
4	Shed-7: Single Storey Pre-Fabricated Steel Shed, Yarn Warehouse Shed, Total Approx Area: 560 (474+86) sqm	Construction Start: December 2022 Construction End: December 2023 Date of first Operation: January 2024 Building Approval: May 2023 from Savar Cantonment Board	New
5	Shed-8: Single Storey Pre-Fabricated Steel Shed, Knitting Extension Shed, Total Approx Area: 1490 sqm	Construction Start: October 2020 Construction End: May 2021 Date of first Operation: August 2021 Building Approval: April 2020 from Savar Cantonment Board	Interim

6	Shed-9: Single Storey Pre-Fabricated Steel Shed, Dyeing Finishing Extension Shed, Total Approx Area: 1490 sqm	Construction Start: June 2020 Construction End: December 2020 Date of first Operation: January 2021 Building Approval: On 20 February 2020 from Savar Cantonment Board	Interim
7	Shed-10: Single Storey Pre-Fabricated Steel Shed, Nabin Bazar Warehouse (Extension) Total Approx Area: 688 sqm	Construction Start: May 2016 Construction End: December 2016 Date of first Operation: June 2017 Building Approval: January 2016 from Savar Cantonment Board	Interim

Factory Address: Palashbari, Ashulia, Savar

Points of contact:

1. Name: Alquimedes George

Designation: Vice President Country Manager

Contact No: +8801766665533

Email: ageorge@gildan.com

2. Name: Md. Zahidul Islam

Designation: Manager, EHS

Contact No: +8801322904285

Email: mdzislam@gildan.com



Findings & Recommendations :

Table 1 summarizes the major fire safety issues identified during the inspection of main building. Recommendations have been provided to address each issue. An implementation schedule shall be developed by the factory to remediate each of the findings. The specific timing of improvements, including any requested extensions due to design / installation constraints, shall be submitted to the RSC for approval.

Table-1:				
SI No.	Category	Findings	Required Action	Remediation Time Frame
F-01	Means of Egress	The exit stair enclosures are not separated from work areas and other spaces on each floor by fire-rated construction. Location: Ground floor Shipment building, exit-2.	The exit stair enclosure shall be provided with a minimum 1-hr fire resistance rating for buildings with 3 or fewer stories and a minimum of 2- hr. fire resistance rating for buildings 4 or more stories. Provide 1-hr. fire rated door and seal all penetrations and openings by 1 hr. fire rated fire rated barrier construction for building with 3 or fewer stories. Provide 1.5 hr. fire rated door and seal all penetrations and openings by 2 hr. fire rated fire rated barrier construction for building with 4 or more stories in accordance with section 6.3.1.2 of RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0. Provide a fire-resistive rated assembly between the exterior exit stairs and the building up to 10 ft. beyond the end of the stair to achieve the required separation. The rated assembly shall be approved and/or designed by a qualified fire protection engineer. Ensure that the fire doors are self-closing and positive latching and that they are provided with fire exit (panic) hardware where serving production floors. If fire doors are required to be held open for functional reasons, provide automatic closing devices tied to the fire alarm system.	Within 3 months



F-02	Fire Rated Construction	The main structural element of the interim building which is non-rated construction and were found in exposed condition without any fire protection-Sheds 7, 8, and 9, along with the existing knitting and dyeing shed, form a single fire compartment.	As per RSC Technical Guideline and BNBC 2006, The Fire rating of the structure requires to be confirmed as per BNBC 2006. The "Ministry of Housing and Public Works" has issued a resolution based on the recommendations from the House Building Research Institute (HBRI) and the Public Works Department (PWD) to assess structural fire protection requirements of steel buildings (unprotected non-combustible construction type) according to BNBC 2020. The construction type shall confirm to be in accordance with BNBC 2020 Part-3, Table 3.1.7. Ensure fire resistive rated construction following Table 3.3.1 (a) Part 3 Section-3, Table 3.2.2 and Table 3.2.3 Part 3 Section 2 and Table 4.1.1 from BNBC 2020 Part 4 Section 1. Provide design philosophy to determine the construction type as per BNBC 2020. If any construction rating requires, Consult a qualified fire protection engineer to achieve the require fire rating.	Within 6 Months
------	-------------------------	---	---	-----------------



F-03	Means of Egress	The clearance under the bottom of a door was more than 19 mm. Location: Ground floor for Building-5.	The clearance under the bottom of a door shall be a maximum of 3/4 in. (19 mm).	Within 3 months
------	-----------------	---	---	-----------------



F-04	Mean of Egress	Uneven path of travel and blockage in exit discharge path due to construction purpose. Locations: On ground floor for shipment building ,Stair-1	Remove unnecessary items and level exit path to the public way. Means of egress shall be maintained continuously free , clear of all obstructions & usable to all environment.	Within 2 months
------	----------------	--	--	-----------------



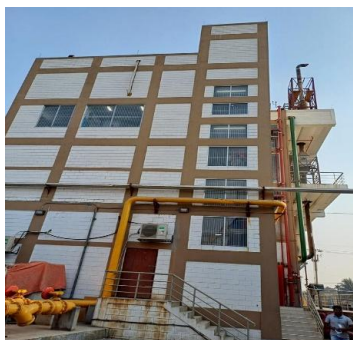
F-05	Mean of Egress	The egress court serving north exit is less than 10 ft wide and is not separated from the building interior which is not in accordance with section 6.17.2 of RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0. Location: North side- Shed-7 & 8.	Egress courts less than 3050 mm (10 ft) in width (as measured from the building and the adjacent property line) shall be provided with walls having a 1-hr fire resistance rated construction for a distance of 3050 mm (10 ft) above the floor of the court. Seal all penetrations and openings to the interior of the building along the discharge path, up to a height of 10 ft. to provide a minimum 1-hr fire separation.	Within 3 months
------	----------------	---	---	-----------------



F-06	Mean of Egress	Doors in the means of egress do not have the required minimum width (900mm). Location: Shed-9, South Side.	Doors in a means of egress shall have a minimum width of 1 m (39 in.). in accordance with section 6.5.6.1 of RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard) ¹ V1.0.	Within 1 Month
------	----------------	---	---	----------------



F-07	Means of Egress	A single means of exit has been provided. Location: Utility building-5 and power house building-6 (Occupancy-L)	The number of means of egress from any floor, story or portion thereof shall not be less than 2 except where a single exit is permitted by RSC Technical Guideline (Standard), section 6.6.2. Provide additional exit and ensure that the exit doors or means of egress openings are located a distance apart as per RSC Technical Guideline (Standard) section of 6.6.6	Within 3 Months
------	-----------------	---	--	-----------------

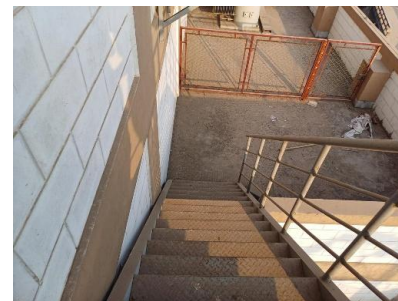


F-8	Means of Egress	Stair clear width was found less than 60 inch. (Stair-01 clearance width 50 inch). Location: Textile utility -5 and Power house building-6	Stairs shall have a minimum clear width of 60 in for all industrial occupancies as per RSC Technical Guideline (Standard) section of 6.5.6	Within 3 Months
F-9	Means of Egress	Directional signs are not provided where direction of the path of travel to an exit has changed. Location: Ground floor shipment building, Shed-7	Illuminated directional signs shall be provided where there is a change in the direction for the path of travel and the direction to an exit is not obvious in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0 Section 6.11.3.	Within 1 Month

F-10	Means of Egress	Based on the number and location of emergency lights observed, adequate illumination levels are not anticipated along egress routes. Location: Utility building-5 and power house building-6	Test the emergency lighting system on each floor and provide additional emergency fixtures to provide adequate illumination along the means of egress. Provide a minimum illumination of 10 lux at the floor level within exit stairs and exit discharge paths and minimum 2.5 lux along exit access aisles. Illumination on means of egress shall meet in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0 Section 10.12.2.	Within 3 Months
------	-----------------	--	---	-----------------



F-11	Means of Egress	Handrails are not provided on both sides of each exit stairs on all floors. Having handrails on one side of said staircase, may pose as a falling hazard during evacuation.	Provide handrails on both sides of the exit stair. New handrails shall have a minimum height of 865 mm (34 in.) and a maximum height of 965 mm (38 in.) as measured from the leading edge of the tread. Intermediate handrails shall be provided when the stair width exceeds 2.2 m (87 in.). Open guards shall have intermediate rails or pattern such that a sphere 200 mm (8 in.) in diameter cannot pass through any opening up to a height of 865 mm (34 in.). Handrail shall construct in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0 Section 6.12.	Within 3 Months
------	-----------------	--	--	-----------------



F-12	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance (Fire)	The required no smoking signs are not present in the factory.	Smoking is prohibited in any garment factory building or separate storage building. Signs shall be posted in Bengali and English at all building entrances. If the factory creates a designated smoking area outside the building, information of these areas will be posted on the signs. Smoking sign shall post in accordance with section 13.5 of RSC Technical Guideline (Standard)	Within 1 Month
F-13	Means of Egress	Fire evacuation maps is not posted at the entrance of all exit stair. Location: all buildings	Fire evacuation maps shall be posted at the entrance to each exit stair in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard) ¹ V1.0 Section 13.3.	Within 1 Month
F-14	Means of Egress	Building does not have occupant load signs at required locations on all buildings.	Post the occupant load for every assembly and production floor in a facility in a conspicuous space near the main exit or exit access doorway for the space in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard) ¹ V1.0 Section 6.4.4.	Within 1 month

F-15	Fire Alarm & Detection system	The factory has installed a fire alarm and detection system that requires a detailed review to confirm compliance with NFPA 72 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Submit the fire alarm and detection system design to RSC for review. Once the design is reviewed, install and modify the fire detection and alarm system throughout the building in accordance with review comment, RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard) and NFPA 72. After installation the owner shall conduct internal testing and commissioning and then contact the RSC for witness of final acceptance testing.	Design within 2 month and modification/ installation with 4 months
------	-------------------------------	---	---	--



F-16	ITM of Fire Alarm & Detection system	Inspection, testing and maintenance for the fire alarm system is not in accordance with NFPA 72.	Inspect, test and maintain the fire alarm system and keep written records on-site, in accordance with The RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Within 1 month (after installation)
F-17	ITM of Fire Extinguishers	Inspection, testing and maintenance of portable fire extinguishers is not in accordance with NFPA 10.	Inspect, test and maintain the portable fire extinguishers and keep written records onsite, in accordance with NFPA 10 ,and in accordance with The RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Within 3 months

F-18	Fire Suppression System (SUPS)	The factory has installed a standpipe & hose system that requires a detailed review to confirm compliance with NFPA 14,20, 24 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard). Location: Power house building.	Submit the standpipe system drawing to RSC for review. Once reviewed, install or modify the standpipe system throughout the building in accordance with RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0. and NFPA 14, 20,22 and 24. After installation the owner shall contact the RSC for witness of conducting the final acceptance testing of the standpipe system.	Design within 2 month and modification/ installation with 4 months
------	--------------------------------	---	--	---



F-19	Fire Suppression System (SUPS)	Sprinkler system is not mandatory for the building based on height and type of construction but the system installed for the building along with standpipe system in lieu of automatic detection system. Both the system requires detailed review to confirm compliance with NFPA 13, 14, 20, 22, 24 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Submit the sprinkler system drawing to RSC for review. Once the design is reviewed, install and modify the sprinkler/standpipe system throughout the building in accordance with review comment, RSC Technical guideline (Standard) and NFPA 13,14,20,22 and 24. After installation the owner shall conduct internal testing and commissioning and then contact the RSC for witness of final acceptance testing.	Design within 2 month and modification/ installation with 4 months
------	--------------------------------	---	---	---



F-20	Inspection, Testing & Maintenance (Fire)	Inspection, testing and maintenance of the automatic sprinkler system is not in accordance with NFPA 25.	Inspect, test and maintain the automatic sprinkler system and keep written records on- site, in accordance with NFPA 25 and RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard)¹ V1.0.s.	Within 1 Month after installation.
------	--	---	--	---

F-21	ITM of Emergency light and Exit Sign	Inspection, testing, and maintenance for the exit sign and emergency lighting system was not in accordance with The RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard).	Inspect, test and maintain the exit sign and emergency lighting system in the accordance with The RSC Technical Guidelines (Standard). Keep written records on-site.	Within 3 months
------	--------------------------------------	--	--	-----------------