

F.No8/4/2020-R&D
Government of India
Ministry of Textiles

Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 6th April 2020

Some instances have come to the notice of this Ministry, where Manufacturers / Suppliers whose proto-type samples for Body Coveralls for COVID-19 have failed laboratory tests, are still supplying their Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Body Coveralls in the market.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India has published a Comprehensive Guideline for Personal Protection Equipment for COVID-19. Since March 2020, the indigenous development of Manufacturers of Body Coveralls has been based on the MoH&FW's guidelines published on 2nd March 2020.

As of now, there are two laboratories in the country which have the facilities as well as necessary approvals, for conducting tests on Body Coveralls (PPE) required for COVID-19. These are; South India Textiles Research Association (SITRA), Coimbatore; and Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior. The Tests and Certifications of Body Coveralls (PPE) conducted at these two laboratories in India are the only officially recognized ones.

In order to ensure that quality and safety standards of Body Coveralls are maintained consistently, as required in terms of Guidelines of the Ministry of Health & family Welfare, Government of India for COVID-19, the following instructions are issued for compliance:

1. For each test conducted at SITRA in respect of a fabric and the PPE garments, for which proto-type samples are sent by the

N.R.R. 2

respective manufacturers, SITRA will generate a Unique Certification Code (UCC-COVID 19). This code should keep records of the type of fabric, type of garment, and its date of testing, testing standard, and other relevant particulars. SITRA will preserve the test sample in sealed condition in its custody for any future reference by a government agency. The Certification should have a fixed validation period in consistency with international norms. SITRA will issue such procedure even in respect of the proto-type samples tested since March 2020 and onwards.

2. Similar procedure as in Para 1 above, may be followed by DRDE, Gwalior.

3. The PPE Garment (Body Coveralls for COVID-19) manufacturer will manufacture Coveralls in accordance with the materials and workmanship as per the tested and certified proto-type sample, which is linked with the UCC-COVID 19. Any change in component of proto-type shall require a new test and certification and generation of a new Code.

4. The PPE (Body Coverall for COVID-19) garment manufacturer will either print in indelible ink, or stick a tamper-proof sticker, on the body of the garment on the inside of the PPE with the following particulars;

(i) Name of Manufacturer :

(ii) SITRA /DRDE Unique Certification Code (UCC)

(iv) Test Standard

(iv) Date of Manufacturing / Batch Number

(v) [Order: HLL life care Ltd] if the material is supplied to HLL life care. State Government and other bulk procurement agencies may insist on similar requirement if they desire so. This (v) may not be mandatory for retail orders.

N. R. R. J.

5. M/s HLL Lifecare Limited will devise a sampling plan with regard to the frequency of test sample collection from the lots which are supplied progressively by the Manufacturer. The randomly collected test samples may be periodically sent to SITRA or DRDE for tests, as the case may be. Further action regarding acceptance procedure etc. may be devised by HLL Lifecare. Other State/Central Government agencies may also device random sample collection protocol and quality assurance plan. The quality control and assurance plan may be well publicised and informed to all suppliers in writing.

This procedure may be implemented with immediate effect. SITRA/DRDE may generate the Codes on immediate basis for information of the certified Body Coverall manufacturers, and HLL Lifecare.


(Nihar Ranjan Dash)
Joint Secretary

Copy for circulation to:

1. South India Textiles Research Association, Coimbatore
2. Director, Defence Research & Development Establishment, Gwalior
3. CMD, M/s HLL Lifecare Limited, Camp Office: Delhi and HO: Trivandrum (a copy of the instructions may be furnished to the Suppliers on which orders for Body Coveralls are placed for necessary compliance)
4. Textiles Commissioner, Mumbai
5. Notice Board: Ministry of textiles official website

Copy for kind information to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.