

Role of CAB's in inspection of the PPE Coverall

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Healthcare-associated with infections is a major problem for patients, society and health care management. The emergence of life-threatening infections such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and re-emerging infectious diseases like plague & tuberculosis have highlighted the need for efficient infection control programs and capacity building in all health care.

Infection control considerably reduces patient's disease, length of hospital stays, the cost associated with a hospital stay and mortality. One of the ways for prevention of Infection is the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). The main objective of PPE's is to prevent the public, the environment and health care workers from the transmission of infections.

Therefore, PPE has emerged as a vital subject in the current corona virus (COVID -19) epidemic in our nation and also across the globe. Before COVID period, India procured PPEs from overseas companies like Honeycomb, 3M, and DuPont etc. Due to the spread of COVID worldwide, supply chain from the overseas got disrupted. So, our Government had taken an initiative to develop indigenous Indian suppliers in the first quarter of this year. Thanks to this initiative today we got more than 700 Indian

manufacturers producing over 3 lakh coverall per day. Our manufacturers are now looking to export the surplus capacity of coveralls to worldwide. However, while our manufacturers are getting developed to meet the required standards of coverall specified by MoHFW & Ministry of Textiles. Our buyers and end users faced the issue of inconsistent quality in the incoming supply. Some of the healthcare personnel highlighted these issues during the months of April & May 2020. And it also got covered in some of the media.

The need of hour in this current situation was to support PM movement of Atma Nirbhar Bharat. In this pursuit government recognised few organisations to conduct the PPE inspection and initiated development of new programme for ensuring quality of PPE through M/S HLL Lifecare Limited (HLL HLL) Realizing the emerging challenges, we RSJ Inspection Service Ltd, an ISO17020 accredited (textiles scope) company with more than 11 years of Experience in Quality Control Inspection started to develop PPE Inspection service. This service was created based on MoHFW and Ministry of Textiles guidelines. We then approached our existing customers and got an opportunity to serve them with PPE Inspection by doing Visual workmanship, Measurement and Labeling check. Further, we approached the nodal agency HLL Lifecare Limited (HLL) to support them in getting right quality PPE's that is being manufactured across India. NABCB has also supported by providing accredited company list to Government procurement agencies in this regard. Now, as one of the approved Third-party Inspection Agencies (TPIA) by HLL, we are serving them with Pre-dispatch Inspection and sample pulling for testing. The manufacturers can able to focus on supplying good quality products/meeting safety requirements of the market consumers with the help of our service. This also has given assurance to end users particularly the front line COVID warriors.

RSJ in its efforts to support the battle for COVID-19 is promoting this scheme to all customers for creating a safe working place and maintain business continuity. Thus, it is playing a role in protecting our nation in this pandemic situation.