

Security Awareness



Security has been an integral part of livelihood from times immortal. Even in the era's of God's the system of regimes, war etc prevailed. From times eternal the system of warfare, aggression, disruption in others land has been practiced by nations of the world. The trend has changed its mode from traditional style of warfare to the modern concept in present day. Agencies such FBI of America, ISI of Pakistan are some of the Intelligence agencies which are not only responsible for collection of intelligence within the country but there scope of work also extends into political, military, economic, social, external policy and other arenas other nations. With the prime motive of safety of own country and creating an atmosphere of superiority and no danger climate to one's own country these organizations with unlimited funds operate all over the world. These are some of the basic terms which if understood can highlight the importance of security in all matters of functioning. Security in not an independent function are an individual task its collective task of all the citizens of the nation which in turn will secure a Institution, Organization, State, Country or Region from all Dangers and Odds.

Aim.

The aim of the write up is to highlight the importance of Security awareness at all levels.

Scope.

The write up covers the requirement of security awareness especially in context to pipelines, installations and offices during all stages of planning, construction and operations.

Preview.

The topic will be covered under the following heads.

Part I. Meaning and Importance of Security Awareness.

Part II. Security awareness at the Planning Stage.

Part III. Security awareness at Construction Stage

Part IV. Security awareness at Operational stage.

Part I- Meaning and Importance of Security Awareness.

Meaning.

The meaning of the terms Security and Awareness are as under:-

Security : Safety / Guarantee.

Awareness : Knowing / informed.

The dictionary meaning of **Security** is **Safety, Sanctuary, refuge, protection, place of safety etc.** Safety here means safe, which means without any risk. A Guarantee. A guarantee in terms of no risk, no loss, no threat etc in relation to men, material and property. **Awareness** means **Knowledge, understanding, appreciation, familiarity, perception etc.**

In simple words Security Awareness means being aware of the security threat prevailing on a particular section of firm, industry or vital installation. Basic knowledge of Security matters and education on the subject is the only regulating factors which can instill a sense of awareness amongst wide sections of people. Being aware of the security guidelines, perceiving threat and initiating necessary actions in advance to avert and foil all forms of threat in all walk of life in relation to different section of people, offices , organization, industry or be it for the entire nation as a whole is the crux behind of Security awareness.

Security awareness has a vast scope it starts from the very origin of an organization to the end. This factor can't be dealt in isolation. The importance of Security and Security awareness has increased so much that without laying emphasis on these subject existence and survival of any person, vital plant, industry state or nation will be next to impossible.

Importance.

The importance of Security can very well be experienced by every person with the existing threat scenario prevailing in the present day context over all the developed and developing nations of the world. The awareness level and security measures initiated to counter these threats speak of the importance of Security and Security Awareness by all. The trend among nations of the world in de-stabling the economy of other nations, capturing world market, globalization, technological superiority, marketing of Defence store, cyber terrorism, terrorism etc are some of the factors which in turn is appraises everyone of the importance of Security threat and awareness of the same.

As it's well said, "**Precaution is better than Cure**", **therefore** it'll be more prudent if preventive measures are initiated well in advance to avert any mishap / occurrence. The importance of Security Awareness has a vast scope; it almost covers the entire walk of livelihood. Every individual has to be aware in this field and perceive threat which can be posed at various places be it his place of working / place of living, place of walking, place of visiting and in a broader sense for a society the entire habitat ional area, work place, essential amenities centers, social institutions, professional institutions, religious institutions, and the society or call it the nation as a whole. If the level of Security awareness is increased to the optimum amongst all citizens of the nation than the threats can be averted and countered safely. The fields / areas where Security awareness is essential are as follows:-

- **Social fields.** (At all social gathering centers).
- **Economic fields.** (At all institutions of commerce).
- **Recreational fields.** (Cinemas, stadiums, Auditorium etc).
- **Political arena.** (All VIP's, VVIP's and political institutions).
- **Religious centers.** (At all places of worship).
- **Basic amenities centers.** (Like health centers, Station, Bus stands etc).
- **Educational areas.** (All institutions of teachings).

- **Vital installations.** (All imp offices, plants, industries, factories, ports, HQ's etc).
- **Society.** (The area of residence and living).
- **Nation.** (The entire nation as such).
- **World wide.** (Amongst all nations of the world).

Above mentioned is the importance of Security of Security Awareness and the areas and fields where awareness of security is essential. The awareness amongst the people of the land can be proved vital in countering threat / miscreant activities.

The Security awareness in the planning, construction and operation stage in relation to the pipelines, offices or plant as such amongst all levels of employees is also an essential requirement. The underlying paragraphs in detail talks on various points to be kept in mind regarding security during the various stages of planning, construction and operation.

Part-II. Security awareness at planning stage.

This part cover the security points which should be kept in mind during the initial planning stage in respect to offices, pipelines and installations in particular.

**** Pipelines**

The security planning to be carried out for laying of pipelines should mainly cover the following , route to be covered, the extent of line layout line, the quantum of product to be traversed the terminals points / installations en-route / connected etc. These are the main points on which a detailed study needs to be carried out and deliberated in relation to threat. Points to be kept in mind in relation to pipelines are.

*** Extent of pipeline to be laid.**

The extent of pipeline to be laid is a very important issue the total distance it has to take the route the path, state / villages / towns being bypassed, the geographical features etc things to be taken care off, type of material to be used to avoid sabotage etc. By extent of pipeline / layout it implies the distance the pipeline has to be laid. In this the following points need to be ensured.

- The blue print of the plan during the planning stage along with the sketch should be secured and kept confidential.
- Efforts should be made to avoid hostile areas.
- Approach for maintenance and routine patrolling should be clear.
- The axis should be clearly marked and identifiable.

*** *The Quantum of product to be traversed.***

The quantum of product to be traversed should also be clearly known so that safety measures for the same can be worked out in advance and safety area and zone can be worked demarcated. The locals of the area should also be educated on the devastating effect of this pipeline if a mishap occurs.

*** *Security arrangements for the pipelines.***

It will be advisable if a representative of the Security and the Safety department is included in the initial surveillance team so that security aspect of bypassing certain areas, patrolling route and other Safety and Security aspects as so deemed essential for security coverage can be planned well in advance. Assessment of Security arrangements is a vital tool in the planning stage.

**** Installations**

The basic requirements for the installation to be kept in mind as regarding Security Awareness are:-

*** Location**

The location should be so selected so that it has free accessibility, harmonious surrounding and is safely located in close proximity to a nodal point. While selecting a location these under mentioned points should be catered for

- It should be away from the habitation.
- Free accessibility in terms of transportation to the installation.
- The surrounding villages / areas should be harmonious.
- Availability of Mutual aid during emergencies.
- Distance / proximity of residential area of employees should be minimum from the installation.
- Social / Political status of the area so selected should be stable.
- Resources should be easily available.
- The past record of the localities should be good and not criminal.
- The installation should be selected at a clear area and there ought not to be habitation in close vicinity of the installation.

**** Offices**

There are as such no major points in this but it has to be seen that the office so being planned should be at a good town which should have the basic requirement fulfilling capability of transport, communication, accessibility and be sited at a reasonably safe and secure area.

Part III- Security Awareness at Construction Stage.

This is a very important stage where the level of Security Awareness is required to be of a very high level. The entire planning of construction, its blue print and the layout has to be kept confidential. As the construction process involves a wide range of technicians and workers therefore it is mandatory to be vigilant. This is the initial stage when the layout / blue print of a vital installation can fall into the hands of miscreants and can pave the way for any miscreant activity. The things to be kept in mind in regards to Security awareness in the time of construction stage are as follows:-

**** Pipelines**

During the construction stage of pipelines the following things are to be ensured:-

- The Blue print or sketch should be kept secure.
- The above mentioned should not fall into the hands of unauthorized persons.
- Security of the material should be kept to prevent theft and pilferage.
- Initially it has to be checked and ensured that the laying is being carried out properly.
- A note of all vital points should be made.
- Intelligence should be gathered of villages and information on villagers' crime level.
- Proper patrolling route should be constructed in the initial stage itself.
- The layout and route should be properly marked.
- Danger areas should be identified and earmarked.
- Responsibility of areas for aid and quicker response should also be earmarked.
- Villagers should be educated on the importance of securing these pipelines.
- Local sources should be cultivated to look after the pipelines passing through their area.

**** Installations.**

The installation when it is being constructed is it and Terminal or an LPG Plant the following things are to be taken care of:-

- The outer perimeter wall of the complex should be constructed first. This will help in concealing, maintaining secrecy and prevent theft / pilferage.
- All blue prints and sketches are to be secured.
- Proper guards are to be deployed to secure the property.
- It should be ensured that no documents falls into the hands of unauthorized persons.
- A check has to be kept on the workers and their acts.
- Intelligence should be collected of the surrounding areas.
- Close liaison should be maintained with the local police and the villagers.
- Proper Survey of the area has to carry out for security arrangements.
- All the loose ends need to be tightened in respect to Security in the construction stage itself.
- Ensure no suspicious and unauthorized person loiters around the construction site.
- All Safety measures and direction of Local authorities should be followed.

**** Offices**

During the construction of the Offices also the above mentioned points are to be taken care off and it has to be ensured that the Safety arrangements are adequate and the security arrangements are well organized and placed.

Part IV – Security Awareness during the Operation Stage.

This is the most important phase when the Level of Security awareness has to be very high because any laxity on the part of Security will lead to Safety hazards which in turn could result in tremendous loss to men, material and property. As the operation stage includes process, production and marketing therefore the importance of this stage increases tremendously. The

points to be borne in mind in the different stages and which require being deliberated are as follows:-

**** Pipelines**

As regarding pipelines the most important points to be aware are as follows:-

- The layout should be well known on ground.
- Regular patrolling should be carried out.
- Local villagers should be developed as care takers and informers.
- The patrol team should be observant and carry out patrolling job religiously.
- The pipeline area should be clear from all type of vegetations.
- Danger areas as earmarked should be monitored regularly.
- Security posts should be established at appropriate distances.
- Any accident / incident of Security lapse should be analysis and records maintained.
- Regular interactions with the villagers should be carried out in whose premises the pipeline is passing through.

**** Installations**

The installations where ever placed should take care of the following points:-

- Proper Security persons with adequate arrangements should be paced.
- Adequate Security gadgets should be available to carry out the duties.
- No unauthorized person should be allowed to enter the complex.
- Proper Character verification of contract workers and labors should be obtained before permitting access.
- Regular patrolling of the area is to be carried out.
- Intelligence collection of the villages in close vicinity and miscreants should be gathered regularly.
- Close liaison has to be maintained with the local police and district authorities.
- Regular assessment of threat and review in security arrangements should be carried out.
- Update knowledge of latest incidents and likely mode of miscreant activities should be known.
- No photography should be permitted.
- The complex should be got declared as Prohibited Area.
- Regular check of vehicle should be carried out.

**** Offices**

The points regarding offices are as follows:-

- No unauthorized person should be permitted entry.
- All Secret / Confidential should be secured and not accessible to unauthorized persons.
- No secret / confidential matters should be leaked.

The write up does not contain or collaborate any script or information from any book but this is on the sole view of the undersigned as per his thoughts. A lot of important points may have been missed but the content on the subject will surely be of some assistance while in work.