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Safety at the workplace is crucial to every industry. At the same time, achieving complete safety in an industrial environment can be a challenge.

Accidents at workplaces can cause not only loss of work and productivity but injuries or loss of life. At Sanmar, safety at the workplace has always been a top priority of the management.

Recently, Mr. S Gopal, Managing Director- Chemplast Sanmar, delivered a special address at a seminar organised by the Regional Labour Institute and Madras Management Association. In his lecture, he stressed the importance of safety at the workplace. According to him, "close shaves at workplaces should be viewed seriously and managements should find out the underlying causes even if mishaps had been averted". He further elaborated that, "We Indians do not have the culture of safety and believe that accidents happen to others and fail to take safety as a serious issue. We have to change the mindsets of people by creating awareness."

Though ensuring safety is a time-consuming affair, Mr. Gopal said companies should pursue it continuously. He cited the example of Chemplast Sanmar, where regular monthly safety review meetings are conducted.

Across all its manufacturing units, The Sanmar Group believes in ensuring the physical safety and well being of its employees within and outside its facilities. Every year, Sanmar invests a substantial amount of capital in safety training, in order to lessen workplace accidents and ensure a safe working atmosphere for all its workers.

In order to create safety awareness across all its manufacturing plants, The Sanmar Group celebrates Safety Week every year during the month of March. The week-long safety awareness campaign features quiz contests, competitions in essay and slogan writing, drawing and cartooning, hands-on training programmes, demonstrations and mock drills.

To further promote and encourage safety awareness across its plants, the Sanmar Group instituted the 'Annual Safety Awards' in 2010 to bring safety standards in its businesses to a world-class level. The award aims to institutionalise international safety processes and practices at Sanmar. Mock drills are carried out in simulated emergency situations to familiarise each employee with his or her role and responsibility.

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