

Interview with Managing Director and Owner of the Garment Factories (Semi-Structured)

Introduction:

The main objective of this interview is to gather feedback from the owner or managing directors of the case study buildings (garment factories) about their perception and interest in improving the present ventilation condition of the factories production spaces through enhancing the natural ventilation. In addition, opinions on the practical viability of the implementing the proposed ventilation strategies will be collected from the concerned authority including expected financial benefits, workers wellbeing and quality workspaces. Through gathering the detail feedback, the information will be used for the doctoral research and propose both physically and practically viable ventilation strategies for improving the present thermal condition of the workspaces. The interview may take 30 minutes to maximum 1 hour.

Main agenda:

1. Present ventilation condition of workspaces
2. Future improvement plan (if any)
3. Implementing some proposed ventilation strategies
4. Interest of investment and expected benefits
5. Additional feedback (if any)

Agenda 1: Present ventilation condition of workspaces

Could you please describe about the present ventilation condition and evaluate its performance inside the production floors of your garment factory building? Do you consider the benefits of natural ventilation? (*Probes: ventilation system, workers' thermal comfort, different production sections, strategy and performance in different climatic seasons, emergency smoke removal, energy expenditure, advantages and drawbacks*)

Agenda 2: Future improvement plan (if any)

Do you think the present ventilation condition of the workspace of your RMG factory needs any improvement? If yes, do you have any plan to improve or change the present in near future? (*Probes: inlet/outlet windows, building refurbishments, fans, workspace rearrangement*)

Agenda 3: Implementation of some proposed ventilation strategies

Could you please explain your company's interest and/or limitations on implementing the following proposed ventilation strategies and refurbishments in your production spaces?

- Night-time ventilation
- Changing the configuration and location of the windows
- Adding ventilation shaft(s)
- Re-arranging the functional layout
- Change of external (i.e. walls, roof) building material

(Probes: financial issue, physical, building itself, official permissions etc.)

Agenda 4: Interest of investment and expected benefits

Could you please provide a brief idea about your any investment plan and expected benefits to improve present workspaces' ventilation condition? *(Probes: Investment budget, payback plan, expected financial benefit; say 1% productivity improvement, Commercial benefits)*

Agenda 5: Additional feedback (if any)

Do you like to add any further comment related to this discussion and the overall agenda?