

(1) First Case

Summary of Investigation Findings

On 31 July 2013, Khan Momen (Khan), a Bangladeshi national, filed a Work Injury Compensation claim. Khan claimed that on 19 April 2013, he injured his right forearm after falling from a scissors lift while working at a construction worksite.

MOM conducted further investigation when Khan's employer provided a conflicting account of the accident. When interviewed by MOM investigators, a witness testified that he and Khan had been involved in a scuffle during which he pushed Khan to the ground, injuring Khan's right forearm. Three other persons testified that both Khan and the witness had told them that Khan's injury was a result of the fight.

Prosecution action

MOM charged Khan under the Work Injury Compensation Act (WICA, Chapter 354) for two charges of furnishing false information to an MOM investigation officer and Khan claimed trial. On 28 August 2014, Khan was found guilty and sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment per charge, and for both sentences to run concurrently.

(2) Second Case

Summary of Investigation Findings

On 22 April 2013, Govindan Raja (Raja), an Indian national, filed a Work Injury Compensation claim. Raja claimed that on 23 December 2012, he injured his right shoulder after falling from heights while in the course of his work.

MOM conducted further investigation when it was noted that while the injury was reported by the employer earlier, the account of the accident given by the worker's lawyer was different. When interviewed by MOM investigators, two witnesses testified that Raja was not working on the alleged date of the accident and that he had injured himself due to a fall on some stairs outside the course of work. Five other persons testified that Raja had not reported for work on 23 December 2012.

Prosecution action

MOM charged Raja under the Work Injury Compensation Act (WICA, Chapter 354) for fraudulently making a claim under the Act which he knew to be untrue and for furnishing false statements to an MOM investigation officer. On 5 August 2014, he pleaded guilty to the offence of making a fraudulent claim and was sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment. Two other offences of furnishing false statements were taken in consideration.

(3) Third Case

Summary of Investigation Findings

On 3 July 2013, Billal Hossain Kader Molla (Billal), a Bangladeshi national filed a Work Injury Compensation claim. Billal claimed that on 13 May 2013, he injured his back while carrying heavy pipes with a co-worker at his employer's workshop located at Tuas.

MOM conducted further investigation when it was found that Billal had packed his belongings and left employer-provided accommodation on his own accord on the alleged day of the accident, making it unlikely that he would still be working at his employer's workplace. When interviewed by MOM investigators, several persons testified that Billal had never been assigned to work at Tuas, and would usually be working at another location. No one at either location witnessed Billal's accident, and three persons testified that Billal was not working at either location on the alleged day of the accident. A total of nine persons made statements which contradicted Billal's claim. Their statements were further supported by records of Billal's work history.

Prosecution action

MOM charged Billal under the Work Injury Compensation Act (WICA, Chapter 354) for fraudulently making a claim under the Act which he knew to be untrue. On 22 July 2014, he pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment.