



# एसोसिएशन ऑफ साइंटिफिक एवम् टेक्निकल ऑफिसर्स Association of Scientific & Technical Officers

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OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED, MUMBAI



Ref-ASTO/Mum/Safety Shoe/05/2019

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Sub – Board Purchase of Safety Shoe in WOU, Mumbai.

Respected Sir,

The last procurement of industrial safety shoe was carried out during 2016-17. Later on, during 2018-19, it was decided to procure safety shoes through QCBS to ensure better quality. Accordingly, matrix for the same was prepared. However, due approval is yet to be accorded to proceed further. As per our information, finalization of Rate Contract under this process may take another 4 months time once the matrix is approved.

It is well established fact that the earlier supplied shoes by M/s Prosafe were having problems with both - design and quality, and were not safe for offshore use. Further, reports of slipping incidents have been received on regular basis from the employees at offshore. Despite these observations, employees have not been provided with good quality safety shoes, instead, they have been forced to use these accident prone safety shoes. It has also been noted that several employees at different field locations have refused to accept these shoes. Even few of them have purchased safety shoes from market on their own to perform their duty safely at offshore.

Considering above facts, Executive Committee on its 514<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 30.07.2018 and 08.08.2018 accorded approval for providing one pair of design B safety shoes **immediately** to the eligible employees through **Board purchase**. In the meantime, specification of the safety shoe was modified by Corporate HSE on 05.09.2018, 12.02.2019 and 22.11.2019. During the initial board purchase process, all the registered vendors with ONGC were invited to finalize the safety shoe. Later on, after discussions with vendors, Board met on 24.07.2019 and decided to place NOA to M/s Prosafe International, Bhiwandi based on 'L-1' criteria. However, in view of poor quality of shoes supplied earlier by M/S Prosafe and pending legal dispute with ONGC, the process was abandoned.

Thereafter, the Board decided to carry out market survey and collected samples of safety shoes from prospective bidders. To ensure quality and safety assurance of available samples, a methodology was developed and the Board decided to complete the field trials in advance by carrying out a survey amongst actual users. Accordingly, available safety shoe samples were kept at Helibase for feedback and recommendations by offshore going personnel. Almost 650 employees took part in the survey, out of which 84% employees recommended "Redwing" make safety shoe. Since the cost of selected shoe was very high, it was decided by HRO to take broader consensus by

involving all the stake holders from user end. Accordingly, a meeting of all the Key Executives were called but Asset Managers of Mumbai avoided to participate and involve in the Board Purchase process and thus idea of broader consensus could not be sailed through. This whole exercise of more than 3 months became futile and view of 650 employees were also ignored.

Sir, due to complicated procedure, detailed specifications and L-1 concept, urgently required safety shoes could not be purchased even in one year's time through Board Purchase Process. Hence, the whole exercise of EC to extend relief to field employees by providing one pair of safety shoe got defeated. The indifferent approach of the respective Asset and Service Heads to make available safety shoes and PPE to the employees working under them in field is also responsible for such delay.

Sir, it is un-denying fact that availability and use of quality safety shoes at offshore field is of utmost importance and need of the hour. However, even after more than a year since the Board purchase circular was issued, quality safety shoes could not be procured and made available to the field employees.

Sir, in view of the above, your kind and immediate intervention on the subject matter is requested for expeditious procurement of quality and branded safety shoes, respecting the majority of offshore employee's view, who had participated in survey conducted by WOU. Your timely intervention and necessary instructions in this regard will send a positive message amongst field employees of Western Offshore. This will also be helpful to bring back the confidence of the employees on ONGC Management as well as its system.

With kind regards



P N Pathak  
President  
ASTO-Mumbai

**Copy to:**

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