



ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL OFFICERS

Registered with the Registrar of Societies Uttarakhand Govt., Registration No. 172 (1967-68)

OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LTD.

Room No. 2016, 2nd Floor, Tower-A, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070

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CENTRAL WORKING COMMITTEE

No. ASTO/CWC/Disaster-COVID-19/2018-21/3

13.04.2020

To,
Chairman and Managing Director
ONGC,
5th Floor Deendayal Urja Bhawan
New Delhi - 110070

Sub: Suggestions for Carrying on Essential Operations and Crew Change

Sir,

In continuation to our earlier letter no. ASTO/CWC/Disaster-COVID-19/2018-21 dated 25.03.2020 and 03.04.2020 we thank EC for taking decisions on daily basis related to measures to ensure that every Ongcian is safe and healthy.

With reference to our earlier letters and in order to boost the morale of our employees in field operations, ASTO, during last two days, held Teleconferencing and Video Conferencing from sites – Konaban GCS, Drilling Rigs at Rajahmundry, CPF Gandhar, ICP, BPB, Sagar Kiran, MHN, Sagar Bhushan, Heera Process, B-193, BPA, Sagar Uday, Neelam Process, SHP, Sagar Shakti and by email from Panna field. We also interacted with some employees in their off duty.

During these extremely challenging situation all our employees are giving their best and striving to ensure that Oil and Gas continues to flow for the nation. The personal care of EC that they are getting at this crucial juncture is being appreciated by one and all. During the interactions the employees at the Installations and Offshore complexes and Rigs made following suggestions:

1. The office order issued by ONGC had extended their duties by 14 days. However, most of them are going to complete more than 28 days, hence further order for extended period needs to be issued. This we have already brought to the notice of Chief –ER.
2. The system adopted for partial crew change for offshore of employees residing near to Mumbai and nearby locations treating them as home quarantined and carrying out their tests at Vasudhara Bhawan and NBP Green Heights and Panvel Dispensary and then the selected employees going back to their residences has an element of Risk for both the employees on-board as well as those employees who are undergoing tests. The employees at Offshore are of the view that changing only ten to twelve persons who are not quarantined as per the SOP suggested by Shelf Drilling opens up the employees to risk at Offshore and the employees at base are also at risk as they come out for test and then go back to their residences. Therefore the employees are suggesting that they are willing to continue for another fourteen days of lock down as they are safer that way. It was expressed by on-board crew that arrival of new person at any offshore location, will create doubt among employees and their fearless stay, freedom to work, confidence and harmony may get impacted. Few Offshore locations – Heera, Sagar Kiran and Sagar Uday agreed to the present system of crew change.
3. The employees are requesting that all the employees slated for crew change be effectively quarantined at one safe haven and then be tested and on the outcome of the test be deputed to offshore and the same needs to be followed for contractual workers also.
4. All the employees have raised the apprehension of how their additional duty period shall be treated. The modalities are still not clear.



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5. The employees at Drilling Rigs (Onshore & Offshore) are strongly of the opinion that we need to scale down the operations as majority of them are feeling the stress of additional duty. Even a change of few local employees may not make the difference as majority of officers are from outside Mumbai for Offshore Rigs. Similar is the case for Onshore Rigs.
6. Another alternate suggestion from the on-board crew (Offshore and Onshore) is that in view of lock down extension leading to further increase in duty days we may carry out complete crew change, nationwide travel permit may be obtained from GOI, as we come under essential services and sanitised vehicles be provided to outstation employees for pickup and drop from and to their respective locations. Their stay at present may be treated as Quarantine and unless any health issue detected, they should be sent to their home with valid health certificate issued by Medical officer.
7. At onshore Installations the employees are ready to carry out the partial crew change of at least local employees. However, they have also suggested for a protocol of isolation, medical examination and testing of employees before they are deputed for crew change.
8. Further, they requested that all the protocols/SOPs as defined for the employees should also be compulsory applicable for the Secondary Work force. Like taking undertaking. The office order restricts the under taking to be given by ONGC employee only. Whereas contract workers coming to same Installation/Rig/Site/Office are not required. This is an anomalous situation which needs to be corrected.
9. All the employees unanimously have raised the issue of additional compensation for this challenging period and extra duty. Various suggestions like C-OFFs for the additional period be converted into ODL, Every day of additional duty be converted to EL, OPA be extended for the employees in field, Employees posted in Geophysical Field Party are getting field DA but as per rule after 30 days DA gets reduced to 50%, in current situation this condition should be relaxed.
10. The employees have also requested for additional cover by Insurance of the additional period of duty for the employees in field operations.

Sir, after having heart to heart discussion with our colleagues in field operations, ASTO requests that in order to maintain their motivation and morale as well as ensure that our Essential Operations do not suffer, management may consider the suggestions received from them.

With warm Regards


(Amit Kumar)
President CWC

Copy to:

1. Dir(Fin)/Dir(Off)/Dir(On)/ Dir(HR)/Dir(Expl)/ Dir(T&FS)
2. ED - Chief ER
3. President/Secretary - All ASTO units