



ऑयल एण्ड नेचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन लिमिटेड
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited
वेस्टर्न ऑफशोर यूनिट
Western Offshore Unit

Industrial Relations Section
NBP Green Heights
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RECORD NOTE IN RESPECT OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26.06.2018 WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF COLLECTIVES FOR RESTORING NORMALCY OF MOBILIZATIONS OF OFFSHORE PERSONNEL

Present: As per Annexure - 1

Background:

On 26th June, 2018, the Helicopter VT-GVA of M/S. Global Vectra Helicopters Limited (GVHL) was tasked for crew change and the first sortie of the Helicopter took-off with 07 passengers from Juhu Helibase at 0958 hrs for Tapti. After crew change, the Helicopter returned from Tapti with 06 passengers and landed at Juhu Helibase at 1203 hours. Second sortie was planned for NQO and taxied out from Juhu Helibase at 1247 hrs with 08 passengers / Employees (all ONGCians). Subsequently, helicopter lined up with main runway for taking-off. When helicopter lifted up for taking-off roll, the Pilot noticed fluctuation in engine parameters. Pilot immediately lowered the helicopter on the spot at runway and switched off the engine. Concurrently, Juhu Air Traffic Control (ATC) informed the Pilot that some smoke was seen from the engine area. Pilot asked all the passengers for quick dismemberment and all the passengers de-boarded safely. It was around 1253 hours, ATC also mobilized fire tenders and ambulance to the site. GM-Head Air Logistics, DGM (L)-Air Safety and I/c Operations also reached the spot. Maintenance crew of GVHL was available at Helicopter and towed away the helicopter to GVHL hangar. Matter was reported to Director General, Civil Aviation (DGCA) by GVHL as well as by ONGC. DGCA visited the spot for investigation. Both the concerned pilots have been taken-off the flying.

In the above backdrop, a meeting with representatives of collectives was organised on 26.06.2018 at 1630 hours, which was attended by the representatives of collectives, viz (1) Association of Scientific & Technical Officers (ASTO), (2) ONGC (WOU) Karmachari Sanghatana, (3) Petroleum Employees Union in the first floor conference hall of Helibase. The meeting was aimed to discuss the issue of alleged non-normal landing of Helicopter of GVHL at about 1255 hours in the runway of Juhu Helibase while taking-off and also for ensuring smooth mobilization of offshore personnel. It was intimated that the passengers / employees alongwith representatives of collectives entered into the Office of GM-HAL and raised concerns about the safety of the flights. Further they demanded interaction at senior levels prior to boarding the sorties. Despite best efforts and persuasion by Senior Executives of the Helibase; collectives decided not to allow passengers / employees to board any of the flights to offshore Rigs / Installations.

At the outset, one of the Pilots from GVHL shared the happenings to the crew members / offshore personnel, so that they understand the whole gamut of the incident. Thereafter, the issues taken up by the collectives impromptu were discussed as under:

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Sl. No.	Issue(s)	Discussion held
1	Measures taken to enhance safety of Helicopter operations and maintenance post helicopter accident happened on 13.01.2018:	GM-HAL informed the house that an audit of all three helicopter operators were undertaken by RWSI in January, 2018 and their Audit report was presented to the Key executives. The said Audit report brought-out that all helicopters are maintained by qualified and DGCA certified engineers as per procedure and are fully serviceable when offered for flying. The same are flown by fully qualified Pilots as per regulations. Extract of audits observation were communicated to all the three operators in a meeting in the presence of Key executives of all the Assets and Head Offshore Safety – WR. Subsequently, the ATRs have been received from the three operators. RWSI were requested vide ONGC communication Dated 12.06.2018 to conduct Review / Compliance audit for all the three operators and submit the progress report.
2	Hiring the services of an Internationally renowned auditor.	ED-Asset Manager, MH Asset desired that audits should be undertaken on a continuous regular basis. Air Logistics to explore the possibilities of engaging M/s HART Aviation, the internationally renowned auditor who had in the past authored ONGC's Aviation Policy and also carried out Audit in March, 2016. ED-Chief Offshore Logistics assured the house that a proposal would be initiated shortly to engage M/s. SGS Aviation (erstwhile HART Aviation, taken over by M/s SGS, Australia) for carrying out Audit of all helicopters of all operators.
3	Violation of safety procedures by ground crew of GVHL.	It was brought out in the meeting that at times ground crew near the helicopter are wearing slippers and are in the habit of using mobile phone next to helicopters. Pilots are also not checking ground crew to refrain use of mobile phone and wearing of slippers. ED-COL instructed GM-HAL to convey suitable instructions to the operators on the subject issue immediately and ensure compliance.
4	Investigation of helicopter VT-GVA incident by DGCA.	The representatives of collectives demanded that the incident happened on 26.06.2018 should be investigated by DGCA and Helicopter to be flown only after their clearance. The house was informed that DGCA has been informed by GVHL and ONGC about the incident and the team has already reached the premises of the operator for further investigation.
5	Overseeing the process of Helicopter Clearance by suitably qualified / trained Engineers of ONGC.	It was brought-out by collectives that helicopter inspection to be overseen by DGCA qualified engineers and also trained ONGC employees. The house was informed by ED-COL and GM-HAL that ONGC does not have Type-rated qualified Engineers who have certification and authorisation by DGCA. The earlier

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		practice of overseeing helicopter inspection on operational helicopters by ONGC employees was objected by DGCA officials, being contradictory to regulations. ED-COL informed the house that case has been initiated for recruiting suitably qualified type-rated and DGCA certified AME Engineers. He also requested ED-HRO to take up the matter on priority with Hqrs for early recruitment.
6	Third Party Inspection before release of helicopters for flying.	To a query of the collectives, it was clarified by DGM (L) - Air Safety that as per DGCA regulations, only the authorized quality personnel and accountable managers are competent to release and declare the helicopter serviceable. It was further informed that the process involves well laid down documentation procedure including ground and hover tests, if required, which are also signed by the pilot testing the machine alongwith concerned engineer who was involved with the maintenance of the air-craft.
7	Flight Data Analysis to enhance safe helicopter operations.	President, ASTO has shown his concern about the practice of data analysis post flight stage for enhancing safety, involving pilots' behavioural aspects and handling of helicopters. The matter was deliberated in detail and ED-COL asked GM-HAL to explore these possibilities and services available in the market and their integration in the ongoing contracts. It was desired that as gathered BG has engaged some service provider who conducts referred FOQA (Flight Operations Quality Assurance) on their Chartered helicopters. ED-COL assured the house that all efforts are being taken by Air Logistics for enhancing the safety of helicopter operations. He further assured that issues discussed today (26.06.2018) shall be accorded topmost priority for their early implantation.

ED-Head RO concluded the meeting with his concluding remarks, acknowledging the positive approach of collectives and assured that ONGC shall make all out efforts to enhance the morale of offshore personnel.

Meeting ended in a cordial atmosphere, with the vote of thanks.

(M. GANESHAN)
DGM (HR) – Incharge IR

No. WOU/IR/9(16)/2018

Date: 09.07.2018

Distribution:

- (1) All Participants
- (2) ED-AM, N&H Asset / B&S Asset / ED-CDS
- (3) GM – HOS

Annexure – 1**Present:**

Sl. No.	Representing Management S/Shri	Representing Collective(s) S/Shri
1	S. Gopinath, ED - HRO	ASTO
2	P.K. Dileep, ED – AM, MH Asset	P N Pathak, President
3	Manas Chakraborty, ED - COL	A. Gavaskar, Vice President
4	A K Agrawal, GM (HR)	S.K. Srivastava, Secretary
5	Apurba Chaturvedi, GM - HAL	Virendra Tauk, Joint Secretary
6	Bakul Kumar, GM(P)	Ms. Jayashree Dohare, Lady Representative
7	Gp. Capt. S.S. Prasad, DGM (AS)	
8	P K Arya, CE(P)	ONGC (WOU) Karmachari Sanghtana
9	Wg Cdr. Ivor Maria Simoes, Domain Expert, Aviation	Prakash N Dalvi, President
10		Parag Kadam, Vice President
11		Arvind Korgaonkar, Secretary, Offshore
12		Sunil Chitnis, Secretary, Offshore
13		Navanath Temkar, Secretary, Offshore
14		
15		Petroleum Employees Union
16		Revankar Sundeep, Dy General Secretary
17		Santosh Patil, Dy General Secretary
		Vaibhav Lavekar, Secretary, Offshore
18		NQO Crew
19		K.K. Basu, OIM
20		Arijeet Saha, AEE (P)
		Suvesh Khairnar, JAT (P)

Convenor: M. Ganeshan, DGM (HR)-Incharge IR

