



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

25.03.2020

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

Sub: Declaration of COVID-19 as Disaster

Sir,

Vide order no. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 24.03.2020 Government of India has declared the threatened spread of COVID-19 as National Disaster and Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Sh. Narendra Modi has declared complete lock down of the country effective midnight of 24th March 2020. In his address to the nation Prime Minister has exhorted all of us to stay home and ensure that the spread of corona virus is contained.

Guidelines have also been issued by Ministry of Home Affairs in this regard. As per clause 1 of the Guidelines we come under the exceptions as Petroleum is exempted and vide gazette notification dated 28th February 2020 we have already been declared to be a public utility service.

ASTO appreciates the actions taken by EC and we pledge our support in order to ensure that India overcomes this emergent situation. We are sure that in addition to the measures taken so far, you shall be taking further measures to ensure that safety and health of employees gets top most priority parallely also ensuring continuity of essential operations.

It is also a trying time for all our colleagues working in field operations. Nearly 4000 of them staying away from their families (14 days ON/OFF - now to be continued at least till 16th April 2020) and another 6000 of them going daily in shifts. Such large movement of our colleagues exposes them to the risk of coming in contact with the deadly virus but our colleagues have gladly taken up this challenge. We are sure that ONGC shall be taking more than adequate measures to overcome this challenge that the world is facing.

Sir, in view of this emergent situation ASTO would like to make following suggestions for your consideration:

1. We need to take immediate measures to boost the confidence and morale of our colleagues working in field operations. All the rules that restrict their claims etc. like TA, loan Advances adjustments, duration of availing C-Off for carrying out extra duties needs to be exempted.
2. Round the clock availability of Helicopter in all Field areas of Offshore for ensuring smooth operations as well as to handle any emergency and medical evacuation.
3. Quarantine facilities at Helibase instead of quarantine facilities at Process complexes.
4. Supply of food, drinking waters, medicines to all DSAs at Onshore and all locations at Offshore – As per our information this is going on efficiently and effectively.
5. Supply of adequate ATF and HSD to Offshore process complexes.



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6. We may suspend the drilling, well services, logging, cementing services etc. work in onshore as our employees are being exposed to high risk due to the very nature of job (TEAM WORK) as social distancing can't be maintained. Also it involves traveling in shift buses or light vehicles to sites from various residences and DSA and intermingling of people with unknown travel histories.
7. In surface Installations also we need to curtail the manpower to minimum required.
8. We are seeing that companies like IOC etc. are using the social media very effectively to showcase the essential services that they are carrying on. ONGC may also do so.
9. In the Offices we need to cut down the strength drastically and rather prepare a roster of the officers whom we can depute to field operations temporarily to suitably replace officers posted in field to give due rest as and when required.
10. Review and if possible bring back the seismic field parties to base wherever feasible.
11. Necessary permission may be sought from state governments under clause 4 and 5 of the guidelines to ensure smooth movement of our employees to field.
12. Sanitization of workplaces, vehicles and shift buses.
13. More employee friendly measures for officers working in field.

We are given to understand from the news articles and social media that world over Oil and Gas Industry has cut down their operations and also reduced their manpower across their operations.

Sir, this is a challenging time for the whole world. Ongcians in such circumstances have always proved their mettle and stood firm with whatever decisions the management has taken. This time also we are ready to face the challenge head on.

With warm Regards

(Amit Kumar)
President CWC

Copy to:

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