



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

Telefax : 011-26129098 Email : amitkumar@ongc.co.in



AMIT KUMAR
PRESIDENT-CWC
9868282105

ASTO CWC NEWSLETTER - 1

Arise Awake Stop Not Till the Goal Is Achieved

Dear Friends,

All of you are aware that election of President ASTO CWC was conducted on 21st and 22nd June 2018 at Guwahati. Your CWC started its functioning right from the day of its election. The same day we discussed the pending issues and the agenda was prepared for taking up with management.

Friends, have been number of issues, welfare as well as organization, which have remained unresolved. It was with extreme anguish CEC discussed the non-payment of field allowances, non-implementation of LSRS, pay anomalies, unsafe operations, stagnating growth of ONGC, EPS 1995 pension scheme, dwindling morale of ONGC employees. House was of opinion that the situation is very grave and would require herculean efforts to achieve our objective. President CWC assured that no stone shall be left unturned to ensure justice to all the employees.

CEC, after detailed deliberations passed two resolutions on safety and welfare issues. The copy of the resolution has already circulated amongst all of you through social media and also is available on our website www.astodelhi.org.

ASTO met and interacted with CMD, Directors, MD OVL and Directors of OVL on 26th and 27th June 2018 at Delhi and apprised them of various issues where urgent action is required. Management has assured us of full support and we have already started discussion on various issues.

Friends, we have hit the ground running and this has started yielding results. Orders for amendment to laptop scheme, changes in on/off pattern scheme at Assam Asset have already been issued. We have also started interaction program with our members and we have held GBMs at offshore installations (SHW, ICP, MNW & Sagar Kiran) and Kolkata office so far.

We have had two meetings with management, one on safety issues related to offshore and other one related to self-booking tool of Balmer Lawrie. The minutes are available on our website.

We shall shortly submit our proposals on welfare issues, field allowances, review of R&P, pay anomalies etc. to management for early redressal.



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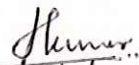
Friends, an issue, which is being examined by CWC, for further action, is EPS – 95 and it is understood that there is a large scale confusion and misunderstanding amongst the members. Therefore it is felt prudent to bring out some details and concerns; The details are as under:

1. EPS – 95 is a pension scheme being operated by EPFO and is financed to the tune of 8.33% out of 12% employer's contribution to CPF/EPF.
2. The section 3 (2) of the act stipulates that GOI contributes 1.16% to the corpus but it is restricted to the 1.16% of the statutory ceiling, which presently is Rs. 15,000 per month.
3. Section 11 (3) of the act defines the pensionable salary, which has the provision of drawing pension on a salary higher than the minimum ceiling if Employer and Employee choose to contribute on such higher salary since 1995. This is not applicable to exempted organizations that are running their own CPF trusts.
4. Thousands of retired employees from exempted organizations have approached various courts to get pension on higher salary by contributing required funds to EPFO directly.
5. In case we are allowed to join the EPS 95 on our actual salary, we will have to transfer 8.33% of CPF from 12% contributed by the employer, including interest earned there on from 1995 onwards.
6. It is to be noted that there will not be any support from government nor companies will be allowed to finance such pension. The corpus contributed by us may exhaust within 6 to 7 years. With this projection how the scheme shall run also needs to be ascertained.

In view of all the above deliberations, ASTO is of the opinion to move cautiously by examining all the aspects narrated above. A team of ASTO is working on the same. We have initiated examination by legal and financial experts and have set a target of one month i.e. by end of August to take action as deemed fit. In case, we have to approach the court of Law, ASTO shall do so on behalf of all its members and individual need not go to court for the same. There could be some of our friends who may be having contrarian view to ours and trying to take advantage of the prevailing confusion; they are also advised to exercise extreme caution in this regard. **Hence we advise all officers to wait till ASTO finalizes its strategy on EPS 1995 by August end.**

Friends, ASTO has entered into its 51st year of existence. We have continued to support our members with utmost dedication and sincerity. You can reach out to us for any issue 24*7.

Long Live ASTO Unity


26/7/2018
(Amit Kumar)

President ASTO – CWC


26/7/2018
(S K Chaturvedi)

General Secretary - CWC