



# ASSOCIATION OF SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL OFFICERS

OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION LIMITED, NEW DELHI

Registered with the Registrar of Societies U.P., Lucknow, Registration No. 172 (1967-68)



**AMIT KUMAR**  
President - CWC

No. ASTO/CWC/.....Pres/2008-10/CMD-Emergency

01.09.2008

To

**Chairman and Managing Director**  
ONGC Ltd.  
Jeevan Bharati Tower-II  
New Delhi

**Subject: Major accident at ICP on 30.08.2008**

Sir,

ASTO has been raising the issue of safety from time to time in its meeting with the management. It is unfortunate that having emphasized so much on safety there has been little improvement in the safety conditions at our installations and in our operations. Various audit surveys have proven our contention that our offshore installations are highly unsafe. It is quite disturbing to see the decline in safety being observed in our offshore operations. In the recent past we have had a major accident at BHN and having paid a huge price of losing the BHN; it is obvious that we have not learnt much so far.

On Saturday, 30.08.2008 an OSV SCI03 while trying to work at ICD could not maneuver properly and collided with riser located northwest of ICG platform. Initial report suggests that there was a failure at the OSV which the captain of SCI03 could not handle and the boat went out of control. Due to this impact the water line close to gas riser was damaged. Incidentally the same ship had collided with another installation on 28/29 August 2008. Though the vessel was supposed to be DP1 vessel, however, the system was nonfunctional. It is only by the grace of God that a major catastrophe could be avoided otherwise we would have had similar accident as BHN which was hit and destroyed on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2006. The shocking fact is that we have failed to learn and act on the reports of previous accidents. There are still wide gaps in our safety practices and a big compromise is being made on safety in offshore operations.

This accident at ICP is equally or rather more serious than that of BHN and cannot be taken lightly. Repeated occurrence of such incidence has shaken the confidence of our officers working at offshore installations and has had a demoralizing effect on the officers' community at large.

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This incident is again a reminder to all of us that offshore is becoming increasingly unsafe and may result in fresh accident at offshore any time; leading to major loss of our men as well as property.

The officers at offshore installation are thoroughly demoralized by the inaction of the management. Following actions are required immediately:

1. Immediate publishing of the incident report alongwith initial findings on the OR.net.
2. Visit of the EC alongwith ASTO immediately to offshore and boost the morale of the officers.
3. Bring out the measures being taken immediately, so that such incidences do not occur in future.

The action on above issues be taken within 15 days time else we will have no option but to advise our colleagues to refuse to work and evacuate all unsafe hazardous offshore installations and for this the management shall be solely responsible.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Amit Kumar)  
President-CWC

**Copy to:**

1. Director (HR), ONGC, New Delhi.
2. Director (Onshore), ONGC, New Delhi.
3. Director (Offshore), ONGC, New Delhi.
4. Director (T&FS), ONGC, New Delhi.
5. Director (Exploration), ONGC, New Delhi.
6. Director (Finance), ONGC, New Delhi.
7. ED-Chief ER, ONGC, Dehradun.
8. President/Secretary of all ASTO units.