



# 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-27

08.09.2008

To

**Chairman and Managing Director**

ONGC Ltd.

Jeevan Bharati Tower-II

New Delhi

**Subject: Major Accident at ONGC Contract Rig on 6<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2008.**

Sir,

ONGC contractual rig Pride Pennsylvania is located at unmanned platform WB in Mumbai High South field. On 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at 1350 hrs. a fire took place on the derrick floor which is Zone-0 and 5 crew members were injured. One of them is ONGC's tool pusher on board who suffered 70% severe burns and is in a critical stage at Hinduja Hospital, Mumbai.

ASTO has been pointing out issues related to proper implementation of safety norms in ONGC's operations and day-to-day activities. However, we have failed to learn and act on the reports on the accidents neither we want to implement the safety norms properly. In fact accidents at the offshore have become very common. In this regard, we would like to point out that one OSV had earlier hit the same rig few days back and only by the grace of God a major catastrophe was averted.

In this particular accident it is surprising that fire has taken place in Zone-0. This accident has shaken the spirit of all the ONGCians especially our colleagues working on the drilling rigs where their concerned that fire has taken place in Zone-0. Already in our letter No.ASTO/CWC/Pres/2008-10/CMD-Emergency dated 01.09.2008 we have informed you that if proper measure are not put in place immediately then 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.

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It is requested that the preliminary report of this accident be put on the OR.net and action be initiated against the contractor for the lapses, if any.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Amit Kumar)  
29/9/2008

**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. President/Secretary of all ASTO units.