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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 (1987-88)



Date: 09.08.2006

News Letter - 16

K. MIRCHANDANI
RESIDENT ASTO CWC
Dear ASTO Members,

No. ASTO/CWC

We are pained to inform you that the issue of Golden jubilee cash reward to ONGC employees has not yet been finalised. In the Board meeting held on 08.08.06 at Delhi, the Government Nominated Directors rejected the proposal to pay Rs 50,000/- in one single installment along with the salary of August 2006. Instead the proposal is to pay Rs 50,000/- in 5 yearly installments. We have out rightly rejected any proposal to reward our contribution in principle.

You are all aware that ONGC management has been steering this issue in the Board and the Ministry for the past two months without much success, due to the indifferent attitude and the highhandedness of the Ministry, which had dragged its feet on this critical and emotional issue. The attitude of the Ministry and its representative on ONGC Board indicates that they are not in a mood to recognize the importance of the contribution of its employees towards ONGC's growth and nation's energy security. The callousness and the parochial attitude of the Ministry have come as an insult to the dignity and self respect of the employees of ONGC. More than the reward and recognition, we value and cherish our dignity and contribution to this great organization. We are pained to inform you that we feel greatly disappointed, deeply hurt and cheated by the shameless act of Ministry in denying us our due share. The stop motherly attitude of the Ministry is also well exemplified in the deliberate delay in appointing a full time Chairman and selectively crippling ONGC's long-term vision by throwing spanner in many of its new initiatives.

The denial of our legitimate share on the occasion of Golden Jubilee has come as the proverbial last straw and we cannot take it lying down anymore. We have to give the Ministry and its subservient bureaucracy a befitting reply on the Golden Jubilee year in order to restore the honour, dignity and self respect of ONGC employees.

Friends, we have decided to totally boycott all the Golden Jubilee celebrations scheduled to be organized in the Head Quarters (HQ) and all the work centres on 14.08.2006 to show our protest. Executives will refrain from the preparations for and participation in all events, programs and functions relating to the Golden Jubilee celebrations. However, only two office bearers of ASTO attend the flag hoisting and pay tributes to the ONGCians who sacrificed their life for this organization. In no case the executives i.e. the ASTO members would attend any function. We understand that a huge financial outlay has been planned for Golden Jubilee celebrations in the HQ and various work centres. Accordingly we have informed ONGC management to cancel all the celebrations and save the organization from the avoidable extravaganza to please the Ministry. We the executives would celebrate the occasion by refraining from all festivities to show our protest to the Ministry and rededicating ourselves to improve productivity by finding and flowing more oil to enrich our ultimate owners, the citizens of India.

Your solidarity and total cooperation in this regard would help teach the arrogant Ministry and Bureaucracy that the technocrats of ONGC would not take things lying down and unitedly fight to restore our dignity honour and self-respect.

Long live ASTO unity.

L.K. MIRCHANDANI

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