

PETROLEUM EMPLOYEES UNION

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SINCE : 1954

Date : 30.10.2025

To,

The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
Deendayal Urja Bhavan,
5 Nelson Mandela Marg,
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi -110070.

Respected Sir,

A story has been published on ONGC reports regarding ONGC's SMC meeting - Manan 2025 has states that:

Quote: "The Sanchay Council also decided to discontinue bottled water supply to offshore rigs, shifting entirely to on-board water makers (RO/Aqua guard). Dry provisions will be supplied once a month and vegetables and non-veg supplies every two weeks, with increased cold storage capacity."

Unquote:-

We, being a responsible recognised union, strongly condemn these both decisions on behalf of each and every person deputed to offshore for performing his/her duties.

It is very clear that the decision-makers who have decided this have no understanding of the ground reality of the Organization, especially offshore. We request that these decision-makers, in addition to our respected Chairman- CEO and Directors visit the offshore locations in person to understand the ground reality instead of making decisions based on paperwork. Also, please ensure that visits are made to offshore platforms and rigs such as BPB, BPA, ICP, SHP, WIN, SCA, Rigs etc., rather than VIP platforms like MHN, NWIS-R etc.

These "Tughlaqi" decisions clearly show that none of these decision-makers have an actual understanding of the current offshore conditions. While some of them may have served at offshore locations in the past, at that time the platforms were new and well-maintained, and most systems were functioning perfectly. In contrast, the current condition is such that most of the systems appear to be working perfectly only on paper.

In an attempt to save a very small amount of money, we are risking the health of our offshore employees. These are the employees who work tirelessly for the uninterrupted operations that account for almost 70% of our production.

The following are the reasons why water from the water maker cannot be used for drinking:

1. STP (Sewage Treatment Plant) Units: Most of the STP units on offshore installations are not functioning properly, so untreated toilet water, mixed with human waste, is discharged into the sea near the water maker's suction. This creates significant health hazards. How can employees drink water when they know it is produced from sewage water?

TEL - RASAYAN BHAVAN, Tilak Road, Dadar (E.), Mumbai - 400 014.

2. Oil Spillage: Oil spillage is visible around the platforms almost all the time. "Produced water conditioner" system is not fully functional at most of the platforms. The water maker will suck in this oil along with water. The water produced, mixed with oil and other contaminants, is not safe for human consumption.

3. Rust and Cleanliness of Potable Water Tanks: Most of the potable water tanks are heavily rusted and have not been cleaned for years. Drinking water stored in these tanks can be extremely dangerous to health in the long run.

4. Corroded Pipelines: The pipelines that carry water from the water maker to storage tanks, and from the storage tanks to the water distribution points, are heavily corroded and filled with biofilm growth. There is no mechanism to clean these pipelines. Water carried through these pipes is highly unsafe for human consumption.

5. High TDS in Potable Water: It has been observed that the TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) of potable water exceeds 300-500, making it unsafe to drink. This can lead to many health issues.

6. Mineral Deficiency: Studies have shown that potable water produced from seawater is generally lacking in essential minerals required for the daily functioning of the human body. Drinking this water can cause various long-term health issues.

7. Insufficient testing facility:- Offshore installations do not have testing facility to test biotic components in water, chemical contamination in water etc which is required for qualifying it as drinking water. As per the information received, on-board chemist can only test TDS of water.

8. For water injection purpose various chemicals are injected to the water. These chemicals are very dangerous for human consumption. Excess water from this water injection system is constantly drained directly into the sea from the water injection platform from where suction of water maker is nearby. Presence of these chemicals in drinking water may cause serious health issues in long run.

Reasons for Continuing Weekly Food Box Delivery:

1. Storage Limitations: Most of the platforms do not have storage facilities to store food items for more than 7 days.

2. Inefficient Storage Systems: Refrigerators and deep freezers are unable to maintain the proper temperature, and the exhaust fan and other systems in the dry storage area are also non-functional.

3. The number of "Persons on Board" at almost all installations is consistently higher than the designed capacity. Changing the supply schedule would result in a shortage of nutritious food.

In light of the above, we request that you instruct the relevant authorities to refrain from implementing such decisions. If any person's health is deteriorated in offshore due to this water then ONGC management will be solely responsible. Furthermore, before making any future decisions regarding offshore installations, decision-makers should personally visit all the installations to assess the actual conditions of various systems like cold storages, HVAC, STP, living quarters, water maker etc., instead of relying on paperwork that suggests everything is functioning properly.

Now days, Decisions are being formulated unilaterally without taking recognised collectives into confidence. This practice is against law and also harmful for growth and smooth functioning of Organisation.



"People in Offshore & Plants" are being responsible for production and "the higher management" is being responsible for providing an arrangement for them. Employees in field performs their role correctly but with such decisions is management playing their role correctly?

More than 70% of the production comes from the western offshore unit. Rigs operate to enhance this production, find new discoveries, and both Uran and Hazira plants process this production and dispatch it further. The Maharatna status of ONGC, high-class offices in prime areas with fancy glass buildings, press conferences in 5-star hotels, foreign tours, luxury cars like Audi and Mercedes for E8, E9, and above-level employees, costly higher ipads to E9 employees etc., everything is in place because of the employees working in these hazardous areas.

Recently, in the name of cost-cutting, management is trying to implement decisions that are directly affecting the health and morale of the people who actually work for the bread and butter of the Organization. Our Company is an Oil production – based Organization, and we have been discharging Oil into the sea for many years without following a proper recovery process, such as the PWC process. Management has not focused on recovering this lost oil, which results in both financial losses and environmental degradation for both ONGC and Nation. Instead of addressing this kind of issues, management seems more interested in cutting down basic necessities such as drinking water, food and PPE for offshore employees who are already working away from their families. Taking care of production along with the employees who are tirelessly working for it is also the management's responsibility. By thinking of forcing them to drink contaminated water and depriving them of nutritious food, it seems that management is neglecting their basic needs.

We request to give assurance of continued availability of existing drinking water facility at offshore Installations in future.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature of Santosh J. Patil in black ink, with the date 30/10/25 written below it.

(Santosh J. Patil)
General Secretary

Copy to :

1. Director (Prodn.) , ONGC, N.Delhi.
2. Director (HR) ONGC, N.Delhi.
2. Director (T&FS) ONGC, N.Delhi.
3. ED(HR) Chief ER, ONGC, N.Delhi
4. ED-WOU, ONGC, Mumbai.
5. ED-CDS, ONGC, 11 High, Mumbai.
6. ED – Asset Manager – MH / B&S / N&H
7. ED – PMU, Hazira Plant, Surat
8. ED – CS HR WOU, Mumbai.
9. GGM – PMU, ONGC Uran Plant
10. GM (HR) – I/C IR, Mumbai.