



# OIL & NATURAL GAS CORPORATION (WOU) KARMACHARI SANGHTANA

AFFILIATED TO - PETROLIUM & GAS WORKERS' FEDERATION OF INDIA

Reg. No. (By - II - 8268)

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REF. : ONGC/KS/246/2018

DATE : 02/02/2018

To,  
**The ED-HDS**  
ONGC,WOU,  
11 High, Bandra Sion Road,  
Mumbai : 400 017.

O/c

**The GGM-HDS, Deep Water Drilling**

**Subject : Banning of Mobile Phones on board by ONGC in East Coast, highly objectionable.**

Respected Sir,

This has reference to the OO No. ONG/EOA/SEC/Civil/Rjy Airport 18/1 dtd. 18.01.2018 regarding banning of Mobile Phone on board by ONGC. The above order is issued by Col. SPS Chouhan (Retd), DGM-I/c. Security of Rajahmundry Project. The order has spread chaos on all our Rigs, i.e. S/Vijay, S/Bhusan, S/Ratna deployed in east coast. This decision is not only unmindful also too abrupt. It was brought to their notice only when they reached Rajahmundry Air Port for plying to their respective Rig. Your esteemed authority is well aware that there is no arrangement for depositing Mobile phones at Airport as it is available at Juhu Helibase in Mumbai. Crew members had to make their own arrangement, keeping their mobile phones in Rajahmundry.

We have received a copy of representation from Rig S/Ratna, S/Bhushan, and S/Vijay narrating the multifarious problems they are facing on implementation of the above office order.

As recognised union, we have strong objection, cause while issuing this order it has been discussed with recognised union not even with ASTO. It would have been in proper direction if the issue had been discussed with collectives. We could have addressed the need of mobile phones in east coast to the management, a unilateral decision, isolating all the employees could have been avoided.

The crew members have strong objection as internet facility on Rigs is always disturbed, intermittent and painstakingly slow. Internet is required without disruption on rigs to book the Air tickets and to fill up the personal claims. More over our Rig phones are also connected to Internet hence with the prevailing situation gets disconnected. This is happening very frequently on Rigs deployed in East Coast. Even Rig In-charges are compelled to send their DPR through Mobile Phones using their personal Net pack when internet service is not available.

Crew members posted in East coast has to travel by changing two three flights one way. On more than one occasion flights gets delayed where crew has to inform their families that they have reached safely on the Rig by using Mobile Phone only. Even if any untoward incident happens during travelling, Mobile is the only arrangement through which they remain connected with their families and the outside world.

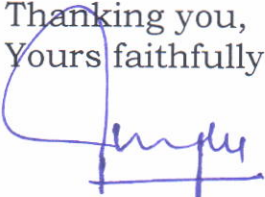
It has been mentioned in the circular that instructions have been issued by head quarters for banning of Mobile Phones on board. It is beyond our understanding how security measures can be improved by banning Mobiles on board. At the same time Union would like to have a copy of the letter issued by headquarter where particularly banning of Mobile is mentioned.

It is very surprising Mumbai High field is having 12 process Platforms, ONGC Owned Rigs and 22 chartered Rigs operate in the field, then why Mumbai High field is not banned carrying mobile phones, "**restriction is only on mobiles with inbuilt cameras**". Then how the decision of banning the mobile phone is taken by concern authority only at Rajahmundry.

The crew members deployed at East Coast are naturally agitated where the sea and weather changes are highly unpredictable. Moreover banning of Mobile phone does not find any logic of safeguarding our installation, because such instructions for WOU which is a biggest field of Oil & Gas of ONGC yet such action in so many years was never imposed. With all the fatal accidents happening in various modes of travel to reach work place in offshore, it is the prime responsibility of the management to make these employees comfortable to have an stress free work atmosphere and that they remain continuously in touch with their family.

Your esteemed authority is requested to kindly give direction to concern authority for withdrawal of the said circular. The crew members of Rig S/Ratna has already observed "**Hunger Strike**" of 24 hours. Early decision in the matter will be highly appreciated to avoid wide spread unrest.

Thanking you,  
Yours faithfully,



**(Pradeep Mayekar)**  
**General Secretary**

O/C

**Copy to :**

1. ED-HRO, ONGC-WOU, Gr. Heights, BKC, Bandra (E), Mum : 51.
2. LM-GM (P), ONGC-WOU, Services, 11 High, Mumbai : 400 017.
3. GM, Security, ONGC-WOU, Gr. Heights, BKC, Bandra (E), Mum : 51.
4. Rig In-Charge S-Ratna, ONGC-WOU, 11 High, Mumbai : 17.
5. Rig In-Charge S-Bhushan, ONGC-WOU, 11 High, Mumbai : 17.
6. Rig In-Charge S-Vijay, ONGC-WOU, 11 High, Mumbai : 17. *Ashwan*
7. GM, I/c HR/ER, Services, ONGC-WOU, 11 High, Mum : 17.
8. DGM, I/c IR, ONGC-WOU, Gr. Heights, BKC, Bandra (E), Mum : 51.

*6/2/18*  
*S. K. S.*  
*A. S.*  
*M. S.*  
*M. S.*