

PETROLEUM & GAS WORKERS' FEDERATION OF INDIA

PGWF,



PRESIDENT

Pradheep Mayekar

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GENERAL SECRETARY

Swadesh Deo Roye

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Shri Murli Deora
The Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas
Government of India
Shastri Bhavan
New Delhi – 110 001

14th January 2009

Dear Sir,

We are extremely shocked at the cruelty perpetrated with the leaders of the oil PSUs Officers Associations, leaders of their apex body, Oil Sector Officers' Association (OSOA) and the individual officers in dealing with the strike commenced on 7th January 2009 and withdrawn on 9th January 2009 responding to the call of the Government and also addressing the hardship faced by the public in the country.

The most atrocious and unbecoming act of the authorities is that, as per report, 69 Executives have been inflicted the capital punishment of arbitrary termination from services and 12 others served with orders of suspension from services. Judged from the sequence of events it will appear that the punishment has been awarded, as if, as a measure of 'crude reward' for honouring the appeal to call off the strike.

You are kindly well aware that the strike launched by the officers did not come at all in hurry. In fact OSOA has been approaching the Government with the issues related to the long pending pay revision with effect from 1.1.2007 since early 2005. Since May 2006 on several occasions they served notice of agitation including strike and on every occasion postponed the same responding to the request of the Ministry but the commitments given to them were not honoured by the authorities. Having exhaustively participated in protracted bilateral exercise for amicable settlement with immense endurance but without satisfactory settlement, we have to say that, the strike, as a last resort, was rather imposed on the officers of oil PSUs.

The workers in PSUs in the country are in the midst of negotiations for pay revision. There are many burning issues concerning the pay revision which have been agitating the regular workers as well as the contract workers totaling more than 20 lakhs. In petroleum sector the question is all the more prominent.

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We have viewed the whole situation very seriously. We strongly protest the uncalled for capital punishment arbitrarily inflicted on the Executives of oil PSUs. It appears that the authorities have no appreciation and concern about the dedication and efficiency with which these employees have been performing contributing to continuous excelling of all round efficiency of the oil PSUs in the country. Such cold shouldering of the Executives by the authorities is ironical and provocative. The humiliation inflicted on the Executives through stage managed media terming the Executives 'terrorist', anti-national' etc has grievously injured the feeling of even the family members of the Executives, let alone the Executives themselves and the entire workers fraternity too.

During your incumbency as the Minister, we have never experienced such unfortunate situation. While expressing our total fraternal solidarity with the Executives in this hour of severe distress, we request you to kindly intervene in the matter and ensure immediate revocation of all steps of victimization, particularly the total termination and suspension orders.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

(Swadesh Dev Roye)
General Secretary

Copy to

Chairman & Managing Director
All Oil Sector PSUs