

TAPAN SENMEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)MEMBER : STANDING COMMITTEE
ON PETROLEUM & NATURAL GASOFFICE : 13-A, ROUSE AVENUE
NEW DELHI-110002
PHONE : 23221288, 23221306
FAX : 23221284RESIDENCE : 524, V P HOUSE,
RAFI MARG, NEW DELHI-110 001
Tel: 2376 6546 Mobile: 98681 81055
E-mail : tapan.sen@sansad.nic.in**13th January 2009****Dear Shri Deora,**

It is shocking to note that around 69 officers of ONGC and IOC have been dismissed from service summarily for participation in strike called by Oil Sector Officers Association (OSOA). Around 12 officers have also been put under suspension.

Moreover, as per my information, termination letters were served upon the concerned officers after the strike was called off by OSOA, although they were all dated 8th January 2009.

While the issues involved are open for discussion, serving order for summary dismissal on the concerned officers without giving them the opportunity to explain their conducts, after the strike was called off, tantamount to violation of principle of natural justice to the officers concerned which is unbecoming of a PSU management.

On enquiry, I came to know that OSOA deferred its strike decision at least thrice in response to the assurance given by the Govt to sort out the issues involved thereby demonstrating their readiness and flexibility for a negotiated settlement. Hence, inaction on the part of the ministry and management to meet the assurances had also been an important component of provocation leading to the strike situation which may please be taken note of.

I would urge upon to please appreciate that vindictive action against the collective expression of resentment as demonstrated by the mass scale termination/suspension orders cannot be the solution in the present situation. On the contrary such an approach may prove counter-productive resulting in demoralization and affecting the operational efficiency which is so crucial in the Oil sector PSUs. It may be noted that not only the officers but the entire workforce of the Oil sector PSUs are very much resented over the repressive measures let lose on the officers.

In view of the above, I would request you to please have a relook into the entire situation and intervene so that the orders for summary dismissals are withdrawn and serious efforts are made to sort out the issues involved through meaningful bipartite dialogue.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

 (TAPAN SEN)

Shri Murli Deora
Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas
Govt of India
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.