CASE STUDY

OISD/CS/2023-24/E&P/06 Dt.: 06.07.2023

INTRODUCTION

Title: Man overboard (MOB).
Location: Offshore platform.
Loss/ Outcome: Loss of life (Missing).

BRIEF OF INCIDENT

On the evening of the incident date, a person was found overboard at an offshore manned platform. In response to this event, the man overboard alarm was raised, and a comprehensive SAR (Search and Rescue) was launched. The MOB could not be traced out till date.

OBSERVATIONS/ SHORTCOMINGS

Following observations were made during investigation by visit at the incident site, interaction with the related officials, their written statements, and available documents:

- On the incident date, the supervisor noticed MOB in the switchgear room naked and instructed him to dress appropriately. After observing his subordinate (MOB) in naked condition, the supervisor left him unattended and went to TG control room to inform about his abnormal behaviour.
- TG control personnel also after learning of his naked condition and abnormal behaviour did not keep close watch on his activities.
- The supply vessels close to the platform failed to launch rescue boats within time limits as per SOLAS regulations.
- The surveillance of installation through CCTV was not available.

PROABLE ROOT CAUSE OF THE INCIDENT

- Most likely underlying cause of the incident appears to be related to MOB mental state, as he exhibited abnormal behaviour.

Provided for information purpose only. This information should be evaluated to determine if it is applicable in your operations, to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Management may look into feasibility of providing CCTV coverage with night vision facility.
- The management may explore the possibility of implementing a mental and psychological health monitoring system through Periodic Medical Examinations (PME) or as required.
- Personnel / Contractors who have completed their tasks should be promptly manifested out from offshore without delay.
- Mock Drills should be covered with CCTV footage.
- SOP needs to be prepared to handle situations of abnormal behaviour.
- Sufficient illumination levels should be maintained in deck areas even in case of power failure by installing additional emergency lights.
- Doctor on-board and HSE Manager should be trained in handling psychologically disturbed cases.
- All supply vessels (OSVs) should be audited for the status of Rescue boats being maintained by them.
- The status of FRC available with OSVs should be checked during annual mock drill of OSV.

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