



भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

नौवहन महादेशाल / DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING

“बिटा बिल्डिंग”, 9 वी मंजिल / “BETA BUILDING”, 9th FLOOR

आई-थिंक टेक्नो कैम्पस / I-THINK TECHNO CAMPUS

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F. No. 19-NT(6)/2009-Pt-II

Dated: 25.11.16

Merchant Shipping Notice No. 13 of 2016

Sub.: Servicing of life saving appliances, launching appliances and on-load release gears etc.- reg.

The International Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 [SOLAS Convention] addresses, inter-alia, matters pertaining to life-saving appliances and arrangements on merchant ships, at Chapter III of the said Convention. In India, this is addressed by the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, Merchant Shipping (Life Saving Appliances) Rules 1991 and the orders/ notices/circulars issued by the Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India from time to time.

2. Regulation 20 of the SOLAS Convention deals with operational readiness, maintenance and inspections. Sub-para 8 of the said Regulation refers to the servicing of inflatable liferafts, inflatable lifejackets, marine evacuation systems and maintenance & repairs of inflatable rescue boats. Sub-para 9 of the said Regulation adverts to the periodic servicing of hydrostatic release units. Sub-para 11 of said Regulation encompasses the periodic servicing of launching appliances and on-load release gears.

3. The Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India has issued instructions on the subject vide its Engineering Circular No.122 dated 26.08.10 on ‘Measures and Recommendations to Prevent Accidents with Lifeboats issued by the Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) vide MSC/Circ. 1277.I’ [F. No. G/IMO-ENG/MMAM-37(6)/99], Engineering Circular No. 122-A dated 19.02.11 on ‘Addendum to Engineering Circular No. 122’ [F. No. ENG/MMAM-37(6)/99 Vol.I], Engineering Circular No. 122 B dated 22.04.13 on ‘Addendum to Engineering Circular No. 122’ [F. No. ENG/MMAM-37(6)/99], Nautical Wing Miscellaneous Circular No. 02 of 2014 dated 04.03.14 on ‘Uniformity in mandatory servicing of LSA, navigational and radio communication equipments’ [F. No. 19-NT(6)/2009], Engineering Circular No. 3 of 2014 dated 09.04.14 on ‘Servicing of lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear’ [F. No. ENG/MMAM-37(8)/05] & NT Circular No. NT/LSA/01/2016 dated 19.02.16 on ‘Servicing of Life Saving Appliances’ [F. No.19-NT(6)/2009-Pt.II].

4. The Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India has received representations from several stakeholders, including the Indian National Shipowners' Association [INSA] and ICC Shipping Association [ICCSA], as the end users thereof, requesting to reconsider certain aspects of the circulars referred in para 3 of this notice to ensure robust competition for the benefit of the Indian shipping industry.

5. The matter has been examined with a view to ensure an ease of doing business without compromising on maritime safety. Accordingly, it has been decided, calibratedly, that para 2 of Engineer Circular No.122-A dated 18.07.11 and para 4 of the Nautical Wing Circular No. NT/LSA/01/2016 dated.19.02.16, both of this office shall be replaced by the following mutatis-mutandis.

6. Noting the appurtenant provisions of the SOLAS Convention, IMO guidelines, various makes of LSAs' being used on Indian ships, increasing number of ports on the Indian coast and the limited number of facilities to meet the time-bound requirements of the shipping industry for carrying out repairs and servicing of various makes of life saving appliances, amongst others, it has been decided that all approved service stations shall, henceforth, be authorized to service all life saving appliances, launching appliances and on-load release gears etc., including lifeboats, liferafts, lifejackets, launching appliances, on-load release gears, etc., subject to the following conditions:

6.1 If the service station has valid a authorization from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) of the equipment concerned, the service station is authorized to certify the servicing of the equipment on a self-certification basis. However, in such a case, the servicing certificate issued by the service station shall include a copy of the valid authorization of the given OEM.

6.2 Other approved service stations not having an approval from the OEMs may service these equipments provided they have necessary spares for carrying out such servicing. However, service stations not having an approval from the OEMs concerned shall require the servicing to be verified by Surveyors of the National Maritime Administration/ Recognized Organization to confirm due compliance with the applicable standards thereon.

7. This is issued with the approval of the Director General of Shipping & Secretary to the Govt. of India.



(Capt. K.P. Jayakumar)

Deputy Nautical Adviser to the Govt. of India