



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

F. No. 23-ABAN/1/2024-CREW - DGS

Date: 21.06.2024

DGS CIRCULAR NO. 15 OF 2024

Subject: Submission of details of seafarers currently working in or scheduled to join vessels in Iran, UAE, or Malaysia – Reg.

Whereas, the Seafarers are required to be recruited through approved Indian registered Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (RPS) agencies, acting on behalf of foreign ship owners, as stipulated by the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules 2016. These regulations ensure that seafarers are recruited through licensed and vetted agencies, which helps in safeguarding the rights and welfare of seafarers, and ensure compliance with national and international maritime laws.

2. And whereas, a Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (RPS) Companies, as per the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules 2016, are required to maintain an up-to-date record of all seafarers recruited or placed through their service, ensuring that this record is available for inspection by the relevant authority upon request. The Companies must also ensure that seafarers are fully informed of their rights and duties under their employment agreements. This includes facilitating the examination of these agreements before and after signing, and providing copies to the seafarers.

3. And whereas, the Companies are required to ensure that the ship owner has means in place to prevent seafarers from being stranded in a port. In cases where a seafarer is stranded, the provider is responsible for making adequate arrangements for the seafarer's repatriation, including maintenance, emergency medical assistance, and transportation of mortal remains in the event of death.

4. And whereas, the Directorate has launched the e-Migrate system for the recruitment of Indian seafarers through Merchant Shipping Notice No. 07 of 2017, dated 11.08.2017, to address challenges faced by Indian seafarers placed on foreign-flagged vessels by unlicensed RPS agencies. This system regulates and monitors recruitment, ensuring transparency and adherence to regulations.

5. And whereas, it has been observed that certain Indian registered Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (RPS) agencies are still engaged in deceitful practices during the recruitment process of Indian seafarers, posing significant risks to their well-being and rights. Consequently, this office has received reports of seafarers facing abandonment, stranding, detention, arrest, and seizure at various ports, particularly in Iran, UAE, and Malaysia. Indian Seafarers are found stranded or abandoned without their wages being settled, and lacking essential provisions such as fresh water and basic necessities on board the vessel, exacerbating their plight and endangering their health and safety.

9वीं मंजिल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैम्पस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व) मुंबई- 400042

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6. And whereas, the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules 2016 also provides that the recruitment and placement service provider must ensure that any incident is reported to the Director- General as soon as possible, and no later than twenty-four hours after receiving such information. This prompt reporting is crucial for the immediate and effective handling of any issues that may arise.

7. However, it has come to Directorate's attention that the incidents are not being reported within the stipulated timeframe. Furthermore, whenever any reports or documents are requested, the necessary documentation is often incomplete or not provided at all. This lack of timely reporting and proper documentation hampers the Directorate's ability to address and resolve issues effectively, thereby jeopardizing the well-being and rights of seafarers.

8. Therefore, the Directorate has developed a “**GOOGLE FORM**” for RPSL Companies and Shipping Companies to submit details of all seafarers currently working in or scheduled to join vessels in Iran, UAE, or Malaysia. All the RPSL and Shipping Companies are required to provide these details as specified in the form. The link of the Google Form is given hereunder:-
- <https://forms.gle/qZmLp1UsZLJsDXebA>

9. In case of non-compliance, the Directorate will be compelled to take appropriate and stringent action against the respective Shipping/RPSL companies.

10. In case of any queries, please write to crews-dgs@nic.in;

11. This issue with the approval of the Director General of Shipping, Mumbai.



(Capt. Manish Kumar)
Nautical Surveyor – cum –
Deputy Director General of Shipping.
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To,

- i. All the Stakeholders.
- ii. RPSL and Shipping Companies.
- iii. Govt. Shipping Office (Mumbai/Chennai/Kolkata)
- iv. Director, Seamen's Employment Office.
- v. Computer Cell for uploading of the same to the DGS Website.