

Delegation of powers to Recognized Organizations (ROs) to carry out statutory surveys of Indian ships below 5000 GT, irrespective of their location

MSL Branch Circular 1 of 2011

**No: MSL-
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Dated:14.03.2011

Sub: Delegation of powers to Recognized Organizations (ROs) to carry out statutory surveys of Indian ships below 5000 GT, irrespective of their location

WHEREAS, agreements have been entered between Government of India and the following classification societies, authorizing them as 'Recognized Organizations' (hereinafter called 'ROs') to carry out statutory surveys of Indian ships for the purpose of issue of certificates under various Merchant Shipping rules/International regulations,

- i. Indian Register of Shipping
- ii. Lloyds Register of Shipping,
- iii. Bureau Veritas
- iv. Det Norske Veritas
- v. American Bureau of Shipping
- vi. Germanischer Lloyd and
- vii. Nippon Kaiki Kyokai,

KEEPING IN MIND the MSL Branch [Circular 1 of 2008](#) dated 02nd July 2008, [M.S. Notice 5 of 2007](#) dated 22nd June 2007 and [M.S. Notice 11 of 2007](#) dated 26th September 2007, wherein the delegation of power for inspection of equipment relating to safety were enunciated,

BY VIRTUE OF, the need to render prompt services to the shipping industry, irrespective of the location of the vessels,

RECALLING the powers conferred under Section 7(3) and Section 9(1-A) of the Merchant Shipping Act (Act 44 of 1958) as amended,

AND WHEREAS, as mutually agreed between ROs and the Directorate General of Shipping in the meeting held on 10th January 2011 under the chairmanship of the Director General of Shipping,

1. The aforementioned with regard to the authorization of statutory surveys of Indian ships stand partially modified as under, with immediate effect:
 - A. The ROs are authorized to
 - i. carry out the surveys for the purpose of issue/endorsement of following Certificates/Documents for vessels below 5000 GT, irrespective of their location;
 - a. Cargo Ship Safety Construction Certificate/ Cargo Ship Construction Certificate;
 - b. Cargo Ship Safety Equipment Certificate/ Cargo Ship Equipment Certificate;
 - c. Cargo Ship Safety Radio Certificate/ Cargo Ship Radio Certificate; and
 - d. Certificates and Documents issued to Cargo ships under MARPOL 73/78 (Annexes-I to VI), SPS Code, OSV Code and MODU Code. and,
 - ii. issue interim certificate 'only one time' for a period not exceeding five (05) months after satisfactory completion of initial/renewal survey; and endorse the existing certificate on satisfactory completion of annual/periodical/ intermediate surveys/inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom, provided that the particular survey/inspection has commenced

within the permissible window period and completed before the due date, in respect of the Certificates/Documents covered under 'A(i)' above.

- B. The ROs are authorized to carry out the surveys, as detailed below, for the purpose of issue/endorsement of International/India Load line Certificate, for vessels below 5000 GT, irrespective of their location:
- i. IRS will be the Assigning authority for the purpose of MS(Load line) Rules, 1979/ILLC 1966/88.
 - ii. IRS is authorized to carry out Initial/renewal/annual surveys and issuance of India /International Load line Certificate.
 - iii. All ROs are authorized to carry out annual Load line surveys of ships and endorse the India/International Load line Certificate on satisfactory completion of surveys, provided that the survey has commenced within the permissible window period and completed before the due date.
- C. For surveys of vessels of 5000 GT and above,
- i. IRS will be the Assigning authority for the purpose of MS (Load line) Rules, 1979/ILLC 66/88.
 - ii. while the vessel is in India or Sri Lanka, IRS is authorized to carry out surveys for the purpose of issue/endorsement of Certificates/ Documents indicated under 'A' and 'B' above;
 - iii. In places other than India or Sri Lanka, all the ROs are authorized to carry out the surveys, and
 - a. issue interim certificate 'only one time' for a period not exceeding five (05) months after satisfactory completion of initial/renewal survey for the Certificates/Documents listed under 'A' above; and
 - b. endorse the certificates/documents indicated under 'A' and 'B' above, on satisfactory completion of annual/periodical/ intermediate surveys/inspection of the outside of the ship's bottom, provided that the particular survey/inspection has commenced within the permissible window period and completed before the due date.
 - iv. In the event the above survey/inspection on a vessel is commenced outside India or Sri Lanka by a RO, and completed when the vessel is in India or Sri Lanka, the same RO can complete the survey and issue/ endorse the certificate, as mentioned under 'C(iii)(a) and (b).
 - v. Should IRS be unable to carry out/complete the surveys/ inspections commenced within India or Sri Lanka, for any reason, IRS may request the relevant RO to carryout/complete surveys on their behalf, on a case to case basis.
- D. In case a survey/inspection covered under A,B and C has commenced within the window period, but completed after the window period, RO may issue/ endorse the concerned certificate, provided the vessel was laid up for repairs/ dry-docking after the window period.
- E. The ROs are authorized to carry out the following inspections of safety equipment under SOLAS, 1974, as amended,
- i. Life Boat , Rescue Boat & Inflatable Life Rafts Annual Servicing;
 - ii. EPIRB & SART Annual Servicing;
 - iii. Life Boat davit testing as per SOLAS Reg.III/20.1;
 - iv. CO2 Cylinder Hydrostatic Stretch test;
 - v. CO2 Cylinder weight;
 - vi. Fixed Fire Extinguishing System 5/10/15/20 yearly surveys;
 - vii. Pressure testing of portable fire extinguishers.
- F. The Directorate/MMDs, as necessary, will subject the organizations manufacturing/servicing the equipment mentioned at E above, to surprise inspections for exercising due control.
2. The DGS reserves all rights to review this circular periodically as and when found necessary.
 3. This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping and ex-officio Addl. Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Sd/-

(Samuel Darse)

Dy. Director General of Shipping