

Corrigendum to Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007 -sea service undertaken on ships through un- registered RPS providers -reg.

Crew Circular 2 of 2009

NO: 33(1)CR/2000/Vol.-VII

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Subject: Corrigendum to Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007 - sea service undertaken on ships through un-registered RPS providers - reg.

1. Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules were notified on 18th March, 2005. These Rules have required that those desirous of undertaking recruitment and placement of Indian seafarers are to obtain registration certificate within 6 months of notification of these Rules. Through subsequent amendment, this cut-off date was extended to 31.12.2006. This Directorate is in the process of carrying out comprehensive amendments to these Rules and amendment to the cut-off date is also under consideration.
2. Further, in a bid to discourage operation of un-registered manning agents in the country and subsequent exploitation of Indian seafarers, [Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007](#) was issued on 21.09.2007, which requires that sea service undertaken by Indian seafarers on ships through un-registered PRS providers, would not be accounted for their eligibility for various (a) competency examinations, (b) for the purpose of issuance of endorsements such as GMDSS, DCE etc and (c) for issuance of watch-keeping certificate to ratings for navigation / engineering watch.
3. In the meantime, this Directorate continues to receive representations from Indian seafarers who have undertaken sea service through un-registered RPS providers, for waiver of the restrictions imposed by Crew Branch Circular No.9 of 2007, on the grounds that they were not aware of issuance of said circular. The Directorate has also received representations from foreign ship owning companies who have failed to obtain the registration for their RPS activity in India within the stipulated cut-off date, for consideration to waive off the restrictions of Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007 for Indian seafarers who have undertaken their sea-service on board their ships.
4. This Directorate has carefully examined the issue and in order to facilitate eligibility for examination of those Indian seafarers who have undertaken their sea-service through un-registered RPS providers, it is decided to exempt the restrictions of Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007 for those Indian seafarers who produce their sea certificate issued by ship-owners / managers of the respective ship, duly endorsed by Indian Embassy / Consulate, located in the county of ship-owner / managers.
5. The aforesaid waiver to the requirements of Crew Branch Circular No. 9 of 2007 would be effective for 1 year from the date of issue of this Circular. The scope of this waiver also extends to all cases of Indian seafarers who may have already submitted their applications to examination centres.
6. This is issued with the approval of Director General of Shipping & Ex-officio Addl. Secretary to the Government of India.

Sd/-

(Capt. Harish Khatri)

Dy. Director General of Shipping