



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. 15-13011/4/2025-MSL-DGS (C.NO. 34445)

Dated: 10.10.2025

Order

Sub: Nomination of Rule-wise Nodal Officers for drafting of the Merchant Shipping Rules under Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 & Guiding Principles for drafting of Rules.

I. Rule-wise Nodal officers:

As was discussed and directed in the meeting with all Nodal officers (nominated vide Directorate's order of even number dated 24.09.25), chaired by the Director General of Shipping, GoI., on 09.10.25, the list of rules and officers nominated for drafting of rules under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 shall be as enclosed as **Annexure-I**, for compliance.

II. Timelines:

10 Step timelines (already communicated to MoPSW, GoI) is enclosed as **Annexure-II**. No deviation in timelines is to be allowed for any Nodal officer.

III. Guiding Principles and Important Points for drafting of Rules:

(Notification dated 19.08.25 from Cabinet Secretariat is enclosed for guidance)

- (1) Ease of Doing Business and Ease of living in shipping sector to be taken care while prescribing inspections and in overall structure of rules.
- (2) Rules to be simpler, accommodative and liberal.
- (3) Reduce overall compliance burden for citizens and enterprises.
- (4) Consideration to be given areas which can be de-regulated.
- (5) Consideration to be given to reliance on self-certification and third-party inspection with scope of random inspection for monitoring purpose instead of conducting unnecessary or routine inspections.
- (6) Unnecessary process or procedure to be removed.
- (7) Process, Procedure, Forms and standards to be simpler and not cumbersome.
- (8) Best practices followed (India or outside) be incorporated in rules.

- (9) Decriminalize the regulatory and compliance requirements as much as possible
- (10) Proper consultation with stakeholders to be done. Record of stakeholder consultation during meeting or comments received on website, mail etc be maintained in Format give as **Annexure-III**.
- (11) Inputs received and responses made during stakeholders consultation at the stage of drafting of Act (when it was a Bill) to also be taken into consideration. DDG-MSL to circulate these documents to Nodal officers of rules.
- (12) Sections of existing MS Act, 1958/ existing Rules may be seen for procedural provisions to be taken to Rules but ensuring rationale.
- (13) Technical Committees order dated 24.09.25 read with Addendum dated 07.10.25 to be followed.
- (14) **Advice of Law Ministry:** Rules based on International Conventions/Protocol which are technical in nature may be drafted as **Scheduled** annexed to the Covering Rules. Advice of Legislative Department, Ministry of Law & Justice, Gol., for following Schedule method is enclosed as **Annexure-IV**. [Existing MS (Seafarers Accommodation) Rules, 2016 were drafted and notified in this way]. There may be more than one Schedule in a Rule based on Technicality in the Convention.

IV. Other salient points for smooth drafting and consultation process:


- (1) All legal material provided by Legal team (PLR Chambers) shall be taken into consideration while preparing the first draft of the rules.
- (2) DDG-MSL will circulate Tabular documents relating to the consultations held for the drafting of MS Act, 2025 (when it was draft Bill), for reference and incorporation of comments in rules as far as possible based on answer given during stakeholder process while framing the Act.
- (3) Responses where it was indicated that the specific comments will be addressed during rule-making, need to be taken into consideration by the nodal officers while preparing the draft rules.
- (4) Nodal officers to ensure that all first draft of rules sent for legal vetting clearly specify/indicate within the draft:
 - Any rule portion which has been taken from any of the following:
 - a) Any provision of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958; or
 - b) Any existing rules under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958; or
 - c) Any existing DGS circular/order/notice; or
 - d) Any aspect of any international convention; or
 - Any changes/modifications made to the above may be visible in track/colour coded.
 - Any rules which are newly drafted should also be indicated



- (5) The draft rules, as per the timelines, may be shared with the Legal Team of the DGS (PLR Chambers) at sunidhi.sawhney@plrchambers.com with copy to DDG-MSL (amohd-dgs@nic.in) and MSL Branch (msl-dgs@nic.in).
- (6) The following methodology needs to be followed by all nodal officers for stakeholder consultation meetings:
- a. The dates for first stakeholder consultations for all technical committees will be specified in consultation with DDG, MSL in due course. An endeavour shall be made so that no more than one committee meeting (Constituted vide order dated 24.09.25) takes place in a day.
 - b. During meeting of Committees or stakeholder consultation meetings of every committee, all Nodal officers for each specific rule related to that committee, and attached resources shall be present for the meeting which will be held in DGS premises, with VC available for stakeholders to join.
 - c. For committee/stakeholder meetings, the nodal officers shall through its resources/office to ensure that:
 - the VC link for the meeting is circulated once the schedule of meeting is shared by DDG-MSL.
 - Every meeting is recorded and transcribed, and the recording and transcript is shared immediately after the meeting with DDG-MSL, nodal officers himself and DGS legal team (PLR Chambers);
 - All oral inputs provided by stakeholders in the meeting on the draft rules should be strictly captured in the format provided in **Annexure-III**. These inputs need to be captured live during the stakeholder meeting.
 - All written inputs provided by stakeholders on the draft rules should be strictly captured in the format provided in **Annexure-III**.
 - A master document of all stakeholder inputs received (oral and written) in the format of **Annexure-III**, should be maintained for every specific rule separately.
 - Detailed minutes of every meeting need to be made and shared with DDG-MSL, Nodal officers and DGS legal team (PLR Chambers) within the same day of the meeting.
 - Nodal officers shall take immediate decisions on stakeholder inputs during the stakeholder consultations or immediately after the meeting (without stakeholders) on the same day, and capture the decision taken along with the rationale in the format provided in **Annexure-III**. If needed guidance will be taken by the Nodal officer from HoDs/CS/NA/CSS.
 - All major re-drafting to be done based on comments accepted/partially accepted should be done at the time of taking the decision on each comment. Pending minor re-drafting (like consequent amendments, cross referencing etc) should be done within 1 working day after the

meeting (all changes made to the first draft pursuant to the stakeholder comments should be visible in track change mode).

This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India.



(Ash Mohomad)

Deputy Director General of Shipping (MSL)

Encl: As above.

To

All DGS/MMD officers nominated as Nodal Officers.

Copy for kind information to:

1. Officer-in-charge of DGS Sectt.
2. Sr PS to Addl DGS
3. Sr PS to CS
4. Sr PS to NA
5. Sr PS to CSS

Annexure-I

(to order dated 10.10.25)

Indicative List of Merchant Shipping Rules proposed under Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 and Names of Nodal Officers

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
1.	Part -II	Establishment of Boards and General Administration.	2	1. Merchant Shipping (National Shipping Board) Rules.	Capt. Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED Shri Shubham Kadam, Shri Rituraj Sarma, Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Deeksha Kathayat (RRU), Ms Rehana Dhawade, NALSAR Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari Training TSU Shri Pradep Kumar, Shri Rohit Kumar, Ms Sukriti Priya PLR Legal Team Resource*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Seafarer Welfare Board and Levy of Fees) Rules.	Capt. Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						<p>Shri Shubham Kadam, Shri Rituraj Sarma, Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve</p> <p>Legal</p> <p>Ms Pooja Vakani, NALSAR Ms Rehana Dhawade, NALSAR</p> <p>Crew TSU</p> <p>Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari</p> <p>Training TSU</p> <p>Shri Pradeep Kumar, Shri Rohit Kumar, Ms Sukriti Priya</p> <p>PLR Legal Team Resource*</p>
2.	Part- III	Registration of Vessels.	1	Merchant Shipping (Registration of vessels) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA	<p>SEED</p> <p>Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Ms Mehar Kalra, Shri Ankush Raj, Shri Akshay S</p> <p>Legal</p> <p>Ms Vedika Jhall, RRU Adv. Vivek Joy, Legal Consultant</p>

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Legal Team Resource*
3.	Part-IV	Maritime Training and Education	2	1. Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers) Rules.	Shri Praveen Nair, Dy. CS & Capt. Ravi. Singh Sikarwar, NS	SEED Shri Sambit S Mishra, Shri Pranit Chute Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Rehana Dhawade (Nalsar), Ujjwal Ranjan, RRU + One Resource Required (R3), EY PMC Examination reform Shri Vaishankhan, Shri Pranav Udayaraj PLR Legal Team Resource*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Examination of Dredge Personnel in Engine and Nautical Discipline)) Rules.	Shri Praveen Nair, Dy. CS & Capt. Ravi. Singh Sikarwar, NS	SEED Shri Sambit S Mishra, Shri Pranit Chute Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Rehana Dhawade (NALSAR)

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Shri Ujjwal Ranjan, RRU + One Resource Required (R3), EY PMC Examination reform Shri Vaishankhan, Shri Pranav Udayaraj PLR Legal Team Resource*
4.	Part-V	Seafarers	5	1. Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules	Capt. PC Meena, NS	SEED Shri Rituraj Sarma Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Shri Vivek Joy Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari PLR Legal Team Resource*

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
				2. Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour Convention) Rules	Capt. PC Meena, NS	SEED Shri Rituraj Sarma Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Shri Vivek Joy Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari PLR Legal Team Resource*
				3. Merchant Shipping (Seafarer Accommodation), Rules	Shri Nebu Oommen, Dy. CSS	SEED Shri Rituraj Sarma Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Shri Akshay S Legal Shri Vivek Joy Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Shri. Anup Sahu, UDC, Smt. Ankita, DEO PLR Legal Team Resource*
				4. Merchant Shipping (Medical) Rules	Capt Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED Shri Rituraj Sarma Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Deeksha Kathayat (RRU) Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari PLR Legal Team Resource*
				5. Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate and Seafarer's Identity Documents) Rules	Capt. PC Meena, NS	SEED Shri Rituraj Sarma Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Shri Vivek Joy Crew TSU Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Legal Team Resource*
5.	Part- VI	Safety and Security	17	1. Merchant Shipping (Cargo Ship Construction and Survey) Rules	Shri Ravi Moka, SS Shri. Ankur Anal, JSS + Shri Niket Pathak, E&SS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy 01 IIFT Resource Assistant: Shri Sandepan Manna, LDC + 1 from Engineering PLR Resources*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Construction, Survey of Passenger Ship and certification) Rules	Shri Ravi Moka, SS Shri. Ankur Anal, JSS + Shri Niket Pathak, E&SS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						01 IIFT Resource Assistant: Shri Sandepan Manna, LDC + 1 from Engineering PLR Resources*
				3. Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Cargo) Rules	Capt. Vikram Singh Manhas, Dy. NA	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy One Resource Required (R1) to be onboarded from Chennai PLR Resources*
				4. Merchant Shipping (Fire Appliances) Rules	Shri Satish Kamath And Shri Praveen Rai	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Resources*
				5. Merchant Shipping (Life Saving Appliances) Rules	Capt. Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Pooja Vakani, NALSAR PLR Resources*
				6. Merchant Shipping (Distress and Safety Radio Communication) Rules	Shri B. Mohapatra, SRS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy One Resource Required (R2) PLR Resources*
				7. Merchant Shipping (Management for the Safe Operation of Ships) Rules	Shri KM Rao, PO Shri Gopi Krishna C,E&SS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Legal Shri Vivek Joy PLR Resources*
				8. Merchant Shipping (ISPS) Rules.	Capt Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Deeksha Kathayat, RRU PLR Resources*
				9. Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules	Capt Anish Joseph, Dy. NA & Capt. Pardhasarthi V., NS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Deeksha Kathayat, RRU PLR Resources*
				10. Merchant Shipping (Load Line) Rules.	Shri Nebu Oommen, Dy CSS Shri. Ankur Anal, JSS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Shri Ankush Raj Legal Shri Vivek Joy

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Assistant: Shri Ajit Tambe, PLR Resources*
				11. Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Collision at Sea) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA & Capt. Sabyasachi Mukhopadhyay	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy One Resource Required (R2) PLR Resources*
				12. Merchant Shipping (Search and Rescue) Rules.	Capt. Harinder Singh, NS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Shri Manneck Vesuna, RRU PLR Resources*

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
				13. Merchant Shipping (Tonnage Measurement) Rules.	Shri Nebu Oommen, Dy. CSS, Shri. Ankur Anal, JSS	Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Shri Akshay S Legal Shri Vivek Joy Assistant: Shri. Anup Sahu, UDC, Smt. Ankita, DEO PLR Resources*
				14. Merchant Shipping (Regulation of Entry of ships into Ports, anchorages and Offshore facilities) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Yukta Matlapurkar, RRU PLR resources to be mapped
				15. Merchant Shipping (Carriage of Dangerous Goods) Rules.	Capt. Vikram Singh Manhas, Dy. NA	Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						One Resource Required (R1) to be onboarded from Chennai PLR Resources*
				16. Merchant Shipping (Use of liquefied Gases as Fuel) Rules.	Shri Satish Kamath, Dy CS , Shri Pravin Kumar Roy, E&SS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy, PLR Resources*
				17. Merchant Shipping (Flag State and Port State Inspection) Rules.	Shri Aniruddha Chaki, Dy. CS, Shri Niket Pathak, E&SS	SEED Ms. Meher Kalra, Ms Shriya Khelurkar, Legal Shri Vivek Joy, PLR Resources*
6.	Part-VII	Prevention, Containment of Pollution From Vessel and Response	9	1. Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Oil from Ships) Rules (MARPOL Annex-I)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
					Pravin Kumar Rai, E&SS	Legal Shri Vivek Joy, One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi PLR Resources*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Control of Pollution by Noxious Liquid Substance in Bulk) Rules. (MARPOL -Annex II)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Pravin Kumar Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
				3. Merchant Shipping (Control of pollution by Noxious Liquid Substance in Bulk) Rules. (MARPOL Annex-III)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Pravin	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
					Kumar Rai, E&SS	One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
				4. Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from ships) Rules.(MARPOL Annex-IV)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Pravin Kumar Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
				5. Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships) Rules (MARPOL Annex-V)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO and Shri Shitesh Ranjan,SS Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Kumar Pravin Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi.

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Resources*
				6. Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) Rules (MARPOL Annex-VI)	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO and Shri Shitesh Ranjan, SS Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Kumar Pravin Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
				7. Merchant Shipping (Control of Anti-fouling System) Rules.	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Pravin Kumar Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
				8. Merchant Shipping (Dumping of wastes and other matter at sea) Rules.	Capt. Vikram Manahs, Dy. NA and Shri Shitesh Ranjan, SS + One Officer from Nautical wing	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
				9. Merchant Shipping (Ballast Water Management) Rules.	Shri Senthil Kumar, PO + Shri Mahesh Korade, E&SS and Shri Pravin Kumar Rai, E&SS	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi Legal Shri Vivek Joy One resource may be engaged by PO, MMD, Kochi. PLR Resources*
7.	Part- VIII	Survey, Audit and Certification	1	Merchant Shipping (Survey, Audit and Certification) Rules.	Shri KM Rao, PO	SEED Shri Devarshi Datta, Shri Karan Gandhi, Shri Ankush Raj Legal

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						<p>Shri Vivek Joy IIFT Shri Thejas RS PMC for E-Samudra</p> <p>Shri Prateek Joshi, Ms Sreenidhi One resources from E-Samudra Vendor Shri Sachin Khandagale Assistant: Shri Sivarama Krishna, UDC, MMD, Chennai</p> <p>PLR Resources*</p>
8.	Part-IX	Maritime Liability and Compensation	3	1. Merchant Shipping (Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA & Capt. Harinder Singh, NS	<p>SEED Ms Mehar Kaira, Ms Shirya Kelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Yukta Matlapurkar, RRU</p> <p>ACE Consultant Shri Naresh, Ms Apurva</p>

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Resources*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage and International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA & Capt. Harinder Singh, NS	SEED Ms Mehar Kaira, Ms Shirya Kelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Yukta Matlapurkar, RRU ACE Consultant Shri Naresh, Ms Apurva PLR Resources*
				3. Merchant Shipping (Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage) Rules.	Capt. Anish Joseph, Dy. NA & Capt. Harinder Singh, NS	SEED Ms Mehar Kaira, Ms Shirya Kelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Yukta Matlapurkar, RRU ACE Consultant Shri Naresh, Ms Apurva

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						PLR Resources*
9.	Part- X	Marine Incident and Emergency Response	1	Merchant Shipping (Marine Incident and Emergency Response) Rules.	Capt. Harinder Singh, NS + Shri Shitesh Ranjan	SEED Ms Mehar Kaira, Ms Shirya Kelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Shri Manneck Vesuna, RRU ACE Consultant Shri Naresh, Ms Apurva PLR Resources*
10.	Part- XII	Wreck and Salvage	1	Merchant Shipping (Wreck and Salvage) Rules.		SEED Ms Mehar Kaira, Ms Shirya Kelurkar Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Shri Manneck Vesuna, RRU ACE Consultant Shri Naresh, Ms Apurva PLR Resources*
11.	Part- XIII	Sailing, Fishing and other vessels	4	1. Merchant Shipping (Fishing Vessels) Rules.	Shri Ravi Moka, SS	SEED Ms Aneena Rose Innocent, Shri Akshay S Legal

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Shri Vivek Joy PLR Resources*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Sailing vessels) Rules.	Shri Ravi Moka, SS	SEED Ms Aneena Rose Innocent, Shri Akshay S Legal Shri Vivek Joy PLR Resources*
				3. Merchant Shipping (Vessels of Less than Fifteen Tons) Rules.	Shri Ravi Moka, SS	SEED Ms Aneena Rose Innocent, Shri Akshay S Legal Shri Vivek Joy PLR Resources*
				4. Merchant Shipping (Examination of Fishing Vessel Personnel in Engine and Nautical Discipline) Rules.	Shri Praveen Nair, Dy. CS & Capt. Ravi. Singh Sikarwar, NS	SEED Ms Aneena Rose Innocent, Shri Akshay S

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Legal Shri Vivek Joy Ujjwal Ranjan (RRU - Nautical) + One Resource Required (R3) PLR Resources*
12.	Part XV	Miscellaneous	2	1. Merchant Shipping (Appeal Against Penalties & Miscellaneous Matters) Rules.	Shri Ash Mohomad, DDG	Legal Ms Rehana Dhawade (Nalsar), Additional Resource with court procedure experience needed. PLR Resources*
				2. Merchant Shipping (Bureau of Port Security) Rules.	Capt. Nitin Mukesh, Dy. NA	SEED Shri Shubham Kadam, Shri Pranit Chute, Shri Sambit S Mishra, Shri Rituraj Sarma, Shri Aishwarya Ajay Malve Legal Shri Vivek Joy, Ms Pooja Vakani, NALSAR Crew TSU

Sr. No.	Part of MS Bill	Title of the Part of MS Bill	No. of Rules	Nomenclature for the Proposed Rules	Nodal Officer(s)	Support Team [Name of the SEED Resource, Legal Resource(s) and Office Assistant(s) to be added]
						Shri Kunal Vavel, Ms. Vaishnavi Rajgopal, Ms Devika Tiwari Training TSU Shri Pradep Kumar, Shri Rohit Kumar, Ms Sukriti Priya PLR resources to be mapped
TOTAL PROPOSED RULES FOR NOW			48			

*Single point contact e-mail ID of Legal team (PLR) given in covering order dated 10.10.25.

Annexure-II
(to order dated 10.10.25)

TIMELINES FOR THE DRAFTING OF RULES UNDER MS ACT, 2025

Sequential Step	Activity Proposed for drafting of rules	Proposed Dates by the Nodal Officer to conclude all aspects in time – Submission to MoPSW by 17 th Jan 2026
STEP 1	Preparation of the compiled first Baseline Draft – 10 working days buffer- T ₀ starts at 21 st October 2025	21.10.2025
STEP 2	Internal review of base line draft with PLR Law Group under lead of nodal officer of technical committee and DDG, MSL T ₀ + 4 working days	27.10.2025
STEP 3	1 st Technical Consultative Committee reiteration T ₀ + 12 working days	07.11.2025
STEP 4	2 nd Technical consultative Committee meeting T ₀ + 21 Working Days	20.11.2025
STEP 5	3 rd Technical Consultative Committee Meeting T ₀ + 30 working days	03.12.2025

Sequential Step	Activity Proposed for drafting of rules	Proposed Dates by the Nodal Officer to conclude all aspects in time – Submission to MoPSW by 17 th Jan 2026
STEP 6	Final review internally with the DDG, MSL and PLR Law group and the Nodal official and Core working Group T ₀ + 37 working days	11.12.2025
STEP 7	Publication on the website for 30 days (working + non working days) T ₀ + 37 + 22 working days + 8 Non working days	12.12.25 to 11.01.2026
STEP 8	Collation of the documents with inputs and finalisation and submission to MoPSW T ₀ + 37 + 22 working days + 8 Non working days+ 5 working days Total T ₀ + 50 working days	16.01.2026
STEP 9	Submission to MoPSW Total T ₀ + 50 working days	17.01.2026
STEP 10	MoPSW lead interaction with Legislative Department – support by DGS	MoPSW to take up with Legislative Department

Annexure-III
(to order dated 10.10.25)

Format for maintaining the records of Stakeholder Comments on Draft Rules

Part of the MS Act, 2025:

Nodal Officers:

Name of Rule:

S.No.	Rule Number	Name of Stakeholder and date receipt of comment (and received vide email or during meetings)	Stakeholder Comment	Response of Nodal Officer (Accepted/not accepted/partially accepted)	Rationale for response	Whether change in draft language has been made in the draft rules (Yes or No)	Draft Language of rule, as amended (in red and bold)

Annexure-IV

SR-22014/23/2025-MG (376629)
Government of India
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
(ML Section)

Transport Bhawan,
1, Parliament Street, New Delhi – 110001
Date: 07.10.2025

To,

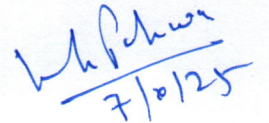
The Director General
Directorate General of Shipping
9th Floor, Beta Building, I-Think Techno Campus
Kanjurmarg, Mumbai – 400042

Subject:- Guidance from Legislative Department regarding drafting of Rules under MS Act, 2025.

I am directed to refer to DGS's letter No. 15-13011/4/2025-MSL-DGS (C.No. 34445) dated 17.09.2025 on the subject mentioned above and to enclose herewith a response received from LD for information and necessary action.

2. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Yours faithfully,



Encls: As above.

(Vivek Pahwa)
Under Secretary to Govt. of India
Tele/Fax: 23714714
Email ID: usml-psw@gov.in

Shri T. S. Muralidharan,
Addl. Secy

विधि और न्याय मन्त्रालय
Ministry of Law & Justice
विधायी विभाग/Legislative Deptt.
विधायी-अनुभाग/Legislative-I Section

CC (Shri RNSVSK Banger Raju)

Leg-I

**Ministry of Law and Justice
Legislative Department**

Dy.No. 1330/2025-SRO

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (the administrative Ministry) has sent an e-mail dated 22.09.2025 annexing therewith a copy of their Office Memorandum No.SR-22014/23/2025-MG (376629), dated 22.09.2025 seeking guidance from Legislative Department regarding drafting of rules under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025.

2. The administrative Ministry has annexed a copy of an email, dated 17.09.2025 sent by the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai to them regarding clarification on drafting of rules/subordinate legislations based on International Conventions under the newly enacted Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, in which the said Directorate has stated that it is in the process of commencing the process of framing of subordinate legislation under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025.

3. In this regard, the Directorate General of Shipping has stated that the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 contains several provisions on the basis of several International Conventions and since it has initiated the process of framing subordinate legislation, sought guidance of the Legislative Department as to whether such rules may be drafted in either of the following ways:

- (a) Reproduce or transpose in detail the substantive standards set out in the relevant International Conventions with only limited modifications for administrative purposes and alignment with the Act. This would create rules that are fully self-contained and accessible to stakeholders, but would also make the rules lengthy and necessitate frequent amendments each time the convention is revised;
- (b) Cross-refer directly to the relevant convention provisions under each subject matter identified in the Act, limiting the rules to provisions on scope, applicability, administrative matters, and areas where the convention permits variance or flexibility for State Parties. This would ensure concise rules and facilitate automatic alignment with evolving international standards, but would require stakeholders to read the rules alongside the Convention text; or

विधि और न्याय मन्त्रालय
Ministry of Law & Justice
विधायी विभाग/Legislative Deptt.
विधायी-अनुभाग/Legislative-I Section
एन.आर.ओ. डा.सं. दिनांक.....
SRO Dy. No. 1330/25-23/9/25

o/o Addl. LC (TSM)
Dy.No. 26-SR, dt. 23/09/25

2239887
29/09/25
Dy. No.
Dated.

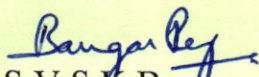
29/9
48/09/25
50 (MCA)

(c) draft rules in a so as to provide the relevant provisions of the Conventions (for example, specific annexes or regulations) as a Schedule annexed to the rules, while restricting the main operative part of rules to provide for the scope, applicability, administration, and permitted flexibilities. This would provide a consolidated domestic instrument without reproducing the convention in the body of the rules, but may still raise complexity in updating annexures. For instance, the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers Accommodation) Rules, 2016 was notified on 26.08.2016 in this manner. This appears to be more convenient way for reference of stakeholders and ease of business.

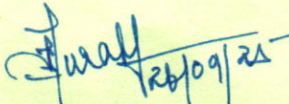
4. In this context, it is to state that, as it is observed by the said Directorate, by reproducing or transposing in detail the substantive standards set out in the relevant International Conventions will make the rules lengthy and necessitate frequent amendments each time the convention is revised. As regard the second option of cross-reference to the relevant Convention provisions under each subject matter identified in the Act, Hon'ble Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation has time and again made recommendations to avoid referential legislation as much as possible. Among the three options, the third option is the appropriate way of drafting subordination legislation, in this behalf, so as to provide the relevant provisions of the Conventions as Schedule annexed to the rules while restricting the main operative part of rules to provide for the scope, applicability, administration, and permitted flexibilities.

5. Further, the said Directorate has requested the administrative Ministry to request the Legislative Department to assign the vetting of rules to same officer (as far as feasible), who has drafted and vetted the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 a meeting may also be arranged with the officer of the Legislative Department to discuss and seek guidance on the drafting method to be adopted for rules. In this regard, it is to inform that subordinate legislation proposals are examined in accordance with the work distribution order issued in this Department, from time to time. As per the current work allocation relating to Subordinate legislation in the Department, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is being dealt in this Group. Therefore, the officers of the administrative Ministry and Directorate of Shipping may come for discussion on any issue relating to the drafting of the rules, if needed, on any working day with prior intimation.

6. Accordingly, we may inform the administrative Ministry for necessary action.


(B.N.S.V.S.K. Bangaraju)
Deputy Legislative Counsel
26th September, 2025.

Addl.LC (Shri T.S.Muralidharan)


M/o Ports, Shipping and Waterways
(Kind attn. Shri Mandeep Singh Randhawa, Director)

विधि और न्याय मन्त्रालय
Ministry of Law & Justice
विधायी विभाग/Legislative Deptt.
विधायी-अनुसूचना/Legislative-I Section
एन.एन.ओ. नं. १, ऑ. सी. दिनांक.....
SRO NO. 1330/25-26/9/25 Date.....