

**Minutes of the 3rd Electronic Meeting of the National Shipping Board held
on Tuesday, 12th May 2020 at 1500 hours.**

Attendees:

Dr. Malini Shankar, Chairperson NSB
Shri Kumar Sanjay Bariar, Additional DG
Shri Satinder Pal Singh, JS Shipping
Shri Abdulgani Serang-NUSI
Shri Amar Singh Thakur-MUI
Shri Anil Devli- INSA
Shri Aditya Suklikar- ICCSA
Capt Sanjay Prashar- IMF
Shri Rahul Modi- CCTA
Shri Shantanu Bhadkamkar-AMTOI
Capt Piyush Sinha
Shri A. Balasubramanian
Shri Ishwar Achanta
Shri Ajay Sahai, FIEO
Capt. Sankar Kr. Das
Shri Kshetra Nath Milli

1.0 Granting leave of absence – All members were present for the meeting. The Director General of Shipping was represented by Shri Kumar Sanjay Bariar, Additional Director General of Shipping.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the NSB –Members had gone through the minutes of the 2nd meeting of NSB held on 5th May, 2020 and had some comments which were included in the draft minutes. Shri Abdulgani Serang pointed out that composition of each committee was not mentioned in the minutes. The Chair informed the members that since not all committees had identified the members for their respective committees, this would be

included in the minutes of the 3rd meeting of NSB. She further requested all the group leaders to forward the names of the members including those of the invitees of their respective groups to Capt. Das and also inform her if the approval of the Chairperson has been taken. Since there were no comments, the minutes were approved.

3.0 Update by Secretary, NSB on administrative issues such as office website Activation, WhatsApp group, and any other administrative matters from Previous discussions -

- a. Capt. S. K. Das informed all members that as mentioned in the previous meeting, NSB has a temporary office premises consisting of two rooms at Imperial Building, Ballard Estate. One room is a large one with attached toilet/ bath room for the chairperson and members – well furnished with 1.5 ton split AC, a big table, VIP chair, sofa sets, normal chairs, computer set with colour printer, fax machine and telephone lines. The other room is smaller, for Assistants, and furnished with window AC, normal table and chairs. The Chair raised a query whether the room can accommodate all the members for a meeting. It was noted that such a situation never had arisen earlier and meetings were being held at the INSA Board room during the tenure of the last Chairman. The Chair informed all present that Board members were in touch with her and had expressed their opinion that NSB should have a full-fledged office for its working. Mr. Devli said that the INSA facilities were always available to NSB for its meetings, if required.
- b. Capt. Das informed the members that WhatsApp group is already created among the members. Shri Abdulgani Serang said that though members were now mostly communicating on WhatsApp, he suggested that the same should also be put on e-mails for future reference. Shri Ishwar Achanta clarified the google groups were created and was used by

members. All exchange of communication between members was being saved and could be referred to anytime in future. The Chair asked Capt. Das to send all notices, minutes and to address all communication to all members via email as well.

- c. NSB requires to employ a skilled person with knowledge of shorthand to assist the Chairperson. The chair replied that DG office has shortlisted one retired person. JSS said that he will discuss with the DGS. Shri Sinha suggested that NSB may take trainees who could be employed by MbPT and assigned to work for NSB. The Chair asked Capt. Sankar to pursue with the DGS and the Ministry regarding appointment of such an assistant who was available at Salary minus pension basis or examine any other alternative.
- d. On website activation, Capt. Das informed all the members that Shri Milli contacted the NIC consultant who has asked to submit the Website Audit certificate and report. The audit party will give the certificate after resolving the findings highlighted in the report and on receiving payment of their fees which is approximately Rs.20,000/- This Audit Party was engaged by the previous Chairman by inviting open tender. Further, the NIC consultant has informed Shri Milli that activation is possible after lockdown is over due to limited staff during lockdown period. In view of the aforesaid, the Chair requested Capt. Sankar to check if it would be possible for the Ministry to provide a linkage on its website for NSB related matters. If that was not possible then INSA website could be used for seeking comments from the stakeholders.
- e. The Chair informed Capt. Das that a copy of the notice and the minutes of the meeting should also be copied to Shri Anil Radadiya, PS to the Hon. Minister of Shipping who would then keep the minister posted on the progress made by NSB.

4.0 Update by Group leaders of the subgroups about progress of works assigned to them by the chairperson - Finalisation of sub-group Members, and scope of work –

4.1.0 Shipping Policy:

The composition of the group will be as follows:-

1. Shri Satinder Pal Singh, JS Shipping.
2. Shri Ishwar Achanta
3. Shri A. Balasubramanian.
4. Shri Anil Devli
5. Shri Rahul Modi

Shri Satinder Pal Singh informed all present that the draft was prepared by Shri Anil Devli and the views of other members had been sought from all members. He informed all concerned that the draft would now be put up to the Secretary Shipping.

4.2.0 Increase in Indian Tonnage–

The composition of this group is as follows:-

1. Shri Anil Devli
2. Shri Aditya Suklikar
3. Shri Rahul Modi
4. Shri Ishwar Achanta

Shri Devli said that since JSS was working on a report regarding growth of Indian tonnage, his group would not be, presently, submitting a separate report since he was working under and with the JSS on this issue. The Chair noted and agreed with this.

4.3.0 Multimodal Transportation –

The composition of this group is as follows:-

1. Shri Shantanu Bhadkamkar-AMTOI

2. Shri Anil Devli

3. Shri Prashant Seth

4. Mrs Mani Anand (IRTS Retd)

Shri Shantanu Bhadkamkar informed that group meeting was held earlier today. The group currently comprises 4 experts. He had requested Addl. DG to nominate one member from the DGS office to this group and he was awaiting the same. However, during the meeting it was pointed out by the Addl. DG that the officers from the DGS office were currently very busy with the Working Groups formed by the Ministry of Shipping, and he opined that instead of asking for a nominee from DGS office, he would ensure that information from DGS would be provided on questions raised from time to time. Mr. Bhadkamkar informed that the framework was ready.

4.4.0 Increase in Employment of Seafarers and Welfare of Seafarers –

The composition of this group is as follows :-

1. Shri Abdulgani Serang, National Union of seafarers of India-NUSI
2. Capt Sanjay Prashar, International Maritime federation- IMF
3. Shri Amar Singh Thakur, Maritime Union of India - MUI
4. Capt. Tyagi, Fleet Personnel, Shipping Corporation of India.
5. Shri Maneesh Pradhan, Anglo Eastern Ship Management Pvt Ltd.
6. Shri Prasad Hariharan Carnival Support Services India Pvt Ltd.

Shri Abdulgani Serang said that they had divided the focus of their group into three areas i.e. what the seafarers were required to do, what the maritime administration was expected to do and finally as a policy maker what the Ministry of Shipping could do. Shri Sanjay Prashar said that all existing documents were being studied. At present, they were pre-occupied with the sign on/ off issues and that they would take some time to finalise the framework and approach paper. Further with respect to the issues that were being faced by seafarers, he pointed out the following

- a. The ports did not put up the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) concerning their ports on their website.
- b. Issues were being faced regarding crew change
- c. Renewal of passports of seafarers. It was suggested that on a humanitarian ground the MEA should consider allow the same for the next six months or so.

Further he added that the data of number of seafarers who are currently stranded abroad and wanting to return back was already with the MEA and requested that if this could be shared with them. The return of seafarers by charter flights was still awaited. He therefore suggested that NSB take up these issues with MEA.

The Chair commented that NSB was an advisory board and was of the opinion that it would not be appropriate for the NSB to get into day to day operational issues which are allocated to authorities specified and empowered to deal with the same. The Chair mentioned that the issue of expiry of passports of stranded seafarers was referred to the JSS who assured that it has already been taken up with the MEA.

4.5.0 Review of Merchant Shipping Act-

The composition of this group is as follows :-

- 1. Shri A. Balasubramanian
- 2. Shri Ishwar Achanta
- 3. Shri Anil Devli- INSA
- 4. Capt Sanjay Prashar- IMF
- 5. Shri Abdulgani Serang-NUSI

Shri Balasubramanian said that since the website of National Shipping Board is under process, in the interests of time and expediency, it was suggested that stakeholder's comments would be sought on the MS Bill 2016 using the web site of INSA as an interim arrangement. The Chair suggested that Capt. Das

should check with the Ministry if the link could be provided within a day or two. If that was not possible in case of MS Bill 2016, the INSA website could be used.

Further Shri Balasubranian informed the steps to follow would include:

- (i) Notifying in INSA web site
- (ii) Obtaining inputs from the stakeholders
- (iii) Collating them and sending them to the members of National Shipping Board for comments. He further requested INSA for assistance and expertise in collating the information.
- (iv) Deliberation by the National Shipping Board on the stakeholder comments on Video conference mode with the help of INSA and making informed recommendation to the Ministry of Shipping

4.5.1 It was agreed that given the indicative timeline of mid June 2020 conveyed to the National Shipping Board by the Ministry of Shipping for the task, the National Shipping Board would not review MS Act 1958 afresh as multiple rounds of stakeholder consultations and deliberations have already taken place in the past before drafting the MS Bill 2016. Instead, the National Shipping Board would suggest improvements to the MS Bill 2016 leaving the task of drafting the legislation to Ministry of Shipping/its consultant. It was also informed that assistance and expertise of Shri Ash Mohamad would be sought, on this topic, where needed.

4.5.2 Comments of the stakeholders:

4.5.3 Members of National Shipping Board may do their own due diligence, meet/speak with stakeholders if necessary, form their own informed opinions and in their individual capacity, as one another stakeholder may offer comments on MS Bill 2016 in the INSA website.

4.5.4 The members may encourage the stakeholders to give their comments directly to INSA website. In other words, the members of National Shipping

Board may refrain from articulating the comments of some other stakeholders. The objective is to adhere to the principle of natural justice to offer each stakeholder an equal opportunity and the right to be heard individually in a tangible way namely by way of an opportunity to offer their individual comments directly on INSA website.

4.5.5 E library and other advanced facilities may be considered for development by National Shipping Board in future. Members may draw upon their own expertise and resources and review the MS Bill 2016 and the Rajya Sabha Committee comments on MS Bill 2016 to work on reviewing the MS Bill 2016. The MS Bill 2016 and the Rajya Sabha Committee comments on MS Bill 2016 have been shared in NSB google group.

4.6.0 Promote Ship Building in India-

The composition of this group is as follows :-

1. Capt Piyush Sinha
2. Mr. Atrey Sawant
3. Mr. Abhay Joshi

Capt Sinha said that he was in touch with all shipbuilders in India and he has been receiving a lot of issues that this segment has been facing. He would send mails to members of INSA requesting them to provide him with their requirements for the next 3 – 6 years. Similarly, he will get in touch with IWAI for their requirements. According to him there was a huge market for low cost barges and medium size fishing trawlers. He sought the suggestion of the Chair on who else he could approach. Capt. Sinha said that he had come across a paper which dealt with building of fishing trawlers by Cochin Shipyard but he was not aware of the current status of the same. Shri Devli said that this project had got stuck for some reasons and those reasons can become a learning for this group. In case the reasons for the failure were found out, then the group could work on it.

4.7.0 Coastal Shipping Promotion –

The composition of this group is as follows:-

1. Shri Rahul Modi
2. Shri Ishwar Achanta
3. Shri Anil Devli- INSA
4. Capt. Sanjay Prashar
5. Shri Aditya Suklikar

Shri Rahul Modi informed the members that the group meeting was held and the strategy on how to move forward was discussed. A note was under preparation and the same would be submitted to the NSB in a weeks' time. From cargo and demand point of view, there was a lot of data collection that is required to be carried out. It was, therefore, suggested that trainees could be engaged for carrying out this task from various management institutes. In exchange for the work done, he requested the Chair to consider if a certificate could be given to these boys and girls from NSB in the form of a Certificate of Appreciation. The Chair while approving giving of the certificates to the trainees who participate in the data collection, suggested that the trainees could be considered from the maritime institutes such as the Narottam Morarjee Institute. Shri Suklikar further added that their group was working on what could be done immediately i.e. short term measures and what is medium term. This was being worked out and would be submitted to NSB. Shri Amar Singh said that he too wanted to contribute to this group and requested that he must be added as a member to this group. However, since the group already had the requisite members i.e. 5, the Chair suggested that the group when discussing the issues about seafarers could invite Unions as invitees to attend the group meeting and seek their comments / suggestions.

5.0 The Ministry of Shipping had requested for nominations from among the members to the various Working Groups formed by the Ministry –

After discussions, the following nomination were received and approved by the Chair.

Nominations to the Working Groups of Ministry of Shipping

Work-ing Group	Subject	NSB nominees	Contact No.
1.	Traffic forecast, capacity planning and resource mobilization	Shri Ishwar Achanta	ishwar@portman.in Mob- +919841020626
2.	Improve performance of ports	Shri Ishwar Achanta	ishwar@portman.in Mob- +919841020626
3.	Create new world class ports	Shri A. Balasubramaniam/ Capt. Piyush Sinha	lawyerbala.a7@gmail.com Mob-+919840299305 captpiyushsinha@gmail.com Mob-+919325212072
4.	E-governance in Maritime Sector – ease of doing business and paperless operations	Capt. Sanjay Prashar	sdp@vrmaritime.net Mob-+919930467030
5.	Making maritime logistics highly cost competitive with end to end services	Shri Shantanu Bhadkamkar/ Shri Aditya Shah/ Shri Rahul Modi	ssb@atc.co.in Mob-+919820300245 aditya@orion.co.in +919820045880 md@modiminerals.com +919825212641
6.	Make India the cruise development hub of the world		
7.	Traffic forecast, capacity planning and resource mobilization	Capt. Sanjay Prashar	sdp@vrmaritime.net Mob-+919930467030
8.	Development of Indian ship building, repair & recycling industry	Capt. Piyush Sinha	captpiyushsinha@gmail.com Mob-+919325212072
9.	Development of water transport systems in cities	Shri Anil Devli	ceo@insa.org.in Mob- +919820061063
10.	Reform – all maritime Acts/laws/regulations /policies	Shri A. Balasubramaniam	lawyerbala.a7@gmail.com Mob-+919840299305

11.	Become global maritime leader through active participation in global maritime activities	Shri Anil Devli	ceo@insa.org.in Mob- +919820061063
12.	Make all ports and other maritime bodies compliant with international HSSE (Health, Safety, Security and Environment) Standards	Shri Ishwar Achanta	ishwar@portman.in Mob- +919841020626
13.	Enhance India's stature in global shipping and share in seafarers	Capt. Sanjay Prashar/Shri Abdul Gani Serang/Shri Amar Singh Thakur	sdp@vrmaritime.net Mob-+91 9930467030 nusi@nusi.org.in Mob-+919820149654 mail@maritimeunionofindia.com Mob-+919930910194
14	Promotion of Inland Waterways Transport	Shri Aditya Suklikar/Shri Rahul Modi	aditya@orion.co.in Mob+919987567400 md@modiminerals.com +919825212641

6.0 Fixing date of the next meeting – The fourth meeting of the NSB will be held on Tuesday, 19th May 2020 at 1500 hours. The Chair requested that all group at the next meeting could present its deliverables by the end of this month, 15th of June and 30th June.

7.0 Any other item -

There being no other matter to be discussed, the meeting was closed.

Approved
Dr. Malini Shankar
Chairperson

Place: Mumbai

Date: 12/05/2020