



SAILORS' UNION OF INDIA (SUI)



Regd. Under The Indian Trade Union Act 1926

Affi. to Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, (Central Labor Organization.)

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REF. SUI/CIR/03/09/2023

Attention seafarers' Brothers & Sisters!!

Good news.... Good news..... Good news....

In a continuation of the follow up with the previous meeting held on 14th July 2023, with the Directorate General of Shipping, whilst the SAILORS UNION OF INDIA had been submitted twenty-one point (21 seafarers & policy issues) Memorandum to the DGS for the review and enhancement of the present Maritime policy. First among all the points the Directorate General of Shipping has already been *Constituted 10-member Crisis Management and Reaction group under the Chairmanship of Director General of Shipping. (F-No.23-MISC/38/2023-CRW-DGS, DGS ORDER No. 100F 2023, DATE;11-08-2023)

Secondly, the Director General of Shipping will be constituted the *Advisory Board for the RPSL. The SAILORS UNION OF INDIA, was constant in communication with previous several DGS for the same, but all efforts are gone in vain, but soon after the appointment of the New & present DGS, heard all seafarers, companies and RPSL issues presented by the union, the DGS also taken up the initiative measures for the betterment of the Maritime Community.

Thirdly, the Indian seafarers are facing several wage / discriminatory practices by the shipping companies for several years, the sailors' union of India has taken up the seafarers' wage deduction with other issues to the Indian and International Maritime forum for a fastest initiative to stop the board exploitation of seafarers by the shipping companies and an ITF union in India. On 15th of August 2023, sailors' union of India has announced to send a petition online to the concerned Maritime Authorities. Acers accordingly, the thousands of seafarers sent the petition through the Sailors Union of India and made it is an historic protest against the discrimination of seafarers.

On 22nd August 2023, the Sailors Union of India also written to the FOSMA, INSA& MASSAA to reconsider seafarers wage increment and other demands of seafarers sent through the sailors' union of India.

12th September 2023, the Director General of Shipping informed the union delegates that, the WAGE ISSUES has been taken up by the Maritime Administration which are bring to the Notice of the Directorate through seafarers petitions and SUI submissions. Hence, the Directorate General of Shipping will constitute a Committee to analyse and settle down national and international wage issues of seafarers!!

The details of the remaining points will be informed accordingly...

JAI HIND! JAI SUI! JAI BMS! JAI NAVIK!

Date: 12-09-2023

Place: Mumbai





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



नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING,

File No. 23-UNI/3/2023-CREW - DGS

Dated.13.09.2023

DGS ORDER NO. 14 of 2023

Subject:-- Constitution of a committee to assess the legal considerations related to the Directorate's authority in determining seafarers' wages and to review Collective Bargaining Agreements signed by relevant unions, associations, and seafarers

The Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India has constituted a Committee to study and making recommendations on issues related to wages of Indian seafarers. The composition of the committee and Terms of Reference are as below:

2. **Composition:--**

Sr. No.	Name	Organization	Position
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Mr. Ashish Sinha, IRS	DDG (Crew)	Member Secretary
2	Mr. Ash Mohomad	DDG (Coastal)	Member
3	Mr. Anirudh Chaki	E&SS – cum- DDG (Tech)	Member
4	Capt. PC Meena	Nautical Surveyor-cum-DDG (Tech)	Member
5	Mr. Shitesh Ranjan	DDG (MSL)	Member
6	Mr. Amitava Majumdar	Maritime Advocate (Bose & Mitra & Co.)	Member
7	Mr. S. Priya	Maritime Advocate (Venky's Chamber)	Member
8	Mr. Aman Khare	Assistant Professor (Centre for Maritime Law and Research, Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai)	Member
9	Ms. Sindhura Polepalli	Maritime Legal Consultant (DGS)	Member
10	Shri Mukul Dutta	Shipping Master, Govt. Shipping Office, Mumbai	Member

3. **Terms of Reference:--**

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- i. To examine the contentions raised by various Unions/Associations/Seafarers with respect to application of wages in accordance with the wage determined by the Joint Maritime Commission of ILO.

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- ii. To examine as to whether wages determined in various CBAs in India can be lesser than or comparable to the minimum wages set by the MoL&E for similar industries and vocation.
 - iii. Whether in accordance with the Rule 9(5) of the Maritime Labor Rules 2016 which lays down that "The wages included in the collective bargaining agreement or the Seafarers' Employment Agreement shall be in accordance with the guidelines as laid down in the Maritime Labor Convention." should the MLC guideline B.2.2.4 is to be mandatorily applied in Indian CBAs.
 - iv. The MLC Guidelines B 2.2.4 (2) states that , "Nothing in this Guideline should be deemed to prejudice arrangements agreed between ship-owners or their organizations and seafarers' organizations with regard to the regulation of standard minimum terms and conditions of employment, **provided such terms and conditions are recognized by the competent authority.**" The basis and modalities for recognition of the terms and conditions which includes wages, by the Directorate General of Shipping, being the maritime administration of India, which also has to take these CBAs on record as per Para 16.19 of MS Notice 07 of 2020 may also be examined by the committee.
 - v. The committee may also examine the provisions of Maritime Labor Convention 2006 and other international instrument of ILO/IMO in force, MS Act, 1958, Merchant Shipping Rules, DGS Circulars, MS Notices, DGS orders issued by DG Shipping, GoI and ascertain the role of DGS in recognition / determination of wages of seafarers and to suggest measures, reference to any other ministry or body engaged in determination of minimum wages, amendment if any, needed in the MS Rules, or DGS guidelines to reflect correct position of law in relation to wages of seafarers.
 - vi. Any other matter that the Committee may desire to look into and render their suggestion.
 - vii. The committee may submit its report by 30th of September 2023.
 - viii. The Committee may devise its own procedure.
 - ix. The Committee shall work on pro-bono basis, for the cause of welfare of Indian seafarers.
4. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India.

SUI-BMS



(Ashish Sinha)

Deputy Director General of Shipping.

To,

1. All the members of the committee.
2. To all stakeholders through DGS Website.

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