

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING  
"BETA BUILDING", 9<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
I-THINK TECHNO CAMPUS  
KANJUR MARG (EAST)  
MUMBAI - 400 042.**

F.No.CS-7(1)/20019-VI

Dated:13.04.15

**DGS Order No. 01 of 2015**

Sub: Registration, survey and certification of Indian fishing boats by the Mercantile Marine Departments [MMDs] & State Union Territory Authorities concerned-reg.

1. Whereas, Part XV-A of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as amended [hereafter referred to as the 'Act'] provides for a regime for the registration, survey and certification of Indian flag fishing boats.
2. Whereas, as per section 435-D of the Act, the port of registry of such fishing boat shall be such port or ports in India as the Central Government may by a notification in the Official Gazette, declare a port or place of registry.
3. Whereas, as per section 435E of the Act, the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint an officer to be the Registrar of Indian fishing boats (hereafter in this part referred to as registrar) at every port or place declared as a port or place of registry under sub-section (1) of section 435D abid.
4. Whereas the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India, in the year 2013, has issued a notification [GSR-449(E) dated 02.07.13], through which ports of registry and corresponding Registrars for Indian flag fishing boats were notified. In this notification, Indian fishing boats of length 20 meters and above were required to be registered with the respective Mercantile Marine Department [MMDs].
5. Whereas, the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India vide notification GSR-594 (E) dated 14.08.14 has made the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 9 [i.e., power to appoint surveyors], applicable to Part XV-A [fishing boats] of the Act.
6. Whereas, the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India vide notification GSR-595 (E) dated 14.08.14, has superceded its earlier notification as referred to in para 4 above [i.e., G.S.R. 449(E) dated 02.07.13], and has in the same notification directed as below;
  - 6.1. That the power, authority or jurisdiction exercisable under sub-section (1) of section 9 of the said Act shall also be exercisable by the Secretary to the Govt. of the respective Maritime States in charge of the Department of Fisheries or by the Administrators of the respective Union Territory [UT] Administrations, with the previous approval of the Central Govt. for the purposes of Part XV-A of the Act;

- 6.2. Ports of registry and corresponding Registrars for Indian flag fishing boats were also notified, for the convenience of the Indian fishing industry.
- 6.3. MMDs are not required to carry out registration of Indian flag fishing boats of length 20 meters and above.
7. Whereas the work related to registration, survey, and certification of all Indian flag fishing boats, irrespective of their length, may now be undertaken by the State/UT authorities concerned in terms of the two notifications mentioned above i.e., GSR-594 (E) dated 14.08.14 & GSR 595 (E) dated 14.08.14.
8. Whereas the respective State/ UT authorities may take some more time to effectively to undertake the work related to registration, survey and certification of Indian flag fishing boats, the transfer of document of past registration from the present registry to the respective State/UT authorities, and appointment of Surveyors for carrying out the functions related to registration, survey and certification of Indian fishing boats.
9. Now therefore, keeping in view the convenience of Indian flag fishing boat owners to have a change of registry from the present Registrar to the respective new Registrars under the State/UT administration, and reckoning the administrative convenience of respective State/UT authorities, the following is directed;
- 9.1. The functions related to registration, survey and certification of Indian flag fishing boats shall also be carried out by the respective Mercantile Marine Department [MMD], as were notified in the year 2013, vide GSR. 449(E) dated 02.07.13, for a further period of six months from the date of an issuance of this order, purely as an interim transition measure.
- 9.2. The surveyors under the respective jurisdictional MMDs shall continue to discharge the responsibilities of registration, survey and certification of Indian flag fishing boats during this transition period of six months or until the date of taking over of these assignments by the respective State/UT authorities, whichever is earlier.
10. This order shall come into force with an immediate effect.

Sd/-  
(Deepak Shetty)  
Director General of Shipping  
& ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Govt.