

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. 7-NT (43)/2016

Dated: 22.05.17

DGS Order No. 02 of 2017

Sub.: Inspection of Medicines, Medical Stores and Appliances and issuance of Certificate under rule 8(3) of Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores and Appliances) Rules, 1994, by DGS approved medical examiners – reg.

1. Section 172 (2) of the Merchant Shipping Act. 1958, specifies that all foreign going Indian Ships and all home-trade ships of two hundred tons gross or more shall have on board sufficient supply of medicines stores, appliances and first-aid equipment suitable for disease and accidents likely to occur on voyages according to such scale as may be prescribed.
2. Accordingly, the Merchant Shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores and Appliances Rules, 1994 were notified by the Central Government on 24.10.1994. The said rules prescribe the scale, standards, disposals storage requirements etc. of medicines for vessels as well as record keeping requirements.
3. Section 172 (3) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, impose a duty on the port health officer or such other persons as the Central Government may appoint in this behalf, to inspect the medicines, medical stores and appliances. The format of the certificate to be issued after the said

inspection is prescribed in 'Third Schedule' of Rule 8(3) of the Merchant shipping (Medicines, Medical Stores and Appliances) Rules, 1994.

4. Ship-owners have represented regarding the difficulty in obtaining such certification due to the increase in the number of ports in India, the fast turn-around of vessels in ports and the shortage of Port Officer at such ports.
5. The matter has been examined in the Directorate to alleviate the difficulties faced by shipping companies. Therefore, as per the provisions of section 172(3) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, it has been decided that in addition to the Port Health Officer specified in the said section, any Medical Examiner approved the provisions of Rule 4 of Merchant shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2000 as amended, is also authorized to inspect medicines, medical stores, appliances and board Indian Flag vessel and issue the prescribed certificate.
6. The list of approved Medical Examiners is listed on the DG Shipping website

(<http://www.dgshipping.gov.in/content/ListofMedicalExaminer.aspx>).

Sd/-

(Dr. Malini V. Shankar)

Director General of Shipping &

Ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India