

DGS ORDER No. 3 of 2013

Sub: Authorisation to the Director, Seamens' Employment Offices, Mumbai, Chennai, & Kolkata to issue Recruitment and Placement Service licenses and for related issues.

The Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers)(RPS) Rules were promulgated in 2005, to regulate the recruitment & placement of seafarers and to develop a robust and easily accessible recruiting system for seafarers. The issuance of such RPS licenses and functions of the RPS providers are regulated by the jurisdictional Directors, Seamens' Employment Offices,(DSEO) located at Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. However, the DSEOs' have been carrying out these functions after obtaining necessary approvals of the Director General of Shipping, as per the provisions of the M.S.(RPS) Rules, 2005.

2. The Maritime Labour Convention, [MLC],2006, further stipulates and strengthens the need for a well-regulated seafarers recruitment and placement system, so as to enable seafarers to have an access to an adequate, efficient, and accountable system for finding employment on board ships. The shipping industry, at present, also needs a facilitating regulatory body. Therefore, providing more functional autonomy to the DSEOs to oversee the regulatory functions & procedures of the RPS licenses may help incrementally reduce the time- consume on RPS related issues.

3. Now, therefore, in order to remove the said bottlenecks and to extend facilitatory services to seafarers and the shipping industry, it is decided, in exercise of the powers conferred by the second proviso of the Rule 4 of the RPS Rules, 2005, the Director General of Shipping & ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India, hereby issues the following directives in the matter;

3.1. The jurisdictional DSEOs at Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata shall examine the applications of the RPS license applicants & the reports of the inspecting authority, and then having satisfied himself/itself with the requirements of the said Rules, issue Recruitment and Placement Service licenses, or renewal licenses, or reissue such licenses, on the change of name or change of address, as the case may be, within their respective powers.

3.2. On the receipt of reports from the inspecting authority, or on complaints filed by a seafarer or otherwise, the DSEOs' shall issue notices in Form-VII of the RPS Rules, 2005, in force to the recruitment and placement service providers/license holders concerned requiring them to show cause within a period of thirty days of the date of the receipt of such notices by them as to why the licenses shall not be suspended or withdrawn.

3.3 The DSEO shall, after considering the reply(ies) to the show-cause-notice, within not later than thirty days from the date of receipt of such a reply(ies), if any, pass such an order of suspension or withdrawal, as he deems fit and communicate the same to the Recruitment and Placement Service license holder and forward a copy thereof, along with a detailed report thereon, to the jurisdictional Principal Officer [PO] Mercantile Marine Department [MMD].

3.4 Any person aggrieved with any order passed under the above provisions may within thirty days, of the date of report at a communication as above, appeal to the Principal Officer, MMD and the jurisdictional Principal Officer, MMD will then pass orders on such first appeals within thirty days of the date of the appeals by them.

3.5 Second appeal, if preferred thereon, may be made to the Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India, Mumbai.

4. This order shall come into force with an immediate effect.

Sd/-

(Gautam Chatterjee)

Director General of Shipping

To

1. All Recruitment and Placement Services.
2. Director Semen Employment Office, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai.
3. Principal Officer, Merchantile Marine Department Offices, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata.
4. Principal Officer, Merchantile Marine Department Offices, Kandla, Kochi.

Copy to

1. [Surveyor-in-Charge](#), Merchantile Marine Department Office, Jamnagar, Murmagoa, Mangalore, Tuticorin, Vishakapatnam,Paradip,Haldia,Port Blair,Noida
2. INSA/FOSMA/MASSA
3. Nautical/Engineering/Naval Architecture/Training/SD branches of the Directorate.
4. [Hindi Section](#)

The Secretary to Govt.of India, Ministry of Shipping,Transport Bhavan, 1,Parliament Street,N.Delhi... 110001