Sub: Subject: Registration of Indian Ships- reg.

For the attention of: Ship Owners, Ship Managers including their Associations, Recognized Organizations (RO’s), Indian Ports Association (IPA), Maritime Boards and other Coastal States of India.

Introduction

1. Whereas, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, every Indian ship, unless it is a ship which does not exceed fifteen tons net and is employed solely in navigation on the Coasts of India, shall be registered under this Act.

2. Whereas the Part V- Registration of Indian Ships of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 prescribes the procedures for registration of Indian ships, especially; Section 27 and 28 of the Act that conveys the procedure for survey and measurement of ships before registry and marking; of ships, which have to be completed before registration.

Carving and Marking Note and Certificate of Survey Requirements

3. Noting the need to complete of registration process in an expeditious manner, to facilitate development of Indian tonnage and based on requests from the Indian ship owners, the Director General of Shipping, in exercise of the powers vested in him under the provision of Section 456 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 read together with S.O. 3144 dated 17th December, 1960 and in partial relaxation of Section 27 of the Act hereby allows such ships, which are acquired second-hand and are to be registered under Indian flag to be surveyed by the Master for the purpose of completing the Certificate of Survey.

4. Having regard to this requirement and the partial relaxation under the Act, the ship owner therefore shall have the responsibility to ensure that the said Certificate of Survey, duly certified by the Master of the ship in question, is concurrently authenticated by the ship owner’s representative as well.
5. The ship-owner shall have the responsibility to ensure that the Master of the said ship shall also certify the 'Carving and Marking Note' as required under Section 28 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, The registrar shall accept the duly certified 'Carving and Marking Note' and the "Certificate of Survey", as aforesaid, for the purpose of issuing provisional certificate of registry to such The relaxation from the requirement as above is applicable only in ship respect of ships duly "Classed" with any of the Recognized Organizations [RO’s] as approved by the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India through the gazette notification.

**Issuance of Provisional Certificate of Registry to Indian Ships;**

6. On compliance of above requirements, the Registrar of Indian ship shall issue a “Provisional Certificate of Registry” which shall be valid for a maximum period. In such cases, the existing RO]s may issue Short Term of three months. Statutory Certificates including applicable Load i Line Certificates for a maximum period up to three months, provided no statutory survey is falling or likely to fall due during this period, The ship-owner shall have the responsibility to obtain Permanent Certificate of Registry & Statutory Certificates as per the established procedures under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and Rules framed there under during the validity period of the "Provisional Certificate of Registry" issued to such ships.

**Compliance of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 Requirement**

7. Above directives shall apply with immediate effect in order to facilitate and promote growth of Indian tonnage for fulfilling the objectives of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 specified in the preamble of the Act including the Maritime Agenda 2010 - 2020 set-out by the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India. All concerned, therefore are requested to implement the provisions in the interest of shipping and public.

8. This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping, Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

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