Sub: Submission of reports of Shipboard Safety Management System

The compliance with provisions of ISM Code is mandatory under M.S. (Management for the safe operation of ships) Rules 2000 as amended and applicable since 1st July 1998 and 1st July 2002 depending on the ship type.

The Directorate General of Shipping has delegated the functions of verifying the compliance with ISM Code on board the Indian flag vessels to Indian Register of Shipping and also various circulars / guidelines / instructions have been issued from time to time for the effective control of ISM Code implementation.

In accordance with requirements of ISM Code, ships are being issued with Safety Management Certificate on satisfactory implementation of SMS. The period of validity of Safety Management Certificate would not exceed five years and subjected to at least one intermediate SMS verification. This intermediate SMS verification is completed normally between 2nd and 3rd year of the anniversary date of SMC.

During the recent ISM meet with the industry, the need to have SMS verification of ships annually in line with other statutory surveys were discussed in the backdrop of recent reports of accidents / incidents / detention of ships.

After considering the views and taking inputs from industry, in lieu of annual verification of SMS on ships, the Chief Surveyor with Government of India has decided for the time being to call for the following reports to DGS for analysis.

1] Copies of Master review report on ISM implementation on board the ship

2] Internal audit report of the ship

3] Outstanding NC closure reports of Internal and External audits

4] Reports of detention of vessel arising out of Flag State and Port State Control Inspections

Accordingly, all R.O s (Classification Societies) while carrying out annual survey on ships should forward the above reports to the Directorate immediately after their annual survey/inspection. It is urged that the company/Masters should co-operate and make available the reports to Surveyors of Classification Societies for onward submission to DGS. Notwithstanding above all the shipping companies shall forward the reports of detentions under flag state and port state control inspections along with analysis to ISM cell (DGS).

This is issued with the approval of the Chief Surveyor with the Government of India.

Yours

Sd/-
(B.R.Sekhar)
Dy.