Sub: Issuance of replacement, renewal & duplicate CDCs – reg.

The Continuous Discharge Certificates cum Seafarers Identity Documents (CDCs) were, previously, issued by the three Shipping Masters, Govt. Shipping Offices, i.e., the Shipping Masters of Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai. However, subsequently, vide this office DGS Order No. 2 of 2008 (F.No. 3 (2)CR/2006) dated 07.03.08, the work of receipt of applications for and issuance of all CDCs, including of replacement, renewal & duplicate CDCs was centralized in the office of the Shipping Master, Govt. Shipping Office, (GSO), Mumbai, with effect from 01.04.08.

2. By centralizing the task of processing and issuance of new CDCs, thus, the monitoring of the issuance of such CDCs is getting streamlined. In addition, the replacement, renewal and duplicate CDCs are also processed and issued from the office of the Shipping Master, GSO, Mumbai, at present, subsequent to the centralization order cited above. Such renewal, replacement & duplicate CDCs have to be issued after verifying the master data of the corresponding original CDCs issued. Originally, to reiterate, CDCs were issued by the Shipping Masters, Mumbai, Chennai & Kolkata, prior to 2008. Thus, the master details of the CDCs issued preceding 2008 are, currently, available with the respective/jurisdictional Shipping Master’s office. Attempts to transfer the said master details from Chennai and Kolkata have not yield tangible results so far, during this 4 years since then. Hence, the replacement, duplicate & renewal CDCs in respect of the old CDCs issued prior to 2008 can, as of now, only be issued by the Shipping Master, Mumbai, after the master details of such CDCs are transferred from the locational, Shipping Master’s Office of Chennai and Kolkata. Such transfer of details is, at present, consuming considerable time, due to which the applicant candidates are, often, able to get their renewal, duplicate, replacement & revalidation CDCs after about 4 months, in most cases. Such a time lag for the above crucial service delivery to the seafarers is not desirable, as such delays may be detrimental to the career prospects of these seafarers.

3. Now, therefore, in order to remove the said avoidable bureaucratic bottlenecks and to extend facilitatory services to seafarers, it is decided, in exercise of the powers conferred, by clause (1) of section 456 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as
amended, on the Central Government, read with the Notification issued by the Government of India, vide S.O. No. 3144 dated 17.12.60, in terms of the said powers which stands delegated by the central Govt. to the Director General of Shipping & ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India, the latter hereby issues the following directives in the matter;

3.1 The work of receipt of application for new CDCs, including the pre-sea training CDCs received from the various maritime training institutions shall be continued to be received, processed and issued by the Shipping Master, GSO, Mumbai only as per the said DGS Order No. 2 of 2008. However, the recent guidelines promulgated vide this office M.S.Notice No.23 of 2012 (CR/CDC(1)/Presea/2011 ) dated 04.12.12, shall be followed in relation to the task of receiving, processing and issuing of such CDCs by the Shipping Master, GSO, Mumbai.

3.2 The work of receipt of applications for processing & issuance of renewal, duplicate & replacement CDCs, however, is hereby decentralized in the offices of the Shipping Masters, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, with reference to the respective original CDCs issued. The three Shipping Masters shall receive applications for renewal, replacement, & duplicate CDCs in respect of the original CDCs issued by them only. The above arrangement shall take effect from 01.01.13. The Shipping Master, GSO, Mumbai, shall, in this light, transfer all applications pending with him in the above categories albeit pertaining to the original CDCs issued by the Shipping Masters, Chennai and Kolkata, to their respective/ jurisdictional offices for processing and issuance by the latter/locational Shipping Masters.

3.3 Shipping Masters, GSO, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, shall maintain all the connected official records and also update the renewal, duplicate & replacement CDCs issued by them, immediately, in the official CDC e-portal, so that the status of the CDCs of the seafarers concerned can be accessed electronically for counter-checking thereof by the authorities concerned.

Sd/-
(Gautam Chatterjee)
Director General of Shipping