Corrigendum-3 to DGS Order 6 of 2013

NO: ENG/MISC-28(73)/09 Pt. Dated: 5th March 2014

Subject: Statutory Certification and Services of Indian Ships by the Recognized Organizations (ROs)- reg.

1. General:

1.1 DGS Order No. 6 of 2013 dated 18th March 2013 was issued as a comprehensive procedural requirement for the statutory surveys, certification and associated services of the Indian Flag ships by the Recognised Organisations. Subsequently, the DGS was in receipt of several requests for clarifications, particularly on the extent of applicability of certain DGS circulars / MS Notices issued in the past, which were not expressly superseded by the said DGS order.

1.2 The Directorate, after careful consideration of such requests from various stakeholders now issues this Corrigendum-3 to the DGS Order 6 of 2013, with the following clarifications, which are to be read in conjunction with the said order.

2. Reporting to the Administration:

2.1. The essentially required reporting by the ROs to the Administration has been detailed at para.8 of the Annexure to the DGS order 6 of 2013. However, it is observed that many ROs continue to forward the copies of various statutory certificates issued by the respective RO along with associated reports, to the MMDs for records.

2.2 It is, however, noted that the said records are already available to the MMDs through the online access to the survey history of Indian flag ships, required to be mandatorily provided by the all ROs to the authorized officers of the DGS and MMDs. It is therefore clarified that in all such cases, ROs may discontinue the practice of forwarding the hard
3. Qualification of Surveyors:

3.1 The minimum qualification and experience of surveyors undertaking statutory surveys on behalf of the GOI has been clarified in detail at para.10 of the Annexure to the DGS order 6 of 2013. However, there have been several representations from various ROs for the review of said stipulations with regard to the surveyors who were already employed with the Society, prior to the issuance of the said order, in accordance with the training and authorization procedures as per their Quality Management System.

3.2 The DGS, after careful consideration of the system and procedures being followed by the Recognised Organizations for the training and authorization of the various categories of surveyors employed with the Classification Societies, clarifies that the Surveyors falling under the following categories can undertake statutory surveys only on non-convention ships below 300 GT, employed exclusively in the coast of India, and may also be assigned for other allied functions as mentioned at column 3 of Table.1 for the respective category. However, the qualification and experience requirement of the surveyors undertaking statutory survey and certification services of convention-ships, other than those mentioned above, shall continue to apply as provided at para.10 of the Annexure to the DGS order 6 of 2013.

Table.1

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<td>Category</td>
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| 1 | Surveyors with only Indian Navy / Coast Guard background who do not possess CoC nor have experience in operation / maintenance of merchant ships. | May carry out the following functions, subject to compliance of the training & authorization requirements of the Classification Society / IACS:-

1. Exclusive Class surveys;
2. ISPS audits;
3. Supervision of production / servicing of shipboard equipment including LSA / FFA;
4. Statutory surveys of ships less than 300GT, operating exclusively in the coast of India. |
| 2 | Graduates in Mechanical / Electrical / Civil / Production Engg who do not possess CoC nor have any experience in operation / maintenance of merchant ships. | May carry out the following functions, subject to compliance of the training & authorization requirements of the Society / IACS:-

1. Exclusive Class surveys;
2. Scrutiny of plans / drawings, other than statutory plans, hull structural plans, Loadline & Stability documentation;
3. Supervision of production / servicing of shipboard equipment including LSA / FFA;
4. Statutory surveys of ships less than 300GT, operating exclusively in the coast of India. |
4. **Exemptions and Extensions:**

4.1 Para. 9 of the Annexure to the DGS order 6 of 2013 provides that any exemption / extension / dispensation arising out of any non-compliance of the M.S Act/Rules or Convention provisions can be issued by any RO with the prior concurrence of the Administration. However, queries have been raised in this context regarding the extent of applicability of few previously issued MS Notices, particularly MSN 24 of 2009 and MSN 13 of 2012, dealing with dry-dock related matters, which are exclusively delegated to M/s Indian Register of Shipping.

4.2 After careful consideration of the matter, the Directorate issues the following clarification with regard to the exemptions, extensions or dispensations on Indian ships:-

4.2.1 In case of a reported non-compliance of the M.S Act/Rules or Convention provisions, except for extension of dry-dock surveys / tail-shaft surveys, any RO with which the vessel is classed or has issued the relevant statutory certificate, may undertake a physical inspection of the vessel, including an assessment on the risk profile of the reported deficiency and the appropriateness of the alternate arrangement being proposed and promptly forward a report to the DGS with its clear recommendation. The DGS, after satisfactory assessment of the report shall advise the RO for the issuance of exemption, dispensation, statutory note or short-term certificate, as appropriate. In case the above is undertaken by an RO other than the IRS, copy of the certificate / note issued in this regard shall be promptly forwarded to the IRS by the concerned RO to facilitate updating on the centralized vessel history being maintained by the Society.

4.2.2 With regard to matters related to the dry-dock/tail shaft extensions and In-water surveys in lieu of dry-docking, the delegation of authority shall remain exclusively limited to the IRS, for the purpose of centralized monitoring, control and reporting.

4.2.3 The extension of statutory certificates as provided under the respective Conventions, but, not needing extension of dry-dock surveys can be undertaken by any RO with which the vessel is classed or has issued the relevant statutory certificate. However, except for ‘green channel’ cases as provided in MSN 13 of 2012, necessary concurrence need to be obtained from the DGS prior to extending the certificate, under intimation to the IRS for appropriate updating of the records accordingly.

5. **Endorsement for Annual Surveys:**

It has come to the notice of this Directorate that some of the ROs are restricting other ROs from undertaking endorsement for annual/intermediate/periodical/additional surveys.
on certificates issued by the former. It is therefore clarified that the statutory certificates issued on behalf of the Govt. of India can be endorsed for appropriate surveys by any RO authorised for the purpose by the GOI, regardless of the fact that the certificate may have been issued by another RO.

This is issued with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Ex-officio Additional Secretary to the GOI and comes into effect from the date of issue of this corrigendum.

Sd/-

(Ajithkumar Sukumaran)
Dy. Chief Surveyor with the GoI-cum-
Sr. Dy. Director General (Tech)

To,

1. Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai/Kandla/Cochin.
2. Surveyor-in-Charge, Mercantile Marine Department, Goa/Jamnagar/Port Blair/Visakhapatnam/Tuticorin/Delhi/Haldia/Paradip/Mangalore.
3. All Recognised Organizations.
4. Indian National Shippers Association (INSA), Mumbai.
5. CS/NA/CSS/Jt.DG, DGS, GoI
6. Hindi Cell, DGS, GoI.
7. Guard file, DGS, GoI.
8. Computer Cell, DGS, GoI.