



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI**

File No: 23-CIR/2/2021-COASTAL - DGS

Dated : 23.04.2021

**DGS Circular No. 9 of 2021**

**Sub.: Coronavirus (COVID 19) – arrangement for vaccination of seafarers – reg.**

1. Whereas numerous forums around the world have recognized the importance of shipping in keeping the global supply chain open in order to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. And whereas, the Government of India has promulgated an “Essential Services Maintenance Act, 1968” in which the definition of essential service means, “any railway service or any transport service for carriage of passengers or goods by land, water or air with respect to which Parliament has the powers to make law.” As such shipping services fall within the definition of essential service in India.
3. And whereas, while Government of India has been very proactive in recognizing the role that seafarers play in world trade and global commerce and has been sympathetic to their need of crew change at the end of tenure of seafarers contract onboard ships.
4. And whereas, since the beginning of the COVID-19, the Government of India has recognized the seafarers as “Key Workers” and permitted crew change in the ports in India. The Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 24.3.2020 under clause 7 of its guidelines has included ‘sea crew’ as essential services and supplies. Further, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, vide Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 21.04.2020 by sub-clause (iii) under Clause 17 had included the movement of persons to allow sign-on and sign-off of Indian seafarers at Indian ports and their movement for the aforesaid purpose as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The SOP has also noted that Directorate General of Shipping will prescribe the detailed protocol with regard to sign-on and sign-off to be followed. Accordingly, the Directorate had issued DGS Order No. 12 of 2020 dated 22.04.2020 and Addendums 1 to 4, prescribing the Standard Operating Procedures / Protocols (SOP) for controlled crew change of Indian seafarers at Indian ports to facilitate and

9वीं मंज़िल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैम्पस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व) मुंबई- 400042

9th Floor, BETA Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai-400042

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-2575 2029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgshipping.gov.in

regulate crew change for seafarers so that the safe environment on the ship is not compromised or no contamination is brought from ship to shore. The Directorate has also permitted and facilitated sign on and sign off of foreign seafarers in Indian ports.

5. And whereas, this Directorate has in accordance with the joint resolutions issued by various bodies of the United Nations, namely, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and International Labour Organization (ILO), designated all seafarers within the jurisdiction of this country as "Key Workers" providing an essential service.

6. And whereas, in view of the nature of COVID- 19 pandemic, it is highly advised that as far as possible the seafarers get themselves vaccinated before signing on. The Mumbai Port Trust Hospital has made arrangements for vaccination of essential workers.

7. It is now advised that the following categories of Indian seafarers can utilize the vaccination facility at Mumbai Port Trust Hospital on production of CDC or SID,

- a) Seafarers who are of 45 years of age or above; or
- b) Seafarers who are less than 45 years but have to sign-on a vessel after 60 days. An online certificate to this effect to be issued by the Directorate General of Shipping;
- c) Seafarers above 18 years of age and below 45 years can use this facility after 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 2021.

8. The nodal officers for vaccination drive of seafarers in MbPT and DGS are as follows :

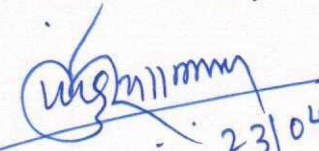
Mumbai Port Trust

Name	-	Capt. Balasaheb Vinayak Pawar
Designation	-	Harbour Master
Telephone No.	-	Office-022 66564022/ 9322249961
E-mail	-	hm@mumbaiport.gov.in

Director General of Shipping

Name	-	Dr. Pandurang K. Raut
Designation	-	Dy. Director General of Shipping
Telephone No.	-	022-25752012/9920095711
E-mail	-	<a href="mailto:pandurang.raut@nic.in">pandurang.raut@nic.in</a>

9. This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India and Chairman, Mumbai Port Trust.

  
23/04/2021  
(Dr. Pandurang K. Raut)  
Deputy Director General of Shipping.