

# DRAFT CIRCULAR

Comments/suggestions on following email ID: [n.mukesh@gov.in](mailto:n.mukesh@gov.in) and [deo7.nt-dgs@govcontractor.nic.in](mailto:deo7.nt-dgs@govcontractor.nic.in) by 12.06.2025.

**N.T. BRANCH CIRCULAR NO: NT/ISPS/SHIP/ /2026**

**File No: 25-104/46/2024-NT - DGS**

**Date: 21.05.2026**

**Subject: Guidelines for specification and deployment of patrol boats within port limits towards ISPS Compliance**

In supersession of N.T. Branch Circular No. NT/ISPS/SHIP/03/2009 dated 6th March, 2009, along with its subsequent addendums dated 02.04.2012 and 26.10.2023, the Directorate General of Shipping hereby issues the following guidelines relating to specification and deployment of patrol boats within port limits.

In view of representations received from stakeholders regarding deployment of patrol boats for waterside surveillance, and with a view to ensure uniformity in specifications for patrol boats across ports, the Directorate hereby lays down the following guidelines / specifications.

The guidelines / specifications stated below are minimum, and all ports shall identify their requirements considering the expanse of port limits and prevailing weather conditions, for justifying any upgraded criteria beyond the minimum specified requirements.

Accordingly, the following specifications for patrol boats are hereby prescribed:

## **1. Registration & Classification of boat:**

Patrol Boats shall be registered under the applicable provisions of the Indian Vessels Act (I.V. Act) or the Merchant Shipping Act (M.S. Act), as applicable, and shall be classed with an IACS Member Classification Society.

Based upon the area of operation following IRS equivalent notations shall be considered for the classification.

- a. **For vessels registered under the I.V. Act, as applicable (for operation within I.V. limits only):**

(SWASTIKA) IWL, HSLC/LC, PATROL, RS2/RS3, "FOR OPERATION WITHIN PORT LIMITS",

(SWASTIKA) IY

- b. **For vessels registered under the M.S. Act, as applicable (for operation beyond I.V. Limits):**

(SWASTIKA) SUL, PATROL, HSLC/LC, RS0,

(SWASTIKA) IY

In addition to compliance with the applicable Classification Rules, the Patrol Boats shall also comply with the relevant statutory and operational requirements pertaining to the following:

## **2. HULL REQUIREMENTS:**

2.1 Shall have Gun Mounting Facility at Forward; (As per CISF requirements);

2.2 Side windows shall be sliding type and bulletproof / Shatter proof material;

## **3. MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS**

3.1. Main propulsion power to achieve / Max. Speed at 90% MCR (Calm seas & notide);

3.2. Twin Screw Diesel Engine stem drive or conventional direct shaft drive propulsion system or equivalent to attain speed of at least 20 knots; (The Engine Power (BHP) may be decided by the Manufacturer). Use of outboard motor drive not acceptable.;

3.3. Shore Power Connection and Cable;

3.4. Air Conditioner;

## **4. MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS:**

4.1. Endurance for approximately 8 hours in the area of operation;

4.2. Carrying capacity 12 persons;

4.3. All Patrol Boats shall be painted in white colour with red coloured stripes/markings to ensure clear identification and distinction from other crafts operating within the area

**5. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE & CERTIFICATION:**

5.1. All Patrol Boats shall comply with the statutory certification requirements applicable to the assigned class notation and shall meet all relevant GOI or IV Authority Regulations, Rules, and Orders, as amended

**6. Risk and threat assessment of the port facility:**

Further, in view of the above and based on representations / requests received from stakeholders regarding deployment of patrol boats for waterside surveillance, the following is hereby stipulated:

- a. The number of patrol boats required shall be based on the risk and threat assessment of the port facility, as identified in the Port Facility Security Assessment (PFSA), in accordance with applicable provisions of the ISPS framework.
- b. The requirement for deployment and operation of patrol boats shall be deliberated in the Port Facility Security Advisory Committee (PFSAC) / relevant port security committee and suitably incorporated in the Port Facility Security Plan (PFSP).
- c. In respect of EXIM ports, patrol boats shall be deployed in accordance with the prescribed requirements under the ISPS framework, and the same shall be incorporated in the PFSP during the next revision.
- d. In respect of non-EXIM ports, the requirement of patrol boats may be determined based on risk and threat assessment, as decided by the PFSAC, considering the security requirements of the port.

This is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

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