



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

समुद्रीय प्रशासन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, MUMBAI

F. No. 23-UNI/8/2022-CREW-DGS (C. No. 16722)

Date: 10.08.2026

DGMA CIRCULAR 48 OF 2026

Subject: Discontinuation of Immigration Procedures for Sign-On/Sign-Off and Shore Leave Pass (SLP) for Crew/Supernumeraries of Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Foreigners Division (Immigration Section), vide Office Memorandum No. 25016/19/2024-Imm dated 06.08.2026, has decided to discontinue the requirement of immigration procedures relating to Sign-On/Sign-Off and Shore Leave Pass (SLP) for crew and supernumeraries serving on Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels, including Indian Flag coastal-run research vessels, dredgers, barges and other similar categories of vessels.

2. In order to ensure uniform implementation of the above decision and to facilitate the movement of seafarers serving on Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels, all stakeholders are advised to take note of the following:

A. Discontinuation of Immigration Procedures

- (i) Immigration procedures relating to crew sign-on, sign-off and shore leave pass shall no longer be applicable to Indian national crew and supernumeraries serving on Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels.
- (ii) The above dispensation shall apply to Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels, including coastal-run research vessels, dredgers, barges and other similar categories of vessels.

B. Port Authority Procedures

- (i) Port Authorities shall continue to maintain records of crew and supernumeraries serving on such vessels.
- (ii) Immigration authorities may conduct surprise inspections and seek crew lists from Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels, including research vessels, dredgers, barges, tugs and similar categories of vessels, whenever considered necessary.

C. Shore Access

- (i) Shore access of Indian national crew and supernumeraries serving on Indian Flag Coastal Run Vessels shall henceforth be regulated by the respective Port Authority.

- (ii) No separate Shore Leave Pass (SLP) from Immigration Authorities shall be required for such personnel.
3. All RPSL holders, shipping companies, ship managers, vessel operators, Masters, shipping agents, Port Authorities and seafarers are advised to take note of the above provisions and ensure compliance.
4. This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.


10.08.2026

Captain Bipin Kumar
Deputy Director General (Crew)
Directorate General of Maritime Administration

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. All Major and Minor Port Authorities.
2. All recognized maritime bodies (INSA, MASSA, FOSMA, NUSI, MUI) for wide circulation.
3. All RPSL holders, Shipping Companies and Ship Managers.