भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
समुद्रीय प्रशासन महानिदेशाल य, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, MUMBAI

File No.: 25-63011/70/2025-NT-DGS(comp. no.36491) **Date : 10.11.2026**

NOTICE

Subject: Invitation of applications for retention of Marine Pollution Response Operators under rule 29 of the Merchant Shipping (Wreck and Salvage) Rules, 2026 – reg.

Background and Statutory Basis

1. The Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 260 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025) (hereinafter "the Act"), has notified the Merchant Shipping (Wreck and Salvage) Rules, 2026 (hereinafter "the Rules") vide G.S.R. 910(E) dated 23rd October, 2026, in supersession of the Merchant Shipping (Wrecks and Salvage) Rules, 1974, with effect from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Rule 29 of the Rules requires the authority to maintain a list of marine pollution response operators having qualifications and experience based on the criteria specified in the Fourth Schedule, and provides that the Committee constituted under rule 28 shall assess applications for their retention.

3. The list is essential to the operation of rules 5(5) and 30(1) of the Rules, which provide for the appointment of a retained marine pollution response operator for effective response to marine casualties and associated pollution incidents, and require registered owners to maintain valid contracts with such an operator under the Merchant Shipping (Regulation of Entry of Ships into Coastal Waters) Rules, 2026.

Purpose

4. This Notice promulgates the "Check List for Evaluating Applications for Approval and Retention of Marine Pollution Response Operators" specified in the Fourth Schedule to the Rules, reproduced at the Annexure, which shall govern all applications for retention of marine pollution response operators. The companies/ operators fulfilling the mandatory criteria, and having an operational base in a defined coastal region, are invited to apply for inclusion in the list of marine pollution response operators to be maintained under rule 29 of the Rules.

9वीं मंजिल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैंपस, 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.: +91-22-25752029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgma.gov.in

Submission of Applications

5. Applications may be submitted on or before 30th November, 2026 by e-mail to abulkalam.azad@gov.in, singh.harinder@gov.in and nautic.lglassit1-dgs@gov.in, bearing the subject "Application for Retention of Marine Pollution Response Operator – [Name of Applicant]", followed by a hard copy addressed to the Nautical Advisor to the Government of India, Directorate General of Maritime Administration, at the address above.

6. Each application shall comprise of:

a. a covering letter signed by an authorized signatory, together with the Board resolution or power of attorney conferring such authority, as applicable;
b. the Checklist at the Annexure, duly completed with reference to the enclosures relied upon; and
c. self-attested supporting documents indexed in the order of the Checklist, with certified English translations of documents in any other language.

7. Applications not supported by evidence against the mandatory criteria shall not be considered, and applications received after the said date may be considered at a subsequent review of the list.

Entities Seeking Retention in Both Capacities

8. An entity seeking retention both as a salvor and as a marine pollution response operator shall submit separate applications together. Where an entity is approved in both capacities, the registered owner shall maintain a single contract with it for salvage and marine pollution response services, in accordance with rule 30(4) of the Rules.

This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.

10/11/2026

(Capt. Harinder Singh)
Nautical Surveyor & DDG (Tech.)

THE FOURTH SCHEDULE

[See rule 29]

Issued by the Government of India

CHECK LIST FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF RETENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION RESPONSE OPERATORS

Sr. No	Criteria	Requirements	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	Registration with the relevant regulatory body (Ministry of Corporate Affairs).	Mandatory	Copy of certificate of incorporation to be submitted.
2	Type of Company (Indian Company, Indian subsidiaries, consortiums, joint ventures or strategic alliances with an Indian Entity).	Mandatory	In case of Indian subsidiaries, consortiums, joint ventures or strategic alliances, details of all entities to be submitted.
3	Total paid-up capital of the (Indian) entity.	10 lakhs (Preferred)	Evidence required to be submitted with the application.
4	Audited Financial Statements indicating positive net worth and turnover of the Indian entity, Indian subsidiaries, consortiums or joint ventures with Indian entity.	1 years (Mandatory)	Evidence required to be submitted with the application. Note: In case of newly formed Joint Venture entity, preceding individual turnovers of each entity shall be taken into account' to the Financial Statements indicating positive net worth and turnover criteria.
5	Operational set-up/ Stand-by locations around Indian Coast.	Establishment of one or more operational base in a defined coastal region, state or group of adjacent maritime areas.	Evidence to be submitted for the existing facility or any facility which is to be built.
6	Assets/Equipment's available on standby (owned assets, leased assets, framework agreements, consortium arrangements, strategic partnerships or mutual aid agreements, or other assured access mechanisms).	Mandatory	Evidence of assets/spill response equipment's as required under Tier 1 and/or Tier 2 of the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) and Crisis Management Plan for HNS Spill at Sea (HNS-CP) to be submitted with the application.
7	Manpower Requirements: should have adequate number of IMO Level trained Senior Executive, Operational Officers, Supervisor, Operator, and other sufficient personnel to support response operations.	Mandatory	Details, qualifications and experience of expert and personnel to be provided.

8	Experience of successful completion of spill response operations in last 05 years.[3]	Successful completion of minimum 4 spill response operations. (Preferred)	Evidence of successful completion of spill response operation to be submitted
9	Experience of conducting spill response operations around Indian Ocean Region, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Persian Gulf in the last 10 years.	Successful completion of minimum 2 spill response operations. (Preferred)	Evidence of successful completion of spill response operation to be submitted.
10	Details of any unsuccessful spill response operations.	As applicable	Details required to be submitted with the application.
11	Experience of engagement in exercises, drills, deployments, operational demonstrations and/or preparedness programmes.	Preferred	Evidence of successful completion of exercises, drills, deployments, operational demonstrations and/or preparedness programmes to be submitted.
12	Tie up/MOU with Ship operators/owners/managers for supply vessels/tugs for deployment of pollution gear.	Preferred	Evidence of tie up/MOU with Ship operators / owners/ managers required to be submitted with the application.
13	24 X 7 availability of Point of Contact: Nodal Officer for the Marine Pollution Response Operators.	Mandatory	Declaration to be provided with the details of Point of Contact.
14	Affidavit to comply with Indian laws.	Mandatory	In compliance with the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, Indian Ports Act, 2025 & other applicable Indian Laws.

[3] emphasis should be placed on the scope of work, and the complexity of the spill response is to be highlighted, including cooperation with local authorities and other local Indian companies, which is demonstrative of the understanding and knowledge of Indian spill response organizations and response capabilities.