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 salvors under section 255 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, in terms 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. Section 255 of the Act empowers the Central Government to notify a list of salvors having such qualifications and experience, and subject to such terms and conditions, as may be prescribed, and rule 28 of the Rules constitutes a Committee to evaluate applications for retention of salvors on the basis of the criteria specified in the Third Schedule.

3. The notified list is essential to the operation of rules 5(5) and 30(1) of the Rules, which require registered owners to appoint a notified salvor for removal of a wreck and to maintain valid contracts with a retained salvor 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 of Retention of Salvors" specified in the Third Schedule to the Rules, reproduced at the Annexure, which shall govern all applications for retention of salvors. The companies / salvors fulfilling the mandatory criteria, and undertaking the time-bound commitment on operational set-up and stand-by locations specified therein, are invited to apply for inclusion in the list of salvors to be notified under section 255 of the Act.

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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 Salvor – [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. The salvors submitted applications earlier under Merchant Shipping Notice No. 01 of 2026 need not apply afresh, but shall, by the said date, submit such additional documents as may be necessary to establish compliance with the Third Schedule.

8. 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

9. An entity seeking retention both as a salvor and as a marine pollution response operator shall submit applications together based on the relevant checklists. 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 THIRD SCHEDULE

[See rule 28]

Issued by the Government of India

CHECK LIST FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS FOR APPROVAL OF RETENTION OF SALVORS

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 with an Indian Entity, details of all entities to be submitted
3	Total paid-up capital of the (Indian) entity	1 crore (Preferred)	Evidence required to be submitted with the application
4	Audited Financial Statements indicating positive net worth and turnover of the Indian entity/Joint Venture 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 minimum Operational set-up/Stand-by locations at 1 location on East and West Coast of India each within 12 months (Assurance of setting up a minimum 4 locations around the Indian Coast within 3 years)	Evidence to be submitted for the existing facility. Detailed setup plan to be submitted along with the application
6	Assets/Equipment's available on standby	Mandatory	Evidence of assets/salvage equipment's available in India or which may be shipped to India, to be submitted with the application
7	Manpower Requirements (Salvage Master, Naval Architect, Chemist, Firefighting Expert and other salvage personnel) with a minimum expectation that a salvor can respond to simultaneous emergencies on both the East and West coasts.	Mandatory	Details, qualifications and experience of Salvage Master[1], Naval Architect, Chemist, Firefighting Expert and other salvage personnel to be provided

[1] Key personnel should preferably have a certain level of security clearance with authorities (Ports, Indian Coast and Indian Navy) for expeditious deployment.

8	Experience of successful completion of salvage operations in last 05 years.[2]	Successful completion of minimum 4 salvage operations (Mandatory)	Evidence of successful completion of salvage operation to be submitted
9	Experience of conducting salvage operations around Indian Ocean Region, Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Persian Gulf in the last 10 years	Successful completion of minimum 2 salvage operations (Preferred)	Evidence of successful completion of salvage operation to be submitted
10	Details of any unsuccessful salvage operations	As applicable	Details required to be submitted with the application
11	A Member of International Salvage Union	Preferred	Evidence required to be submitted with the application. ISU accreditation maybe of one of the partners in case of a JV.
12	Adequate Professional Indemnity insurance by reputable insurer to be maintained by Salvage company	Mandatory	Evidence required to be submitted with the application
13	Tie up with MPRO (Marine Pollution Response Operators) in India with the list of equipment's and its locations	Preferred	Evidence of tie up with MPRO required to be submitted with the application as and when the approved MPRO list is published
14	Tie up/MOU with Ship operators/owners/managers for Emergency deployment of Tugs	Agreement should state that the tugs should be mobilized within 24 hours of reporting (Mandatory)	Evidence of tie up/MOU with Ship operators / owners/ managers required to be submitted with the application
15	24 X 7 availability of Point of Contact: Nodal Officer for the Salvage Operators.	Mandatory	Declaration to be provided with the details of Point of Contact
16	Affidavit to comply with Indian laws	Mandatory	In compliance with the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, Indian Ports Act, 2025 & other applicable Indian Laws

[2] emphasis should be placed on the scope of work, and the complexity of the salvage case is to be highlighted. Including cooperation with local authorities and other local Indian companies, which is demonstrative of the understanding and knowledge of Indian salvage companies and salvage capabilities.