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.

File No.: 23-RPS/21/2026-CREW-DGS (C.No. 43670) **Date: 23.11.2026**

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE NO. 08 OF 2026

Sub.: Implementation of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 and promulgation of Modalities for stakeholders under enhanced RPSL Module. – Reg

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, the Central Government has notified the **Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026**, vide Gazette Notification No. **G.S.R. 777(E) dated 15 September 2026**. The said Rules have come into force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette and supersede the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016, except in respect of things done or omitted to be done before such supersession.

2. The Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 establish a revised regulatory framework for the licensing, inspection, renewal, monitoring and supervision of recruitment and placement services. Among other matters, the Rules prescribe electronic submission and processing of applications, revised fees, revised bank-guarantee requirements, annual and special inspection arrangements, responsibilities of licensed recruitment and placement services, electronic execution of Seafarers' Employment Agreements and strengthened provisions relating to seafarer welfare, repatriation, complaints and regulatory compliance.

3. The Directorate General of Maritime Administration is continuously undertaking digitisation and upgradation of its online systems to enhance efficiency and transparency. Accordingly, in line with the new Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026, the existing RPSL module has been upgraded & enhanced of the existing RPSL Module to provide a streamlined, transparent, user-friendly and digitally integrated platform for managing recruitment and placement-related services.

3.1 The existing system supported certain online processes relating to RPS licensing, inspections, renewals, profile management and seafarer deployment. However, several related activities continued to require separate submissions, manual intervention, email-based communication or processing through independent workflows.

3.2 The enhanced RPSL Module has accordingly been developed as an integrated digital platform covering the licensing and continuing regulatory lifecycle of Recruitment and Placement Services as well as connected services relating to seafarers' employment, deployment, inspection, enforcement, appeals, enhancement / withdrawal of Bank Guarantees, update / correction of sea-service records and regulatory monitoring

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

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3.3 The principal objectives of the enhanced module are to:

3.3.1 Streamlines the existing application submission and approval processes

3.3.2 Provides end-to-end electronic submission and processing of applications

3.3.3 Reduces manual intervention and dependence on physical or email-based submissions

3.3.4 Improve the accuracy, consistency and validation of data

3.3.5 Facilitates automatic routing of applications to the concerned authority

3.3.6 Enables online payment of applicable fees

3.3.7 Provides real-time application status and pending-action tracking

3.3.8 Improves transparency, accountability and auditability

3.3.9 Strengthen inspection, monitoring and compliance mechanisms

3.3.10 Providing system-generated notifications, reminders and regulatory alerts

3.3.11 Maintaining centralized digital records of applications, inspections, approvals and decisions

3.3.12 Facilitates improved dashboards, reports and analytical oversight.

4. Launch of the enhanced RPSL Module:

4.1 The enhanced RPSL Module (initially Beta Version) has been launched with effect from 15th October 2026 vide DGMA Circular No. 68/2026 dt 13.10.2026.

4.2 From the effective date notified herein, the applications and services specified shall be submitted electronically through the enhanced RPSL Module. The concern Shipping companies / RPS Agencies shall ensure that their organizational, authorized-signatory, point of contact details, Bank Guarantee, vessel, employer and other profile particulars are complete and updated before initiating an application.

4.3 The Directorate shall introduce the services of the enhanced module in phases. Any process or service not activated on the initial launch date shall continue to be processed in the manner separately specified by the Directorate until its online workflow is enabled.

5. Available Online Services:

5.1 Subject to phased activation and system availability, the enhanced RPSL Module shall provide online facilities for the following applications and services:

5.2 Licensing and profile-related services:

5.2.1 Application for issuance of a fresh Recruitment and Placement Service License;

5.2.2 Renewal of RPS License;

5.2.3 Annual inspection of licensed Recruitment and Placement Services;

5.2.4 Initial, renewal, special and other inspections, as applicable;

5.2.5 Change in the name of a licensed Recruitment and Placement Service;

5.2.6 Change in the place of business or address of a licensed Recruitment and Placement Service;

5.2.7 Change in top management;

5.2.8 Creation and management of RPSL and Shipping Company profiles; and

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5.3 Provisions related to Bank-Guarantee:

5.3.1 Submission of a fresh Bank Guarantee.

5.3.2 Renewal of Bank Guarantee.

5.3.3 Enhancement of Bank Guarantee and recruitment capacity.

5.3.4 Withdrawal, release or return of Bank Guarantee, subject to the applicable Rules and satisfaction of liabilities.

5.3.5 Online tracking and regulatory review of Bank Guarantee applications.

5.4 Compliance, inspection and regulatory services:

5.4.1 Online inspection scheduling;

5.4.2 Uploading of inspection-related documents and evidence against the prescribed checklist;

5.4.3 System-generated inspection reports;

5.4.4 RPSL s suspension or withdrawal proceedings;

5.4.5 Online appeal workflow;

5.4.6 Special and surprise-inspection workflows;

5.4.7 Specified-category applications and extensions;

5.4.8 Special-category case reporting;

5.4.9 Offer-letter verification through the Authentic Job Portal;

5.4.10 Notifications, dashboards and online reports; and

5.4.11 Other services activated by the Directorate from time to time.

6. Key enhancements and New Features introduced in the enhanced RPSL Module:

Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
1	**New RPS license Application**	MLC Board presentation, agenda and decision were not digitally integrated with the application. No system-based identification of duplicate applications using a unique Director ID.	DIN to be captured as a unique identifier to restrict duplicate applications. Integration with the Online MLC Board Module introduced. Online submission of presentation and digital recording of MLC Board decisions. Integrated online payment gateway.	Improved transparency and traceability of the RPSL licensing process Faster processing through end-to-end digital workflow. Reduced manual intervention and paperwork. Centralized access to application, MLC Board presentation, agenda and decision records. Real-time tracking of application and decision status.
2	**RPSL Profile**	Updates to the RPSL profile were not supported by structured notifications to the appropriate authority.	Notifications sent to the appropriate authority whenever the profile is updated.	Improved transparency in RPSL profile changes. Reduced manual follow-up and communication gaps. Better monitoring and tracking of profile

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Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
				modifications. Improved accountability and audit trail for all profile updates.
3	**Annual Inspection Workflow**	No adequate digital evidence to establish that the inspection team physically visited and conducted the inspection. Inspection scheduling, payment and routing were not fully integrated. Grievances were not captured in the system	Online inspection scheduling and automated routing to the SHIPPING OFFICE and inspecting authority. Inspection-related photographs, videos and supporting documents against checklist items to be geo-tagged and uploaded in the system. Incorporation of the **new RPSL Inspection Checklist**. Notifications for pending inspections. Grievances and special remarks to be captured and integrated into the system	Improved transparency and accountability of the inspection process. Geo-tagged evidence provides verifiable proof of the physical inspection. End-to-end digital inspection workflow reduces manual intervention and processing time. Automated routing and notifications help ensure timely completion of inspections. Standardized inspection checklist
4	**License Suspension / Withdrawal**	No structured digital mechanism existed for suspension/withdrawal of RPSL Licenses.	End-to-end online workflow for issuance of Show Cause Notice, response submission, hearing, decision recording, communication of orders, automatic profile locking and regulatory monitoring.	End-to-end digitization of the suspension / withdrawal process through systematic recording of notices, responses, hearings and decisions. Reduced manual intervention and processing time. Timely communication of orders to the concerned RPSL.
5	**Appeal Workflow**	No dedicated online appeal mechanism against suspension/withdrawal decisions. Appeal tracking, timelines and decision records were not centrally maintained.	Structured and time-bound online appeal workflow with first appeal stage, automated routing, hearing records, order tracking and electronic communication of decisions.	End-to-end digitization of the appeal process. Transparent and systematic handling of appeals through defined stages and timelines. Automated routing ensures appeals reach the appropriate authority without manual intervention. Centralized tracking of appeal status, hearings, orders and decisions. Faster communication of decisions through

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Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
				electronic delivery of orders.
6	**Specified Category**	Approved ship information was added to the RPSL Profile with no fixed period. No online facility was available to extend the validity of an approved specified-category entry.	New online facility for extension of the specified-category duration. Extension can be requested against an approved application with reasons and supporting documents.	Defined validity period for specified-category approvals. End-to-end online management of extension requests. Reduced manual processing and Centralized record of approvals and extensions. Better regulatory monitoring of validity periods. Timely processing of extension requests through online tracking and notifications.
7	**Renewal of RPSL License**	No automated reminders before License expiry. Profile information had to be updated and re-entered as part of renewal. Delayed application penalties and extension permissions were not system-driven.	Automated renewal notifications before License expiry. Relevant information auto-fetched from the RPSL Profile, reducing duplicate entry. Online fee payment and automated penalty handling for delayed applications. Online provision for obtaining Director, SHIPPING OFFICE permission for extension of the renewal window	Timely renewal of RPSL Licenses through automated reminders and notifications. Reduced manual intervention and processing time. Transparent and automated fee and penalty calculation/collection. Improved tracking of delayed renewal applications. Digitized approval workflow for extension of the renewal window. Better regulatory monitoring of License validity and renewal status.
8	**Bank Guarantee Renewal / Enhancement / Withdrawal**	Changes to Bank Guarantee details were not available through an online workflow. Processing relied on manual submissions and lacked centralized tracking.	Online workflow for Bank Guarantee renewal, enhancement, and withdrawal. Digital submission of requests along with supporting documents, automated routing to the concerned authority or Inspection Authority, wherever applicable, approval workflow, status tracking	Reduces manual intervention through online submission and processing; enables faster review and approval through automated routing to the concerned Authority/Inspection Authority, wherever applicable; provides centralized tracking of

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Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
			and notifications.	BG renewal, enhancement, and withdrawal requests; enables timely monitoring of BG validity and status; and reduces the risk of delays in BG-related actions.
9	**Change in RPSL Name / Address**	Existing profile information and documents had to be updated as part of the process. Separate processing and fee treatment for the two types of changes was unavailable. Application routing involved selection of both RO and SHIPPING OFFICE by the applicant.	Relevant existing information and documents automatically fetched from the RPSL Profile. Separate online fee payment for each application. Automatic routing from RO to the jurisdictional SHIPPING OFFICE. Approved name or address automatically updated in the RPSL Profile.	Simplified online processing for name and address changes; automatic routing to the jurisdictional SHIPPING OFFICE; separate online fee payment for each application; faster profile updation after approval; and reduced manual data entry and applicant errors.
10	**Special Category – Case Reporting**	No sufficiently structured and integrated workflow for reporting, tracking and maintaining records of special-category cases. Monitoring of sensitive cases was fragmented.	Structured online workflow for reporting and processing cases relating to: Absconding at foreign ports, Compensation payments, Indiscipline by Indian seafarers, Death, missing and accident cases, MLC non-compliance, Abandonment, Non-payment of wages	Centralized reporting and tracking of special-category cases; standardized handling of different case types; faster reporting and follow-up of pending cases; improved visibility of case status and actions; reduced manual intervention; and a complete digital record of case processing and decisions.
11	**Shipping Company Profile**	No central repository existed for maintaining Shipping Company information.	Online creation and management of Shipping Company profiles with controlled updates, traceability and authority notifications.	Centralized repository for Shipping Company information; improved data accuracy and consistency through controlled updates; reduced manual record maintenance; automated notifications for relevant updates; and easier monitoring of company

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Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
				information and profile changes.
12	**Multiple Login Credential Facility**	Each RPSL generally operated using a single login, creating operational dependency, limited accountability and restricted task delegation.	Facility to create and manage multiple authorized user credentials with role-based access controls and better accountability.	Enables multiple authorized staff to work simultaneously using individual credentials; reduces dependency on a single login; supports role-based task delegation; improves access control and security; provides user-level activity tracking; and reduces operational delays when a particular user is unavailable.
13	**Authentic Job Portal – Offer Letter Verification**	No online facility was available for verification of the authenticity of employment offer letters	Online facility for verification of offer letters, enabling seafarers and stakeholders to verify the authenticity of employment offers	Enables quick verification of offer letters; helps identify potentially fraudulent or unauthorized employment offers; provides seafarers with greater confidence in employment offers; reduces the need for manual verification; and provides a centralized mechanism for offer-letter verification.
14	**Notifications**	Limited automated notifications, reminders and real-time alerts.	Alerts for important applications, actions, approvals and profile updates. Renewal reminders before License expiry. Inspection-scheduling notifications.	Provides timely alerts for important applications, actions, approvals and profile updates; reduces missed renewal and inspection deadlines; enables faster response to pending actions; improves visibility of application and approval status; and reduces the need for manual follow-up.

Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
15	**Dashboard**	Only a basic dashboard was available. No consolidated view of pending actions, compliance indicators or application status.	Comprehensive RPSL monitoring dashboard. Advanced dashboards with filters for improved compliance and operational monitoring.	Consolidated monitoring of RPSL applications, sea service records, Bank Guarantees, inspections, renewals and other key activities; quick identification of pending and overdue actions; improved compliance monitoring; filter-based analysis for efficient review; and reduced manual effort in monitoring and preparing status reports.
16	**Reports**	No advanced reporting and search tools with limited filters and analytical capabilities.	Advanced filters and search capabilities. Reporting linked with monitoring and analytical dashboardsoperational/statistical information.	Faster retrieval of required information through advanced search and filters; improved analysis of operational and statistical data; easier generation and review of customized reports; better visibility of trends and key indicators through dashboard integration; and reduced manual effort in compiling reports.
17	**Training Berth**	No dedicated online facility was available for managing and monitoring training berth allocation and utilization.	Online facility to dynamically declare, allocate, monitor, and release training berths for vessels and trainees, with centralized tracking of berth availability and utilization.	Enables dynamic allocation and optimal utilization of training berths; provides clear visibility of berth availability and occupancy; facilitates timely release and reallocation of berths; reduces manual

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Sr. No.	Process / Module	Existing Process Challenges / Issues	Proposed Enhancement / New Feature	Benefits
				coordination and record maintenance; and enables centralized tracking of vessel and trainee berth assignments.
18	**eWallet and Online Payment Gateway**	Fee-related transactions were handled entirely through offline processes, requiring manual submission, verification and reconciliation.	Introduction of an online eWallet facility for managing and processing applicable fees digitally, with transaction tracking and payment records.	Enables convenient online fee payment; eliminates dependency on offline fee transactions; reduces manual verification and reconciliation; provides centralized transaction and payment records; enables easy tracking of payment status and transaction history; and reduces processing time for fee-related transactions.

7. Clarification on Applicability of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 and the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026:

For the purpose of administrative transition, applications shall be dealt with as follows, subject to the saving provisions contained in G.S.R. 777(E) and further legal or administrative clarification:

7.1 **Applications submitted for grant of Fresh / Renewal / Change of Address / Change of Name of RPSL before 15 September 2026:** Such applications that were duly submitted in the prescribed manner **before 15 September 2026** and were pending on the date of commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026, shall be examined and processed in accordance with **Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016**, subject to:

7.1.1 verification that the application was complete and validly submitted before the commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026;

7.1.2 Inspection thereof conducted by RO prior to the said date and report of satisfactory completion submitted by RO.

7.1.3 submission of additional information or documents where required for migration to the enhanced system;

7.2 **Applications submitted for grant of Fresh / Renewal / Change of Address / Change of Name of RPSL on or after 15 September 2026:** Such applications shall be governed by the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 which doesn't fulfil any of the criteria mentioned at Para 7.1 above.

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7.2.1 Such applications shall comply with the revised eligibility requirements, application forms, declarations, inspection requirements, fee structure, Bank Guarantee requirements and Maritime Labour Compliance Board process prescribed under the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026. Rule 7 thereof requires an electronic application in Form I with the prescribed fee, declarations in Forms II and III, the agreement in Form IV, single-point-of-contact details and the Bank Guarantee prescribed under Rule 8.

7.2.2 Applications created in the old system but not finally submitted before the cut-off shall not be treated as submitted applications merely because data had been saved in draft form. Such applicants shall submit a fresh application through the enhanced module in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026.

7.3 Revised Bank Guarantee:

7.3.1 Rule 8 of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 requires every Recruitment and Placement Service to furnish and maintain a Bank Guarantee drawn on a scheduled bank in India in favour of the jurisdictional Issuing Authority. The Bank Guarantee is intended to ensure compliance with the Rules and safeguard the interests of seafarers recruited or placed through the licensed service.

7.3.2 The revised Bank Guarantee structure is as follows:

Number of seafarers proposed to be placed on foreign-flag and Indian-flag ships	Bank Guarantee
Up to 50	₹25 lakhs
Up to 250	₹40 lakhs
Up to 500	₹55 lakhs
Up to 750	₹70 lakhs
Up to 1,000	₹85 lakhs
Above 1,000	₹1 crore

7.3.3 The Bank Guarantee shall be commensurate with the number of recruitment and placements. It shall remain valid for the License period or until completion of the contractual employment of all seafarers recruited by the concerned service, whichever is later, irrespective of suspension or withdrawal of the License.

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7.3.4 Fresh-License applications: Every Fresh-License application submitted or granted RPSL on or after 15 September 2026 shall accompany / deposit the Bank Guarantee applicable to the proposed recruitment and placement capacity under Rule 8 of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026.

7.3.5 Existing licensed Recruitment and Placement Services: Every existing Recruitment and Placement Service holding a valid License issued under the M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 shall submit a Bank Guarantee covering the differential amount under the revised table within three years from commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026. Since the Rules commenced on 15 September 2026, the prescribed three-year period shall run from that date, subject to any clarification / dispensation by the competent authority.

7.4 **Enhancement of recruitment capacity:**

7.4.1 The three-year period referred to above shall not apply to an existing licensed Recruitment and Placement Service seeking enhancement of its recruitment capacity. Any application for enhancement submitted on or after commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 shall be accompanied by the requisite enhanced Bank Guarantee under the revised slab applicable to the requested capacity.

7.4.2 No application for enhancement of the Bank Guarantee shall be made within six months from the date of issuance of the initial License. An applicant seeking enhancement shall demonstrate satisfactory operational performance and absence of outstanding complaints or grievances. As far as practicable, the application is to be clubbed with the annual audit, while an application outside the normal audit cycle may be considered in exceptional cases for reasons recorded in writing.

7.4.3 Pending Bank Guarantee applications: A Bank Guarantee or recruitment-capacity enhancement application submitted to issuing authority before commencement of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 before 15th September, 2026 shall be processed as per Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 and specific directions of the competent authority.

7.4.4 Every fresh Bank Guarantee or capacity-enhancement application submitted on or after 15th September 2026 shall be processed under Rule 8 of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 and the revised Bank Guarantee slabs specified above.

7.4.5 Any application saved as a draft but not finally submitted before the applicable cut-off shall be re-filed under the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 through the enhanced RPSL Module.

8. Revised fee structure

8.1 The fees prescribed in Schedule I of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 shall apply to applications submitted under the new framework:

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Sr. No.	Particulars	Fee payable to the Director-General
1	Application for fresh License	₹ 3,00,000
2(a)	Renewal application submitted three to six months before expiry	₹ 1,00,000
2(b)	Renewal application submitted within three months before expiry and up to the date of expiry	₹ 1,50,000
3	Initial inspection	₹ 40,000
4	Annual inspection	₹ 40,000
5	Renewal inspection	₹ 40,000
6	Change in place of business	₹ 1,00,000
7	Change in name of Recruitment and Placement Service	₹ 1,00,000

8.2 The fees specified above are payable to the Director-General in addition to the applicable fee of the Inspecting Authority wherever so prescribed. RPS License holders shall therefore ensure timely submission within the period prescribed under the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026.

9. Payment through BillDesk:

9.1 With effect from **15 October, 2026**, all application fees, inspection fees and other payments enabled in the enhanced RPSL Module shall be made through the integrated **BillDesk / payment gateway**.

9.2 Payment through Bharatkosh for the services migrated to the enhanced RPSL Module shall be discontinued from **15 October, 2026**.

9.3 Applicants shall not make payment through Bharatkosh after the discontinuation date for any service for which payment has been enabled through BillDesk. Any payment made through an incorrect payment channel after the notified cut-off shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable reconciliation and refund procedure.

9.4 Applicants shall retain the system-generated payment acknowledgement and transaction reference for record and future correspondence.

10. Specified-category applications:

10.1 Applications under the specified category, including applications relating to:

10.1.1 addition of vessels without an IMO number, wherever permissible.

10.1.2 temporary addition or updation of vessel information;

10.1.3 extension of the validity of an approved specified-category entry; and

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10.1.4 permission for engagement of additional RPS Agencies beyond the limit prescribed under DGMA Order No. 08 of 2026 and subsequent DGMA Orders, if any, shall be submitted electronically through the specified-category workflow in the enhanced RPSL Module.

10.2 Approval under the specified category shall not by itself exempt the applicant from compliance with the applicable Rules, vessel due-diligence requirements, statutory documentation, financial-security requirements or any other condition imposed by the competent authority.

11. **User Manual and stakeholder guidance:**

11.1 The detailed User Manual for the enhanced RPSL Module is enclosed as **Annexure [I]** to this Notice.

11.2 The User Manual contains process-wise guidance for registration, profile verification, application initiation, document uploading, payment, inspection processing, query response, electronic signing, application tracking and downloading of system-generated acknowledgement or approvals.

11.3. Applicants and existing License holders are advised to read the User Manual before initiating any transaction in the enhanced module.

12. Compliance and general directions:

12.1 All existing and prospective Recruitment and Placement Services, Shipping Companies, non-seafarer placement entities and other concern stakeholders shall take note of the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 and ensure that their licensing, Bank Guarantee, inspection, recruitment, employment, deployment and reporting arrangements comply with the applicable provisions thereof.

12.2 Access to an online service or acceptance of an electronic application shall not be construed as approval. Every application shall remain subject to scrutiny, inspection, verification, satisfaction of the competent authority and compliance with the applicable Rules, notices, circulars, orders and subsequent directives of Directorate.

12.3. Furnishing false, incomplete or misleading information, unauthorized use of login credentials, suppression of material facts or non-compliance with the applicable requirements will invite action under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 read with Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2026 and other applicable directions.

12.4. The Directorate may issue further technical, procedural or transitional instructions to ensure orderly migration and effective implementation of the enhanced module.

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12.5 All concerned stakeholders are requested to take note of the above and ensure strict compliance.

This issues with the approval of the Director General of Maritime Administration and Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

23.11.2026

Capt. Bipin Kumar)
Dy. Director General of Maritime Administration(Crew)
Directorate General of Maritime Administration

Copy To:

1. The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai / Kandla / Kochi.
2. Shipping Offices, Mumbai / Chennai / Kolkata.
3. Seafarers' Welfare Fund Society, Mumbai.
4. Seamen's Provident Fund Organization, Mumbai.
5. E-Governance Branch for necessary system implementation.
6. All Recruitment and Placement Service License holders.
7. All Shipping Companies / Ship-owners.
8. Recognized and Inspecting Organizations.
9. All concern stakeholders through the DGMA website