DGS Circular No. 4 of 2017

Indian seafarers are recruited on board merchant shipping vessels by the shipowner themselves or through registered RPS. Since the Maritime Labour Convention has come into force, the recruitment & placement of seafarers on board vessels worldwide has come under the ambit of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment & Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016. India has ratified the MLC Convention and promulgated Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2016.

2. A number of cases are being reported of Indian seafarers being stranded at foreign ports working on foreign flag ships, non-payment of wages for months, non availability of provisions on board a ship. Many such cases are those who have not taken their employment through a registered Recruitment & Placement Service in India and were engaged directly on foreign ships or through unrecognized/unauthorized agents. The Directorate General of Shipping has time and again issued intimation for all Indian national seafarers to be cautious and take the employment only through a registered RPS.

3. In order to create a centralized data base of such incidents, it has been decided that any person receiving information about such cases would intimate such cases to the Directorate General of Shipping Communication (DGCOM) Center along with the detail of the ship and IMO number,
port at which the ship is anchored or its next port of call, name and INDOS No. of the seafarers, name of RPS, name of the Shipping Company etc.

4. The contact details of DGCOM Center are given as under:

E-mail id: dgcommcenter-dgs@vsnl.in
dgcommcenter-dgs@nic.in

Phone Nos. & Fax: 0091(22) 22614646 0091(22) 22613636

Address: DGCOM Center,
3rd Floor, Nau Bhawan,
10, R.K. Marg, Ballard Estate,
Mumbai, Pin-400001
India.

5. This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping & Special Secretary to the GoI.

(Subhash Barguzer)
Deputy Director General of Shipping (Crew)