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NOTIFICATION

No. H. 12017/55/2007 LJD, the 12th November, 2007. The following Acts are hereby published for General Information.

Marli Vankung, Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Mizoram.

THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2007

AN ACT

further to amend the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the Indian Ports Act, 1908.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Fifty-eighth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

1. (1) This Act may be called the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 2007.

Short title and commence-ment.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by nctification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different provisions of this Act.

CHAPTER II

AMENDMENT OF THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT, 1958

Amendment of long title.

In the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (hereinafter 44 of 1958) referred to as the principal Act), in the long title, for the word "registration", the words "registration, certification, safety and security" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 3.

- 3. In section 3 of the principal Act, after clause (44) the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—
- (44A) "security" means maritime security and includes any measure to protect ports or ships or any person or thing relating directly or indirectly to maritime navigation,—
 - (i) against terrorism, sabotage, stowaways, illegal migrants, asylum seekers, piracy, armed robbery, seizure or pilterage; and
 - (ii) against any other hostile act or influence which threatens the security in the maritime transport

employed by the owners or operators or persons in charge of the vessels or management of port facilities, offshore installations and other marine organisations or establishments;'.

Amendment of section 31.

- 4. In section 31 of the principal Act, after clause (a). the following clause shall be inserted, namely: -
 - "(aa) the ship identification number;".

new section 99A.

Insertion of 5. After section 99 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely;—

Prohibition . of engagement of seafarer without seafarer's identity document.

- '99A.(1) No person shall engage or carry to sea any seafarer in any ship, unless the seafarer is in possession of seafarer's identity document.
- (2) The seafarer's identity document under sub-section (1) shall be issued in such from and manner on payment of such fees as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—For the purposes of this section, "seafarer" means any person who is employed of engaged or works in any capacity on board a sea going ship ordinarily engaged in maritime navigation, other than a ship of war.'.

Insertion of new Part IXB. 6. After Part IXA of the principal Act, the following Part shall be inserted, namely:—

PART IXB

SECURITY OF SHIPS AND PORT FACILITIES

Application.

- 344J. (1) Subject to sub-section (2), this Part shall apply to—
- (a) the following types of ships engaged on international voyages, namely:—
 - (i) passenger ships including high speed passenger craft:
 - (ii) cargo ships including high speed craft of five hundred gross tonnage and above;
 - (iii) mobile offshore drilling units:

Provided that the Central Government may extend the application of this Part to those ships waich are exclusively engaged on coastal voyages;

(b) the port facilities serving ships referred to in clause (a):

Provided that the Central Government may, after taking decision, on the basis of port facility security assessment having carried out under this Part, extend the application of this Part to those port facilities which, although used primarily by ships not engaged on international voyages, are occasionally required, to serve ships arriving or departing on international voyages.

(2) This Part shall not apply to warships, naval auxiliaries, or other ships owned or operated by the Central Government and used only for noncommercial service by that Government.

344K. In this Part, unless the context otherwise Definirequires,-

tions.

(a) "company" means the owner of the ship who, or any organisation which has assumed the responsibility of operation of the ship from the owner of such ship and who or which has agreed to take over all the duties and responsibilities imposed by the International Safety Management Code;

- (b) "declaration of security" means an agreement between ships or a ship and a port facility specifying therein the security measures to be complied with;
- (c) "designated authority" means such authority as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify;
- (d) "International Ship and Port facility Security Code" means the code for the security of ships and port facilities provided in the Safety convention;
- (e) "port facility" means any location or area including anchorages or waiting berths or approaches from seaward and determined by the Central Government or the designated authority, as the case may be, where interface between ships or a ship and a port takes place;
- (f) "recognised security organisation" means any organisation, company, firm or body of individuals having expertise in matters relating to security and knowledge of ship, and port operations, which or who are authorised by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette, to carry out assessment or verification or approval or certification required by this Part or by the International Ship and Port Facility Code;
- (g) "security level" means the qualification of the degree of risk associated with the threat or an unlawful act against a ship, or against a port facility or any other area connected therewith;
- (h) words and expressions used in this Part but not defined in this Part shall have the respective meanings as assigned to them in the Safety Convention.
- 344L. (1) The Central Government or the designated authority, as the case may be, shall provide every Indian ship of one hundred gross tonnage and above and every Indian cargo ship of three hundred gross tonnage and above, a ship identification number, which conforms to the relevant scheme formulated by the International Maritime Organisation.

Ship identification number.

(2) All the certificates issued under this Act and all certified copies thereof shall bear the ship identification number.

344M, (1) The Central Government or the desig- security nated authority, as the case may be shall set se- measures. curity levels taking into consideration human element such as shore leave and provide information thereof to all the Indian ships, as may be prescribed.

(2) The Central Government or the designated authority, as the case may be, shall set security levels and provide information thereof to port facilities within India and to every ship prior to entering an Indian port or while in a port within India, as may be prescribed:

Provided that the Central Government may authorise any recognised security organisation to carry out any of the security measures under this section, on behalf of it, with such conditions as may be prescribed.

Port facility 344N. The Central Government shall carry out port assessment, facility assessment in the manner as may be prescibed.

Obligations 3440. Every company, ship or port facility shall comof compaply with the relevant requirements under the Safety Convention and the International Code for the Securinies, etc. ty of Ships and Port Facility.

Obligations 344P. Every port facility in India shall comply with of port faci- the requirement of this Part of the rules made thereunder. lity.

International Ship Security Certificate.

3440. The Central Government or the designated authority or the authorised person, as the case may be, shall issue every Indian ship to which this Part applies, an International Ship Security Certificate or an Interim International Ship Security Certificate as the case may be, in the form and manner as may be prescribed.

344R. Every Indian ship shall be provided with such Ship Security Alert Ship Security Alert System, as may be prescribed. System.

344S. Every ship to which this Part applies shall be Control subject to such control measures as may be prescribed measures.

Power to 344T. (1) The Central Government may, having regard make rules. to the provisions of the Safety Convention, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Part.

- (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the provisions of sub-section (1), such rules may provide—
 - (a) for alternative or equivalent security levels
 - (b) fee to be levied for any service rendered;
 - (c) any other matter which by this Part is to be, or may be, prescribed.'.

CHAPTER III

AMENDMENT OF THE INDIAN PORTS ACT, 1908

Insertion of 7. After section 68C of the Indian Ports Act, 1908, new section the following section shall be inserted, namely: — 68D of Act of 1908.

Maritime security.

'68D. A port facility in India shall comply with all 44 of 1958 the requirements contained in Chapter IXB of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 or the rules made thereunder so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

Explanation.— For the purposes of this section, the expression "port facility" shall have the same meaning 44 of 1958 as assigned to it in Part IXB of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.'.