



भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पत्तन,पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नाविक रोजगार कार्यालय/ SEAMEN'S EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

नौ भवन, रामजी भाई कमान्नी मार्ग, बेलाई ईस्टेट, मुंबई-400 001

NAU BHAVAN, 10, R.K. MARG, BALLARD ESTATE, MUMBAI – 400001

Tel: 022-2269 29 84, Mob: 7304044780, Email: dirseo-dgs@gov.in

संख्या: 7229-एमएमडीएमयूएम-14011(15)/19/2021/112/2026 दिनांक/ Dated: 02.03.2026

02 MAR 2026

सेवा में,

मेसर्स अर्थ ओशन शिपिंग प्राइवेट लिमिटेड।

आइडियल एन्क्लेव, बिल्डिंग नंबर-06, शॉप नंबर-10,

ऑरेंज हॉस्पिटल के पास, भायंदर-401-105।

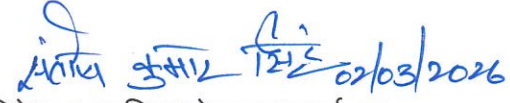
[ईमेल: info@earthoceanshipping.com]

विषय: आदेश पत्र ।

महोदय,

इस पत्र के साथ पत्र संख्या 7229-एमएमडीएमयूएम-14011(15)/19/2021 दिनांक 02.03.2026 संलग्न है।

भवदीय,


निदेशक, नाविक रोजगार कार्यालय
मुंबई।

प्रतिलिपि:-

1. नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुम्बई। [ध्यानार्थ: (क्र) शाखा]
2. प्रधान अधिकारी, समुद्री वाणिज्य विभाग, मुंबई।
3. नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुम्बई। [ध्यानार्थ: ई-गवर्नेंस सेल]
4. नाविक रोजगार कार्यालय, चेन्नई / कोलकाता।
5. नाविक पाल, मुंबई / चेन्नई / कोलकाता।
6. गार्ड फाइल।



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NAU BHAVAN, 10, R.K. MARG, BALLARD ESTATE, MUMBAI – 400001

TEL.: NOS. 2269 29 84, MOB: - 7304044780, EMAIL – dirseo-dgs@gov.in

E-File No. 7229-MMDMUM-14011(15)/19/2021 / 152/2026

Date: 02.03.2026

02 MAR 2026

ORDER

Whereas, M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd [hereinafter to be referred as “RPS agency”] was issued Recruitment & Placement Service (RPS) License bearing No. RPSL-MUM-311 valid from 24.09.2019 to 24.09.2024 by the Director Seamen’s Employment Office, Mumbai under Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

2. And whereas, the said RPS license No. RPSL-MUM-311 in respect of M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt. Ltd. was suspended for a period of one (01) year w.e.f. 01.08.2024 to 31.07.2025 vide this office Order of even number dated 27.09.2024 under Rule 12 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 for various violations of the said rules.

2.1 And whereas, it was further directed vide Suspension Order that RPS agency to carry out the renewal inspection post completion of the suspension period and the RPS license of RPS agency to be reinstated subject to resolving all the grievances and satisfactory renewal inspection, which shall be accepted by this office on examination of compliance in terms of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

3. And whereas, it is further observed that RPS Agency has failed to comply with the following provisions under Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 for the following reasons:

3.1 Whereas, it was informed by RPS agency that a vessel, ARA BAKHTER 1, IMO No. 8985189, Flag: Iran had sank in Kuwaiti waters (Persian Gulf) on 03.09.2024 and two seafarers, namely, Shri Haneesh Velakkath Haridas bearer of INDoS No. 21GM0714 and Shri Amal Kottayil Suresh bearer of INDoS No. 20GM4609 initially went missing. And

whereas, mortal remains of Late Shri Haneesh Velakkath Haridas were salvaged and repatriated to India. However, unfortunately Shri Amal Kottayil Suresh has remained missing as on date.

And whereas, it is revealed that Form-I of mentioned seafarers were updated for a different vessel, MARIAM but however, placed onboard 'ARA BAKHTER 1' which is in violation of Rules 5(1)(a) & (m) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 and contrary to spirit of Merchant Shipping Notice No. 11 of 2024 dated 03.06.2024 promulgated by DGS, Mumbai.

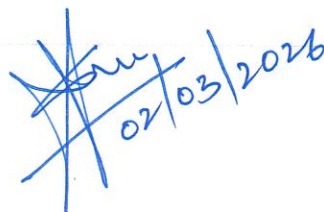
3.2 Whereas, RPS agency has failed to ensure settlement of applicable compensation in respect of 02 Nos of aforementioned missing / deceased seafarers till date which is in violation of Rules 5(1)(w) of MS (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

3.3 Whereas, this office received grievances registered vide online CPGRAM Portal from Shri Md Sohail Ansari (Ref # PMOPG/E/2025/0048197 dt 07.04.2025) and Shri Sohrab Ahmad (Ref # PMOPG/E/2025/0048259 dt 07.04.2025) regarding non-payment of wages and accordingly, this office vide letter dated 22.04.2025 directed RPS agency to arrange to settle balance of wages of seafarer within 10 days and report compliance with supporting documents. And whereas, RPS agency has failed to ensure settlement of the balance of wages to seafarers and thereby, did not honour directives of this office. As the RPS agency has neither settled the wages nor submitted any documentary evidence for the same, it stands in violation of Rules 5(1)(v) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

3.4 Whereas, Shri Hari Krishna Komara bearer of INDoS No. 23ZQ9558 registered grievance against RPS agency vide online DGS Grievance Portal Ref # GRS/SMO(M)/2025/5395 dated 17.06.2025 regarding non-payment of wages and sign-off / repatriation from the vessel as he had completed 15 months onboard, 'UR'. The seafarer had sailed onboard the vessel during the period 08.04.2024 to 30.08.2025 and subsequently got signed-off from the vessel. And whereas, as per latest intimation received from seafarer on 08.01.2026, the wages of seafarer have remained outstanding and therefore, response of RPS agency in the matter is observed to be inadequate / non-satisfactory and observed to be in violation of Rules 5(1)(v) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

3.5 Non-reporting of abandonment of vessel, 'ANNECY', IMO Number 9200859, flag: Panama, at Sharjah, United Arab Emirates in violation to Rule 5(1)(j) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 wherein it is observed that the recruitment process did not comply with the guidelines and requirements stipulated under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 and the extant guidelines promulgated by Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai. This represents a serious lapse in regulatory compliance and crew management practices.

And whereas, the RPS agency has not ensured the means to protect such seafarers from being stranded in a port and has not made adequate provisions for the

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repatriation of stranded seafarers which is in violation to Rule 5(1)(e) of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

4. And whereas, submission of RPS agency in the aforesaid matters was sought vide various communications i.e. letters / e-mails, however, no adequate / appropriate response was ever received from RPS agency. And therefore, a show cause notice under Rule 12(1) of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 was issued vide this office letter of even number dated 17.07.2025 for various aforementioned violations of said rules.

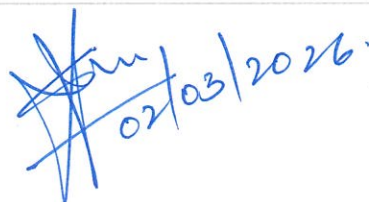
4.1 And whereas, RPS agency' response to the show cause notice was received vide email dated 17.08.2025 which was observed inadequate / not appropriate. and therefore, a personal hearing under Rule 12(2) of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarer) Rules, 2016 was scheduled with RPS agency on 12.09.2025 vide this office letter of even number dated 08.09.2025. However, neither any representative of RPS agency reported for the hearing nor any intimation in this regard is received from RPS agency by this office.

And further, during the course of proceedings, this office had conducted / scheduled various hearings with RPS agency wherein RPS agency was accorded opportunity to present its submission in the matter. However, RPS agency failed to satisfactorily submit its case and thereby, failed to resolve grievances of seafarers / their respective NoKs.

5. And whereas, during the course of proceedings, this office continued to receive further grievances from seafarers against RPS agency, a brief of which is appended below:

5.1 Whereas, it was reported to this office that 10 Nos of Indian seafarers onboard, MV CAPTAIN ADAM 1 are serving without payment of wages and had requested to be repatriated. As per information received from crew members, it is observed that two (02) Nos of seafarers have been recruited through RPS agency. However, both the seafarers found to have been e-migrated for some different vessel(s). The matter was taken up with RPS agency vide this office e-mail dt 26.04.2025, however, no adequate / appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

5.2 Whereas, Office of the Dy. Welfare Commissioner (C) Naval Dockyard, Mumbai vide letter No. DYP/LWO/127/STAFF dated Nil received in this office on 05.11.2025 forwarded representation of Shri Lekkala Chaitanya bearer of INDoS No. 21GM3377 who had served onboard, MV SHETAB 2 through RPS agency regarding non-payment of balance of wages and breach of employment contract. It is stated that whereas as per DGS Online form-I record, the seafarer is e-migrated for the vessel, MV RIMA. However, he was never placed onboard the said vessel but served onboard two (02) other vessels

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i.e. MV SHETAB 2, IMO No. 9215361 (29.12.2022 to 05.03.2023) and CARINA, IMO No. 9551856 (05.03.2023 to 20.11.2023) through RPS agency. And whereas, vide email dated 03.12.2025 and reminder email dt 18.12.2025 submission of RPS agency was sought and appropriate directives issued to RPS agency, however, no adequate/appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

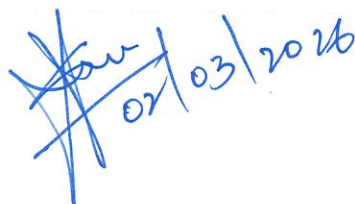
5.3 Whereas, Shri Shubham Sharma bearer of INDoS No. 22ZP5875 registered grievance vide online DGS Grievance Portal Ref # GRS/SMO(M)/2025/7656 dated 16.12.2025 stated that he was recruited by RPS agency to serve onboard, TRUGEN, IMO No. 9200861, however, was placed onboard a different vessel at Iran. The seafarer has stated non-payment of balance of wages for his sea service onboard. And whereas, submission of RPS agency was sought vide email dated 18.12.2025 and appropriate directives in the matter issued to RPS agency, however, no adequate/appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

5.4 Whereas, Shri Rudal Chauhan bearer of INDoS No. 11HL8983 registered grievance regarding non-payment of wages for his sea service onboard, 'UR'. The seafarer sailed onboard the vessel during the period 08.04.2024 to 30.08.2025 and subsequently got signed-off from the vessel. And whereas, submission of RPS agency was sought vide this office email dated 09.01.2026 and appropriate directives issued to RPS agency, however, no adequate/appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

5.5 Whereas, Shri Indraj bearer of INDoS No. 23ZN8926 registered grievance regarding non-payment of wages for his sea service onboard, 'UR'. The seafarer sailed onboard the vessel during the period 08.04.2024 to 30.08.2025 and subsequently got signed-off from the vessel. And whereas, submission of RPS agency was sought vide this office email dated 12.01.2026 and appropriate directives issued to RPS agency, however, no adequate/appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

5.6 Whereas, Shri Hariom Gurjar bearer of INDoS No. 23ZP9108 registered grievance regarding non-payment of wages for his sea service onboard, 'UR'. The seafarer sailed onboard the vessel during the period 08.04.2024 to 20.08.2025 and subsequently got signed-off from the vessel. And whereas, submission of RPS agency was sought vide this office email dated 13.01.2026 and appropriate directives issued to RPS agency, however, no adequate/appropriate response was received in the matter from RPS agency.

5.7 Whereas, Government Shipping Office, Mumbai vide e-mail dated 24.09.2025 intimated regarding receipt of CDC Booklet of Shri Aditya Singh bearer of INDoS No. 22ZP1363 through Bureau of Immigration, Cochin on account of Suspected Fraudulent Sea Service Entries endorsed by RPS Agency. It is stated by immigration authorities that the concern seafarer has confessed to the said sea service record being non-genuine even though the same are found updated in online DGS Master Checker / Form I by the RPS agency. And whereas, the same is further evidence of RPS agency conducting its

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affairs in violation to extant Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016

5.8 It is pertinent to mention herein that as per online records, a total of 55 Nos of grievances have been lodged against RPS agency vide DGS Online Grievance portal by various seafarers since the portal became online in addition to multiple grievances through online CPGRAM Portal which is a substantial number for any RPS agency. In addition to that, this office continues to receive various issues reported by seafarers over email and through cases reported by immigration authorities and hence, all of this is suggestive that RPS agency is a serial offender which is misusing license issued by the Government of India to its own inferior benefits in violation of extant rules and complete disregard of the well-being of seafarers and moral ethics and principles of business.

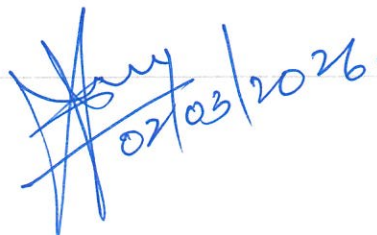
6. Therefore, it is concluded herein that RPS agency has no valid explanation to tender and it is evident from all the above that the subject RPS agency is guilty of conducting its affairs in violations of Rule 5 in toto of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment & Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 promulgated vide Gazette Notification GSR No. 169 (E) dated 15.02.2016 and Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2016.

7. Based upon detailed proceedings conducted in the matter and in view of all the above, the Director Seamen's employment Office exercising the power vested in accordance with Rule 12 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 orders following:

7.1 Recruitment and Placement Service (RPS) License bearing No. RPSL-MUM-311 in respect of M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd is hereby **WITHDRAWN** with immediate effect by the Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Mumbai in terms of Rule 12 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment & Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

7.2 M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd. is hereby directed to undertake necessary action for settlement of applicable (death) compensation in respect of Late Shri Haneesh Velakkath Haridas and missing, Shri Amal Kottayil Suresh bearer of INDoS No. 20GM4609 who were resultant casualties of sinking of vessel, 'ARA BAKHTER 1', IMO No. 8985189, Flag: Iran in Kuwaiti waters (Persian Gulf) on 03.09.2024; in accordance with terms of Seafarer's Employment Agreement (SEA) signed between the parties read with applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and report compliance.

7.3 M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd is hereby directed to undertake settlement of balance of wages of all the seafarers recruited through RPS agency in accordance with terms of Seafarer's Employment Agreement (SEA) signed between the parties read with applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and report compliance.


02/03/2026

7.4 M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd & its associated Directors continue to remain liable for the seafarers who have already been recruited by them and those who are presently serving onboard.

7.5 All concern Directors of RPS agency, M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd (Founders / Past / present) are hereby debarred from carrying out any maritime related activities associated with The Directorate General of Shipping for a period of five (05) years and further recommendation shall be forwarded to Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) for blacklisting of DIN numbers of RPS agency Directors to restrain them to carry out any business activities in India for a period of five (05) years in terms of Merchant Shipping Notice No. 11 of 2024 dated 03.06.2024.

7.6 The submitted Bank Guarantee amounting to INR 25,00,000/- (INR twenty five Lakhs Only) of M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd is to be hereby invoked and shall be deposited into Government Account in terms of provisions of Rule 15 of MS (R&PS) Rules. 2016 inter-alia under sub-rule 5(c) of Rule 15 of MS (R&PS) Rules. 2016.

8. If, M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Pvt Ltd, feels aggrieved by the order passed herein, may within a period of thirty (30) days of receipt of this order, prefer 1st appeal to the Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai, being the First Appellate Authority in the matter, in accordance with Rules 19(1) of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016. [It may be noted that Rule 18 mentioned under Rules 19(1) of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 is to be read as Rule 12 view typographical error in Gazette Notification No. G.S.R. 169 (E) dated 15.02.2016].

9. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.



Director, Seamen's Employment Office
Mumbai.

[Handwritten signature]
02/03/2026

To,

M/s Earth Ocean Shipping Private Limited.
Ideal Enclave, Building No-06, Shop No.10,
Near Orange Hospital, Bhayandar-401 105.
[Email: info@earthoceanshipping.com]

Copy to:

- 1) The Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai {Kind Attn. DDG(Crew)}, for information
- 2) The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai, for kind information.
- 3) The Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai (kind Attn. DDG, E-Governance with request said withdrawn order, for necessary updation of the said RPS License on DGS Website.
- 4) The Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Kolkata/Chennai
- 5) The Shipping Master, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai.
- 6) Guard File.