



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: 33542-एमएमडीएमयूएम-14011(12)/13/2025 / 310/ 2026 दिनांक/ Dated: 26.05.2026
25 MAY 2026

सेवा में,

मेसर्स सीएसएमएस शिपिंग सर्विसेज (ओपीसी) प्राइवेट लिमिटेड
प्लॉट नंबर 105, बी ब्लॉक, ग्रीनवुड सिटी,
सेक्टर 45, गुरुग्राम, हरियाणा- 122 003।

विषय: आदेश पत्र !

महोदय,

इस पत्र के साथ पत्र संख्या 33542-एमएमडीएमयूएम-14011(12)/13/2025 दिनांक 26.05.2026 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. 33542-MMDMUM-14011(12)/13/2025/310/2026

Date: 26.05.2026

26 MAY 2026

ORDER

Whereas, M/s CSMS Shipping Services (OPC) Private Limited (hereinafter referred to as RPS agency) was issued Recruitment & Placement Services (RPS) License bearing No. RPSL-MUM-162062 valid from 30.07.2021 to 30.07.2026 by the Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Mumbai under Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

2. And whereas, it has been observed that the RPS agency has failed to comply with the provisions of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 and Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2016 to be read with Merchant Shipping Notice No. 11 of 2024 dt 03.06.2024 for the following reasons:

2.1 Whereas, it has been observed from the records that the RPS agency failed to undergo Annual Inspection for the year 2024-25. Despite multiple correspondences and directives to RPS agency to co-ordinate with IRS (RO) for re-inspection, the RPS agency failed to complete the re-inspection process in a timely and compliant manner. The same is deemed to be in violation to Rule 13 of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 and DGS Crew Circular 03/2016 dated 23.08.2016.

2.2 And whereas, on 07.02.2026, a catastrophic fire broke out in the engine room of MV WARBA, IMO No. 9345178 while the vessel was operating off Duqm, Oman. The vessel subsequently sank. As per DGS Online Form-I record, it was observed that 09 Nos of seafarers onboard subject vessel have been recruited through the subject RPS agency.

2.2(a) And whereas, 01 seafarer, namely, Shri Gopiannan Kamaraj (Cook) bearer of INDoS No. 25ZN4088 reportedly went missing in the afore-stated incidence of fire onboard, MV WARBA. The Oman authorities have since reportedly ceased the active search operations. The missing seafarer's body has not been recovered.

2.2(b) And whereas, this office first came to know of the incident only when separately informed and thereafter, the RPS agency was called upon vide email dated 08.02.2026 to urgently furnish information regarding the present status of the vessel, the safety and well-being of onboard crew, the status of rescue efforts, details of Principal and P&I of the vessel, and to present before this office on 09.02.2026. This omission constitutes a serious violation

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of the RPS agency's obligations under Rule 5 of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 read with Merchant Shipping Notice No. 11 of 2024 dated 03.06.2024, which mandates that RPSL agencies shall ensure the safety and well-being of Indian seafarers recruited through them.

2.2(c) And whereas, on scrutiny of RPS agency' online profile, it is observed that flag of vessel, MV WARBA, IMO No. 9345178 is stated as 'Comoros'. And whereas, in the documents uploaded for said vessel in online RPS profile, the same is mentioned as 'Haiti'.

2.2(c)(i) And whereas, vide email dt 09.02.2026, Administration of Republic of Haiti has informed Quote *"It has no record or registration number in our registration Book. It seems that the subject vessel was registered forged by fake entities."* End Quote.

2.2(c)(ii) And whereas, Maritime Administration of Comoros vide email dt 09.02.2026 has also informed Quote *"The vessel was de-registered / ex officio cancelled from the Comoros flag due to non-compliance with international requirements, effective from 04 August 2025. The owner of the vessel failed to comply with the requirements of the Flag State; consequently, the Administration decided to permanently de-flag the vessel."* End Quote.

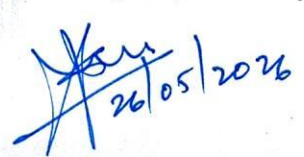
2.2(c)(iii) Consequently, the RPS agency is observed to be guilty of recruiting seafarers onboard an unregistered / flagless vessel at the time of recruiting the seafarers and thereby, is in violation of Rule 5(1)(m) and Rule 5(1)(s) of MS (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

2.2(d) And whereas, on scrutiny of DGS Online Form-I records, it is observed that RPS agency has updated online Date of Commencement of Contract for the 09 seafarers recruited onboard vessel, MV WARBA. However, Sign on Ship date not found updated for any of the seafarers & thus, is deemed to in violation to DGS Crew Circular No. 03 of 2019 dated 20.06.2019 and subsequent amendment thereof and therefore, not complying with Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

3. And whereas, submission of RPS agency was sought in the matter vide various e-mails. However, no adequate / satisfactory response in the matter was received from

3.1 Whereas, a Show Cause Notice vide this office letter dated 28.03.2025 bearing No. MMDMUM-14011(12)/13/2024-SEO/139/2025 was earlier issued to the RPS agency in respect of violations observed during audit, namely: (a) failure to maintain and produce a valid and updated P&I Certificate for the vessel "ALLIANCE" on which Indian seafarers were placed, the delay being attributed by the RPS agency to the shipowner being on leave; (b) an expired medical certificate of Shri Abhishek Singh remaining on record; and (c) non-updating of sign-on and sign-off dates of five crew members in the DGS Online Form-I records viz. Shri Saurabh Vijay Chavan (INDOS No. 22GM1604), Shri Jitesh Singh (INDOS No. 21GM6490), Shri Mahaboob Subhani Moghal (INDOS No. 18BL6507), Shri Shiv Kumar Yadav (INDOS No. 18HL6132), and Shri Vinay Suresh Gupta (INDOS No. 22GM0906). The above violations are in contravention of Rule 5 and Rule 9 of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

3.1(a) And whereas, the RPS agency in its reply to the aforesaid Show Cause Notice dated 28.03.2025, vide e-mail dated 26.04.2025, attributed the delay in obtaining an updated P&I Certificate to the ship owner being on leave and acknowledged that the sign-on / sign-off date updation errors were due to lapses by their previous Crew Manager. The said reply was considered inadequate in as much as it did not satisfactorily explain why systemic failures

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were allowed to persist and what concrete institutional measures had been put in place to prevent recurrence.

3.2 And whereas, a 2nd Show Cause Notice was issued to RPS agency vide this office letter of even number dated 12.02.2026 under Rule 12(1) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 inter alia in respect of the following serious and grave violations arising out of a major maritime casualty involving MV WARBA, IMO No. 9345178 on which 09 Indian seafarers were recruited / placed through the RPS agency and out of them, 01 seafarer has remained missing since the sinking of the vessel.

3.3 And whereas, simultaneously RPS agency' online privileges to further sign-on / e-migrate the seafarers in Online DGS E-Governance module were suspended with immediate effect from 09.02.2026 in the interests of safety and well-being of Indian seafarers.

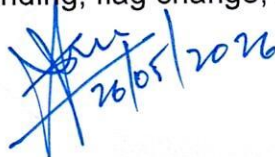
3.4 And whereas, no response to show cause notice dated 12.02.2026 was received from RPS agency and therefore, a personal hearing under Rule 12(2) of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016 was scheduled with RPS agency on 19.05.2026. And whereas, Shri Ashish Kumar, Director reported for the hearing on the scheduled date & time who stated that they were not aware about the issuance of Show Cause Notice even though it was issued to RPS agency vide post and vide e-mail from this office. During the hearing, RPS agency failed to provide any documents pertaining to the incident / vessel / seafarer. And further, no documents were submitted regarding settlement of compensation of missing seafarer and compensation for loss of personal effects of the seafarer to the NoK.

4. And whereas, during the course of proceedings, following was further observed in the matter:

4.1 Whereas, the father of the missing seafarer, Shri Gopiannan Kamaraj (Cook) submitted a grievance dated 18.02.2026 to this office alleging that the RPS agency failed to inform the next of kin (NoK) about the fire accident and the missing status of their son for over 11 days past the incident despite it being mandatory under applicable Rules for the RPS agency to notify the NoK. The NoK also stated that a sum of ₹ 4,50,000/- (INR Four Lakhs Fifty Thousand) was paid for placement in lieu of placement onboard through an intermediary to the RPS agency.

4.2 Whereas, despite repeated directions from this office vide e-mails dated 21.02.2026, 05.03.2026, 09.03.2026, 17.03.2026, 24.04.2026 and 05.05.2026, the RPS agency has failed to: (a) settle the outstanding wages of the rescued crew members in a timely manner (as of 01.04.2026, wages of only 04 out of 08 rescued crew were settled); (b) arrange and complete the repatriation of the rescued crew members on time (rescued crew were stranded in Muscat Gate Hotel, Oman for weeks awaiting travel documents and repatriation); (c) provide the NoK of missing seafarer Shri Gopiannan Kamaraj with clear and definitive information regarding applicable death compensation; (d) furnish documentary evidence of the applicable CBA, P&I crew liability cover, and financial security in place at the time of recruitment; and (e) furnish adequate submissions / documentary evidence to support its claims as directed by this office. Such conduct constitutes a grave dereliction of its obligations as an RPSL agency under Rule 5 of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

4.3 Whereas, the RPS agency has failed to demonstrate that it had conducted adequate due diligence regarding the vessel's operational standing, flag change, and adequacy of Life

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Saving Appliances (LSA) and Fire Fighting Appliances (FFA) prior to or at the time of placing Indian seafarers onboard. The master's letter to the Indian Embassy reportedly confirmed that the ship's LSA and FFA were not in good condition and that the managers and owner had been informed prior to the incident. These facts reveal a serious systemic failure in the RPS agency's discharge of its obligations under Rule 5 of M.S. (R&PS) Rules, 2016.

5. Therefore, it is concluded herein that RPS agency has no valid explanation to tender and it is evident from all the above that the 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.

6. Based upon detailed proceedings conducted in the matter and in view of the foregoing, the Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Mumbai exercising powers vested under Rule 12 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016 hereby orders the following:

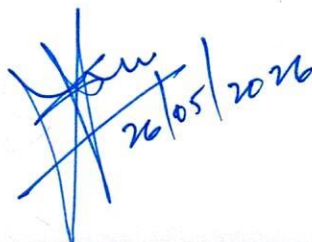
6.1 Recruitment & Placement Service License bearing No. RPSL-MUM-162062 issued in favour of M/s. CSMS Ship Management (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. is hereby WITHDRAWN with immediate effect under Rule 12 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

6.2. M/s CSMS Ship Management (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. is hereby directed to settle all outstanding wages and contractual dues of seafarers recruited through the agency in accordance with applicable Seafarers Employment Agreements (SEA), Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA) and relevant statutory provisions and report compliance.

6.3 M/s CSMS Ship Mgmt. (OPC) Pvt Ltd. is hereby directed to undertake necessary action for settlement of applicable compensation in respect of missing seafarer, Shri Gopiannan Kamaraj (Cook) bearer of INDoS No. 25ZN4088 who went missing in the incidence of fire / sinking of vessel, MV WARBA.; in accordance with the terms of Seafarer's Employment Agreement (SEA) signed between the parties to be read with applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and report compliance.

6.4 M/s CSMS Ship Management (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. and its associated Directors shall continue to remain liable for all seafarers already recruited and presently serving onboard vessels through the agency.

6.5 All Directors of M/s CSMS Ship Management (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. (Past/Present/Founders) are hereby debarred from carrying out any maritime-related activities associated with Directorate General of Shipping for a period of five (05) years and recommendation shall be forwarded to Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) for blacklisting of DIN numbers in accordance with Merchant Shipping Notice No. 11 of 2024 dated 03.06.2024.

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6.6 The submitted Bank Guarantee in respect of M/s. CSMS Ship Management (OPC) Pvt. Ltd. shall be invoked and deposited into Government Account in accordance with Rule 15 of Merchant Shipping (Recruitment & Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016.

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


26/05/2026
Director, Seamen's Employment Office
Mumbai.

To,

M/s CSMS Shipping Services (OPC) Private Limited
Plot No 105, B Block, Greenwood City,
Sec # 45, Gurugram, Haryana- 122 003.
Email Id: raoashish89@gmail.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 for necessary updation of the said RPS License on DGS Website and publishing the Order' on DGS website.
- 4) The Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Kolkata / Chennai
- 5) The Shipping Master, Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai.
- 6) Guard File.