

**DRAFT**  
**MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS**  
**NOTIFICATION**

New Delhi, the \_\_\_\_\_ 2026

**G.S.R. xx.**— In exercise of the powers conferred by Sections 58(1)(c), 113(2)(c) and 113(2)(ze) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025), and in supersession of the **Merchant Shipping (Seafarers' Identity Document) Rules, 2016**, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely: —

- 1) **Short title and commencement.** —
  - a. These rules may be called the **Merchant Shipping (Seafarers' Identity Document) Rules, 2026**.
  - b. They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
  
- 2) **Application.** — These rules shall apply to citizens of India, who fulfil the eligibility conditions specified under **rule 4**.
  
- 3) **Definitions.** —
  - a) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, —
    - i) "Act" means the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025).
    - ii) "Form" means the form appended to these rules;
    - iii) "Issuing Authority" means Shipping Master as may be nominated by the Director-General.
    - iv) "**SID**" means a **Seafarer's Identity Document** issued under these rules.
    - v) "**SID e-module**" means **an online platform having a webpage within the official website of the Director-General of Maritime Administration for the purpose of issuance of seafarer's identity document under these rules**.
    - vi) "**CDC**" means Continuous Discharge Certificate issued under the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, **2026**.
  - b) Words and expressions defined in the Act and used but not defined in these rules shall have the same meanings assigned to them respectively in the Act.

**4) Eligibility for seafarer's identity document. —**

- a) A **citizen of India** who is a seafarer or a seafarer **who has been granted the status of permanent resident in India**, and in possession of a valid Indian **Continuous Discharge Certificate** or any other document issued by Government of India or any State Government which endorse him/her as a seafarer-is eligible to apply for a seafarer's identity document.

**5) Application for issuance of seafarer's identity document. —**

- a. A citizen of India or who fulfils the eligibility condition specified in **rule 4** for the issuance of **seafarer's identity document** shall apply in the **Form-I** appended to these rules to the Issuing Authority.
- b. Application and payment for issuance of **seafarer's identity document** shall be made online in the given SID e-module to the Issuing Authority of **their** choice and applicant shall select available dates and data collection center of **their** choice.
- c. The applicant will appear on the appointed date and time at the data collection center, along with **their CDC**, any other document issued by Government of India or any State Government, which endorse him/her as seafarer, and original Passport.
- d. **After collection of the biometric data, the Issuing Authority shall print and issue the seafarer's identity document. It shall be dispatched to the address provided by the applicant in their application through expeditious means. In urgent cases, the Issuing Authority may deliver the seafarer's identity document to the applicant in person.**
- e. **If the seafarer's identity document is returned undelivered to the office of the Issuing Authority, the applicant may collect the same in person from the office of the Issuing Authority with proper identification / documents submission.**
- f. **If an applicant does not receive the seafarer's identity document within a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance, the issued seafarer's identity document shall be cancelled by the Issuing Authority with proper remark.**

**6) Fee. —**

- a. The non-refundable fee for obtaining the **seafarer's identity document or its renewal** shall be as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules, payable to the **Issuing Authority through e-payment gateway on SID e-module, until any further amendments are made to the existing rules.**

**Provided that in case of loss of a certificate due to fire on board the vessel or due to any other marine peril, no such fee shall be charged.**

**7) Period of validity. —**

- a. The maximum validity of a **seafarer's identity document** shall be for a period of **five** years from date of issuance.
- b. The period of validity of renewal shall be five years from the date of grant of renewal or five years from the date of expiry of the existing **seafarer's identity document, whichever is later.**

**8) Renewal of seafarer's identity document. —**

- a) **For seafarers already in possession of a seafarer's identity document with a validity of 10 years, may request for renewal after the first five years of its issuance for a further period up to five years at a time, provided such seafarer's identity document has not been cancelled or withdrawn or suspended under these rules.**
- b) **Thereafter, all subsequent renewals may be made** within one (1) year prior to the date of expiry on a request from the holder for a further period up to five years at a time.
- c) **A holder of a seafarer's identity document shall apply for renewal through an application in Form-II following the process in rule 5 and pay the fee as per Schedule I appended to these rules, provided such seafarer's identity document has not already been cancelled, withdrawn or suspended under rule 9.**
- b) **The Issuing Authority shall issue the seafarer's identity document as prescribed in Form III appended to these rules.**

**9) Issuance of duplicate seafarer's identity document. —**

- a) Where a seafarer's identity document is lost in India and a proper complaint has been made with the Police, such person may apply to the concerned Issuing Authority in **Form-II** along with a copy of the police complaint and fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for issuance of a duplicate copy of seafarer's identity document.
- b) Where a seafarer's identity document is lost at high seas or on-board vessel, the applicant will be required to make an official logbook entry on board vessel. The Applicant may apply to the concerned Issuing Authority in **Form-II** along with such enquiry report and logbook entries, and fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for the issuance of a duplicate copy of seafarer's identity document.
- c) In case of extraordinary circumstances, which are beyond the control of the concerned seafarer or master of the vessel, the logbook entry or other documents are not available, then the Issuing Authority may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, issue a duplicate copy of seafarer's identity document based on the documentary evidence submitted by the flag State or by the company operating the vessel, **the fee for which shall be paid as per Schedule I appended to these rules for the issuance of a duplicate copy of** seafarer's identity document.
- d) The SID number shall remain unchanged at the time of issuance of duplicate seafarer's identity document.

Provided that in case of loss of a certificate due to fire on board a vessel or due to any other marine peril, no such fee shall be charged.

**10) Issuance of replacement seafarer's identity document. —**

- a) Where a seafarer's identity document of a person issued under these rules is defaced, destroyed, lost, mutilated or torn, such seafarer may apply to the Issuing Authority in **Form II** for the issuance of a replacement copy of the seafarer's identity document along with a fee as per Schedule I appended to these rules;
- b) Any request for alteration or modification of any particulars in the existing seafarer's identity document shall be allowed to be made by the Issuing

Authority on production of a valid passport and any other necessary documents.

- c) For any application of replacement of seafarer's identity document, the applicant shall submit the existing seafarer's identity document prior to the issuance of the replacement seafarer's identity document.
- d) The fees for application of replacement shall be as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules.
- e) **The SID number shall remain unchanged at the time of issuance of replacement SID.**

**11) Suspension or cancellation of a seafarer's identity document.** — Any seafarer whose continuous discharge certificate **or certificate of competency or certificate of proficiency** is suspended or cancelled on the grounds mentioned under sections 98(1), 99(1) and 100(1) of the Act, as directed by the Director-General, their **seafarer's identity document** shall also stand suspended for the same period or cancelled as that of their continuous discharge certificate **or certificate of competency or certificate of proficiency**.

**12) Appeal.** —

- a) Any person aggrieved by any order made under these rules by the Issuing Authority, may, within a period of **sixty (60) days** of the receipt of such order, prefer an appeal to the jurisdictional Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department. In such a case, the Principal Officer, shall, after hearing such a person, may pass an order within **thirty (30) days** of the appeal.
- b) Any person aggrieved by any order made under these rules by the jurisdictional Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, may, within a period of **sixty (60) days** of the receipt of such order, prefer a second appeal to the Director-General who after hearing such person, may pass an order within **thirty (30) days** of such appeal.
- c) **Every appeal made under this rule shall be accompanied by a copy of the order appealed against.**
- d) **The appellate authority may confirm, modify or reverse the order appealed against.**

e) No appeal shall be admitted, if it is preferred after the expiry of the period prescribed under **sub-rule (a) or (b)**.

Provided that an appeal may be admitted after the expiry of period **up to a maximum period of one (1) year from date of issue of the order**, if the appellate authority satisfies that the appellant had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within the prescribed period.

### Schedule I- Fees

(See rules 6, 8, 9 and 10)

<b>Sr. No</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Amount in Indian rupees</b>
1	Application for fresh <b>seafarer's identity document</b>	3000
2	Application for renewal of <b>seafarer's identity document</b>	3000
3	Application for duplicate <b>seafarer's identity document</b>	3000
4	Application for replacement <b>seafarer's identity document</b>	3000
5	<b>Application for duplicate continuous discharge certificate lost due to fire on-board a vessel or due to any other marine peril</b>	0

**FORM-I**

[see rule 5 (1)]

**Application Form for Seafarers Identify Document (SID)**

1. Application No.: (online system generated No.)
2. Fee details:
3. Indian National Database of Seafarer (INDoS) No.:  
Date of Issue:
4. **\*\*Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC) No or any other document issued by Government of India or Any State Government endorsing his/her as seafarer.:**  
**Date of Issue:**  
**Date of expiry:**  
**Issuing Authority:**
5. Name:
6. Father's name:
7. Sex:
8. Date of birth:
9. Place of birth:
10. Nationality:
11. E-mail address:
12. Mobile No.:
13. Height:
14. Identification Mark (if any):
15. Address:  
Street:  
Village/Post/Tehsil:  
District:  
Pin code:  
Phone No:  
Nearest Police Station:
16. Have you applied for an SID before:
17. Have you ever been at any time debarred from obtaining:
  - a. CDC:
  - b. SID:

Signature:

Date:

### **Declaration**

1. I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed or distorted.
2. I also affirm and declare that I have not previously been issued with Seafarers Identify Document (SID) and I have not submitted an application for SID to any other Issuing Authority in India.
3. I am aware that if any time I am found to have concealed or distorted any material information and the Issuing Authority has reason to believe that I have obtained the SID by presenting false or erroneous information, my SID will be cancelled or suspended forthwith as per the provisions contained in the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers' Identify Document) Rules, **2026**, as amended.

Place  
applicant

Signature of the

Date

Name of the applicant

### **FORM-II**

[see rule 8 (2), 9(a) and (b) and 10 (a)]

#### **Application Form for issue of renewal or duplicate or replacement of Seafarers Identity Document (SID)**

- 1) Application No. : (online system-generated No.)
- 2) Application for:
  - a) Renewal of SID:
  - b) Duplicate SID:
  - c) Replacement SID
- 3) Fee details :
- 4) Indian National Database Of Seafarer (INDoS) No.  
Date of issue
- 5) SID No.:  
Date of issue:  
Date of expiry:  
Issuing Authority:
- 6) Name:
- 7) Have you ever been at any time debarred for obtaining-
  - a) CDC:
  - b) SID:
- 8) Has your SID been cancelled or withdrawn or suspended under these rules :
- 9) Whether your SID is :
  - a) defaced:

- b) destroyed:
- c) lost:
- d) mutilated:
- e) torn:

10) In case of SID lost:

- a) Police Complaint No. :
- b) Date
- c) Police Station:

Signature :

Date:

**Declaration**

1. I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed or distorted.
2. I also affirm and declare that I have not submitted an application for SID to any other Issuing Authority in India.
3. I am aware that if any time I am found to have concealed or distorted any material information and the Issuing Authority has reason to believe that I have obtained the SID by presenting false or erroneous information, my SID will be cancelled or suspended forthwith as per the provisions contained in the Merchant Shipping (Seafarers' Identity Document) Rules, 2026, as amended.

Place:

Signature of the applicant

Date:

Name of the applicant

**FORM-III**

[see rule 5(b)]

**Form of issuance of Seafarers Identity Document**

**FRONT**

**Name:**

**Nationality**

**Sex**

**Date of**

**Birth**

**Place of Birth**

**Identifying Characteristics**

**Document No.**

**Date of**

**Issue**





