

**MINUTES OF THE 115TH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD
HELD AT KOLKATA PORT TRUST, KOLKATA ON 22/01/2011**

115th meeting of the National Shipping Board (NSB) was held under the Chairmanship of Capt. PVK Mohan on 22nd January 2011 at Kolkata. List of those present in the meeting is enclosed at **Annexure - I**.

2. Initiating the proceedings, the Chairman, NSB welcomed Hon'ble members of Parliament Shri. K. B. Shanappa, Shri. Sampat and other members of the board and special invitees to the meeting. He emphasized the urgent need to showcase our shipbuilding industry so that more foreign investment is attracted. In this context, he informed that Mr. S. Kumar of Bharati Shipyard has been invited to this meeting to make a presentation on shipbuilding industry in India. Chairman appreciated the presence of Director General of Shipping and Jt. Secretary (Shipping) in the meeting. He highlighted the recent collision between MV Tiger Spring and MV Green Valley in Hooghley river and pointed out that there is a need for better infrastructure in terms of navigation aids provided for navigational safety in Hooghley river.

3. Chairman thanked Mr. Meena, Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust for organizing this meeting. The meeting was held as per the agenda at **Annexure-II**.

4. **Confirmation of minutes of the 114th NSB meeting:**

There being no comments received from members of the board, the minutes of 114th NSB meeting were confirmed in order.

5. **Review of action taken report:**

a) **Income Tax Exemption for Indian seafarers:**

INSA & NUSI have forwarded inputs on the subject matter which are being consolidated. It was decided that delegation of NSB members comprising of Hon'ble members of Parliament will seek an appointment from Prime Minister of India and Finance Minister to put forward this long pending case for favorable decision.

b) Seafarers Identity Document/Integration of Seafarers Data Base:

DG(S) has apprised the board members that significant progress has been made in the integration of seafarers data base pertaining to SPF, RPS data and INDOS data job of integration of all these data bases will be completed by the end of 2011.

c) Crisis Management for Ports:

Jt. Secretary (Shipping) informed that DG Shipping has suggested certain amendments to be undertaken in the present Crisis Management Plan by the Ports Wing of the Ministry. The revised crisis management plan would be circulated to all ports. He also informed that there is National Crisis Management Committee constituted by Cabinet Secretary. He suggested that representatives of private ports also need to be invited for NSB meetings since half of the countries exim trade will be handled by private ports by the year 2020.

d) Creating awareness about merchant navy in tier 3 and tier 4 cities: It was observed that this issue has not gained sufficient momentum since the last meeting of the board. Mr. Bhalla, Chairman, ICC was therefore requested to take up this issue with INSA so that progress of this issue could be expedited. DG(S) also emphasized that this issue has to be taken up by the shipping companies while the Directorate General of Shipping is separately examining the subject for supporting through maritime training trust.

6. Agenda Points :

a) Presentation on collision between "MV Green Valley" and "MV Tiger Spring" by Kolkata Port Trust :

Presentation was made by Dy. Director (Marine), KPT on the subject. Through animated graphic, the presentation recreated the station leading to the accident. Main cause of the accident has been reported to be uncontrolled swinging of the bow of MV Green Valley due to shallow water effect and position of both the vessels in very congested waters. It was pointed out that KPT is in the process of completing a comprehensive inquiry into the accident

to determine the most proximate cause and also the contributory causes so that corrective actions could be initiated.

b). Presentation on Indian shipyards - Challenges ahead:

Power point presentation was made by Shri S. Kumar from Shipyard Association of India. During the presentation he highlighted several issues of shipyard industry and appreciated Ministry of Shipping for their initiative in encouraging this industry. He requested Chairman NSB to taken up the issue of subsidiary for Indian shipyards through MOS.

7. Concluding the meeting, chairman NSB thanked Hon'ble members of Parliament, other members and special invitees for their valuable contribution.

8. Resolution of the 115th meeting of NSB:

a) A meeting would be sought with the Prime Minister of India and Finance Minister to put forward the case of waiver of income tax for Indian seafarers.

(Action: INSA/NSB Secretariat)

b) Integration of several data base of seafarers to be completed by June 2011.

(Action: DGS)

c) Awareness about seafaring provision is to be created in tier 3 and tier 4 cities.

(Action: Chairman ICC/INSA/Shipping companies)

d) Government to consider the subsidiary for Indian shipyards.

(Action : Ministry of Shipping/Shipyard Association of India)