



भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI
DGS Circular No. 54 of 2025

Nautical Wing – Safe Manning Circular

File No. 25/10/2025-NT - DGS	Comp. No.: 36143	Date: 08/12/2025
Subject: Consolidated requirements for Minimum Safe Manning for Indian Ships (Nautical) – reg.		
1. The Directorate General of Shipping, as the competent authority of the Government of India for maritime affairs, places the highest priority on the safe navigation, safety and security of Indian ships. Ensuring that ships are sufficiently, effectively and efficiently manned is fundamental to the protection of seafarer welfare and health, the prevention of fatigue, and the continued safety and security of ship operations at sea and in ports. 2. The International Maritime Organization has issued comprehensive guidance on the Principles of Minimum Safe Manning through Resolution A.1047(27), which sets out the framework for determining the personnel required for the safe and efficient operation of ships. Furthermore, Regulation 14 of Chapter V of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea establishes the mandatory international requirements for minimum safe manning that every Administration is obligated to implement when issuing Minimum Safe Manning Documents. 3. Pursuant to these international requirements, section 76 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (corresponding Sections 45 and 69 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025) mandates that every ship, whether at sea or in port, shall engage such number of persons, possessing such qualifications, as may be prescribed. Further, Rule 14 of the Merchant Shipping (Safety of Navigation) Rules, 1997 requires that every ship be issued a Safe Manning Certificate, commonly referred to as the Minimum Safe Manning Document (MSMD). 4. In accordance with the aforesaid statutory provisions, the Directorate General of Shipping has, from time to time, issued various Executive Orders, Circulars, Merchant Shipping Notices and official communications prescribing the minimum safe manning scales applicable to Indian ships. Some of these non-exhaustive executive orders issued in this respect are listed below: a) Circular No. MSL-1(2)/95-II dated 27.12.2007. b) MSL Branch Circular No. 3 of 2008 dated 02.09.2008. c) MSL Branch Circular No. 1 of 2010 dated 29.06.2010. d) Nautical Wing Circular NT/RADIO/01/2011 dated 05.12.2011.		

- e) NT Wing Circular (NT/Safe Manning/Dredge) No. 01 of 2011 dated 13.05.2011.
- f) Circular No. MSL-1(2)/95-III dated 10.04.2012.
- g) MSL Circular No. 01 of 2013 dated 05.07.2013.
- h) RSV Notification 2013 annexed to DGS Order 18 of 2013.
- i) Coastal Vessel Rules Notification 2014 annexed to DGS Order 01 of 2014
- j) MS Notice Nautical 01 of 2022 dated 28.01.2022 and
- k) Any other DGS orders/Circulars/MS-Notices/Letters.

5. Over the years, the issuance of multiple instruments has led to varying formats, differing vessel categories and operational distinctions that have resulted in varying manning scales across vessel categories. To promote clarity, ensure uniform interpretation and support consistent application across the Indian fleet, it has become necessary to standardise the safe manning framework by consolidating all relevant instructions into a single, coherent set of guidelines. This approach facilitates alignment with international principles, strengthens regulatory certainty and provides a clear reference for shipowners, seafarers and maritime authorities. Accordingly, this Directorate has undertaken extensive consultations with stakeholders to rationalize the minimum safe manning scales prescribed through various circulars and to develop comprehensive guidelines addressing the requirements of the Indian shipping industry.
6. This DGS Circular consolidates the orders, circulars, notices and other instructions listed in paragraph 4 above, along with any other instruments issued in relation to the minimum safe manning (nautical) of Indian ships.
7. This consolidated circular aims to ensure greater clarity, regulatory consistency, ease of compliance and effective implementation across the Indian maritime sector.
8. Annexures A, B, C, D, E1–E2, F1–F7 and G1–G7 prescribing the minimum safe manning (nautical) scales are appended to this Circular. These annexures consolidate the applicable safe manning requirements based on ship type, nature of operation and area of operation, as relevant.

Annexure No.	GT of vessels and area of operations
A	International voyages scale
B	Near coastal voyages.
C	Vessels operating on the Indian coast, including A & N, Lakshadweep Islands.
D	Vessels trading only in smooth/ partially smooth waters near a port.


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E1	Indian Offshore areas (between 20 NM from the Indian coast to Indian EEZ)
E2	Foreign Offshore Areas (outside BIMMS NCV area)
F1 - F2	Indian Coastal Vessels (ICV)
F3- F7	River Sea Vessels (RSV)
G1-G7	Passenger ships, Ro-Ro/Ro-Ropax ships, special trade passenger ships including RSV passenger ships, and HSC.

9. Annexures A to F apply to all types of self-propelled vessels registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except passenger vessels. The minimum safe manning scales for passenger ships, Ro-Ro and Ro-Pax vessels, special trade passenger vessels, RSV passenger vessels and high-speed passenger craft are prescribed in Annexures G1 to G7.

(a) The minimum safe manning requirements for vessels below 15 GT and for non-self-propelled vessels shall be notified separately.

10. It may be noted that the manning scales prescribed in the annexures represent the *minimum* levels of manning necessary for the safety of navigation and ship operations. Shipowners and managers shall ensure the engagement of additional personnel, wherever required, based on operational needs of the trade, customary trade practices, maintenance requirements, safety of the crew and vessel, and to ensure adequate rest periods for seafarers.

11. The responsibility of submitting the safe manning proposals to the Administration rests with the Ship owners/managers. Accordingly, shipowners/managers shall submit proposals for safe manning of ships in line with these guidelines and the framework for determining safe manning as set out in IMO Resolution A.1047(27).

(a) Companies shall submit the safe manning proposal along with the prescribed self-assessment checklist while applying online to the concerned MMD. The MMD shall examine the proposal with reference to the minimum manning scales given in this Circular as guidance and any additional manning proposed by the company to meet operational, trading and rest-hour requirements.

(b) All ships shall be manned strictly in accordance with the manning scale specified in the approved Minimum Safe Manning Document (MSMD) issued by the Administration.

12. In situations where an exigency necessitates temporary deviation from the prescribed manning, such as injury, illness or sudden unavailability of a crew member, a dispensation may be considered only in exceptional circumstances. The Directorate recognises that safe ship operation requires qualified officers in full complement, and therefore dispensations are to remain rare. Companies are required to submit full

particulars of the case along with details of the applicable Maritime Union of India wage scale for the rank concerned, since the maximum basic wage of the relevant rank must be remitted to the Directorate when seeking dispensation. This measure discourages any undue financial advantage and safeguards employment opportunities for qualified officers, as set out in the policy articulated in the circular.

13. The process for obtaining dispensation will involve two stages. First, the shipping company must apply to the Nautical wing with all factual details, including the wage information. Once in principle approval is granted, the company is required to remit the applicable MUI maximum basic wage through a formal payment instrument in favour of the Directorate General of Shipping. A declaration confirming the correctness of the wage computation must accompany the application. In urgent cases, companies may directly contact the designated officers of the Nautical Wing by telephone for immediate guidance, and the official website of the Directorate provides the relevant contact details.

This issues with approval of competent authority.



Capt. Ravi Singh Sikarwar

Nautical Surveyor-cum- DDG (Tech.)

To,

- a) INSA
- b) ICCSA
- c) Maritime Unions
- d) Mercantile Marine Departments
- e) Indian Seafarers
- f) Indian Ship owners/Managers/RPSL agencies

Annexure A: Minimum Safe Manning Scale for International Voyages

Reference COD E	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook		
		Qualificatio n	No.	Qualificatio n	No.	Qualificatio n	No .	Qualification	N o.	Qualificatio n	No	Qualificatio n	No.	
A-1	< 200	Master (FG)	1	2nd Mate (FG)	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	1	
A-2	≥ 200 < 500	Master (FG)	1	Mate (FG)	1	-	-		2		1		1	
A-3	≥ 500 < 3000	Master (FG)	1	Mate (FG)	1	2 nd Mate FG	1		2		1		1	1
	≥ 3000 < 6000 (For MSV/OSV/P SV/AHTC/T ugs/SPS/Dred gers / etc. (See Note 5)													
A-4	≥ 3000 and above	Master (FG)	1	Mate (FG)	1	2 nd Mate FG	2	3	3	1				

Notes:

1. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this Circular.
2. On all vessels, either one dedicated Radio Officer holding a valid Indian GMDSS CoC or two deck officers holding valid Indian GMDSS CoCs are required.
3. For tankers (oil, chemical and gas), a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is mandatory.
4. For vessels of < 200 GT, the prescribed minimum safe manning is applicable only for operation against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless Specifically authorized by the Directorate.
5. Non-cargo carrying/trading vessels (MSV/OSV/PSV/AHTS/Tugs//SPS/Dredgers/etc.) of GT = 3000 MT but < 6000 MT can follow Minimum safe manning as prescribed under **Code A-3**.


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Annexure B: Minimum Safe Manning Scale for Near Coastal Voyages

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
B-1	< 200 ###	Master NCV (500 GT) / Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	-	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	1
B-2	≥200 < 500 ###	Master NCV (500 GT) / Mate NCV with 6 months experience	1	Mate NCV / NWKO NCV with 12 months experience	1	-	-		2		#1		1
B-3	≥ 500 < 3000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	#1		#2		#1		1
B-4	≥3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	# 1		#2		#1		1
B-5	≥ 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	## 2		# 2		#2		1

Notes:

1. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this Circular.
2. On all vessel either one dedicated Radio Officer holding a valid Indian GMDSS CoC or two deck officers holding valid Indian GMDSS CoCs are required.
3. For tankers (oil, chemical and gas), a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is mandatory.
4. # One additional person of the same rank is required for tankers.
5. ## Only one NWKO NCV is required on MSV/OSV/PSV/SPS/Tugs.
6. ### For tugs below 500 GT, the NCV manning may be extended to include Persian Gulf and Singapore Straits, subject to acceptance by the respective Maritime Administrations.
7. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning is prescribed only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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Annexure-C Minimum Safe Manning Scale - Vessels operating on the Indian Coast, including the coasts of Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
C-1	< 200	Master NCV (500 GT) / Mate NCV	*1	NWKO NCV / 1st Class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	-
C-2	≥ 200 < 500	Master NCV (500 GT) / Mate NCV with 6 months experience	1	Mate NCV**	1	NWKO NCV / 1 st Class IV Master	1		*** 1		1		1
C-3	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV / NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	#1	NWKO NCV	## 1		2		1		1
C-4	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV / NWKO NCV with 1 year exp	#1	NWKO NCV	## 1		2		1		1
C-5	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV / NWKO with 2 years experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	2	-	2	-	1
C-6	≥ 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	## #1		2		2		1

Notes:

1. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this circular.
2. On all vessels at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC. On vessels < 200 GT (**Code C-1**), one Restricted Operator Certificate holder is acceptable.
3. * Not required on cargo ships (other than tankers) on voyages of less than 12 hours.
4. ** Required only on tankers.
5. *** One additional AB is required on tankers and MSV / OSV / PSV / AHTS / SPS.
6. # On vessels below 3000 GT, other than tankers, Mate NCV may be substituted by NWKO (NCV) with 12 months experience.
7. # # Not required on OSV / MSV / PSV / AHTS / SPS / Tugs / Dredgers.
8. # # # One additional person of the same rank is required on tankers or on all vessels for voyages exceeding 72 hours.
9. For tanker operations, a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is required.
10. For dredgers, Master, Mate, and NWKO-NCV CoCs may be substituted by Dredge Master Grade I, Dredge Master Grade II, and Dredge Mate Grade I, respectively.
11. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning is prescribed only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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Annexure D: Minimum Safe Manning Scale Vessels for Harbor Operations

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No
D-1	< 200	IV 1 st Class Master/IV 2 nd class master with 12 M experience	1	2nd class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	-	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	-
D-2	≥ 200 < 500	1st class IV Master/Master NCV (500 GT)	1	2nd class IV Master/Mate NCV	1	-	-		-		2		1
D-3	≥ 500 < 1600	Mate NCV/ NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV)/1st Class I/V Master/ 2nd Class I/V Master with 1-year experience	1	-	-		1		2		1
D-4	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV)/1 st Class I/V master with 1 year of experience	1	-	-		1		2		1
D-5	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	NWKO with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO NCV	*1		2		2		1
D-6	6000 – 10,000	Master FG / Master NCV	1	Mate FG / Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	*1		2		2		1
D-7	≥ 10,000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	*1		2		2		1

Notes:

1. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this Circular.
2. *Harbour operation* refers to operations within notified port limits throughout the year and for operations in smooth / partially smooth waters near a port in fair weather conditions.
3. Vessels of < 500 GT engaged in continuous service at an SPM facility within the notified port limits shall carry at least one officer holding valid STCW certificate of competency.
4. For tanker operations, a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is required.
5. For dredgers, Master, Mate and NWKO-NCV CoCs may be substituted by Dredge Master Grade I, Dredge Master Grade II, and Dredge Mate Grade I, respectively.
6. For vessels below 500 GT, at least one officer must hold a Restricted Operator Certificate. For vessels 500 GT and above, at least one officer must hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC.
7. One additional NWKO (NCV) is required for dredgers / vessels engaged in port operations exceeding 72 hours.
8. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning applies only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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Annexure E-1: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - Indian Offshore Areas

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
E1- a	< 200	Master/NCV (500 GT)/ Mate NCV	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO NCV	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	1
E1- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master NCV (500 GT) / Mate NCV with 6 months experience	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	-	-		2		-		1
E1- c	500 – 1600	Master FG / Master NCV	1	Mate FG / Mate NCV / NWKO NCV with 18 months experience	1	-	-		2		1		1
E1- d	1600 - 3000	Master FG / Master NCV	1	Mate FG / Mate NCV	1	-	-		2		1		1
E1- e	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master FG / Master NCV	1	Mate FG / Mate NCV	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO	1		2		1		1
E1- f	≥ 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO	1		2		2		1

Notes:

1. "Indian offshore areas" mean area between 20 NM from the Indian coast up to Indian Exclusive Economic zone (EEZ)
2. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this Circular.
2. At least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
3. For tanker operations, a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is required.
4. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning applies only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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Annexure E-2: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - Foreign Offshore Areas (Outside NCV area, subject to acceptance by the concerned Maritime Administration)

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
E2- a	< 200	Master FG	1	2 Mate FG	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	1
E2- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master FG	1	Mate FG/2 nd Mate FG with 1 year experience	1	-	-		2		0		1
E2- c	≥ 500 < 3000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	-	-		2		1		1
E2- d	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG	1		2		2		1
E2- e	≥ 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG	1		3		2		1

Notes:

1. The above manning scale applies to all types of self-propelled ships registered under the Merchant Shipping Act, except where otherwise specified in this Circular.
2. Either one dedicated Radio Officer holding a valid Indian GMDSS CoC or two deck officers holding valid Indian GMDSS CoCs shall be carried.
3. For tanker operations, a valid Certificate of Proficiency in Tanker Operation, as applicable, is required.
4. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning applies only for the operations against fair-weather forecast/ conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

Annexure F: Indian Coastal Vessels (ICV) and River-Sea Vessels (Self-Propelled)

F-1: Indian coastal Vessel (ICV) when in Harbour Operation

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
F1- a	< 200	1st Class IV Master/ 2 nd Class IV Master with 1 year experience.	1	2 ND Class IV Master	1	-	-		-		1		-
F1- b	≥ 200 < 500	1 st Class IV Master	1	2nd Class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	-	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	1
F1- c	≥500 < 1600	Mate NCV/ NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience.	1	NWKO (NCV)/1 st Class IV Master/2 nd Class IV Master with 1 year of experience.	1	-	-		1		2		1
F1- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year of experience.	1	NWKO (NCV)/1 st Class IV master with 1 year of experience	1	-	1		1		2		1
F1- e	≥3000 < 6000 (See note 2)	Master NCV	1	Mate (NCV)/NWKO (NCV) With 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See note 5)	1		2		2		1

Notes:

1. Harbour operations refer to operations within notified port limits, with occasional operations permitted up to six nautical miles beyond port jurisdiction.
2. The GT limit for ICV tankers is 3000 MT. The GT limit for ICV cargo vessels is 6000 MT, and for ICV Dredgers, it is 10000 MT.
3. D.C.E. qualification for ICV tankers shall be as specified in the circulars issued by DG Shipping for vessels registered under Merchant shipping Act.
4. On dredgers, Master, Mate, and NWKO-NCV may be substituted by Dredge Master Grade I, Dredge Master Grade II, and Dredge Mate Grade 1, respectively.
5. For vessels 3000 GT and above, one additional NWKO (NCV) is required when the voyage duration or dredging/port operation exceeds 72 hours.
6. For vessels ≥ 500 GT, at least one officer must hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC. For vessels < 500 GT, at least one officer must hold a valid Restricted Operator Certificate.
7. Vessels of < 500 GT engaged in continuous service at an SPM facility within the notified port limits shall carry at least one officer holding valid STCW certificate of competency.
8. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning applies only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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F-2: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - Indian Coastal Vessels (ICV) — When Operating on the Indian Coast

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
F2- a	< 200	NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	2 nd class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	-
F2- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master NCV(500 GT) / Mate NCV with 6 months of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) /1 st Class IV Master	1	-	-		1		1		1
F2- c	≥500 < 1600	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) With 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV)/ 2 nd Class I/V Master	#1		2		2		1
F2- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV	1	NWKO (NCV) With 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV)/ 2 nd Class I/V Master	#1		2		1		1
F2- e	≥3000 < 6000 (See note 1)	Master NCV	1	Mate (NCV)/ NWKO (NCV) with 2 years of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See note 4)	1		2		1		1

Notes:

1. The GT limit for ICV tankers is 3000 MT. The GT limit for ICV cargo vessels is 6000 MT, and for ICV Dredgers, it is 10000 MT.
2. DCE requirements for ICV tankers shall be as prescribed in relevant DGS circulars under the Merchant Shipping Act.

3. On dredgers, Master, Mate, and NWKO-NCV may be substituted by Dredge Master Grade I, Dredge Master Grade II, and Dredge Mate Grade 1, respectively.
4. For vessels ≥ 3000 GT, one additional NWKO (NCV) is required when the voyage duration or dredging/port operation exceeds 72 hours.
5. On all vessels at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC.
6. # Requirement is not applicable to OSV / MSV / PSV / AHTS / SPS / Tugs / Dredgers.
7. For vessels < 200 GT, minimum safe manning applies only for operations against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.


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River Sea vessels (General Notes for F3 to F7)

1. Harbour operations refer to operations within notified port limits, with occasional operation permitted up to six nautical miles outside port jurisdiction.
2. The GT limit for RSV tankers is 3000 MT. The GT limit for RSV cargo vessels is 6000 MT, and for RSV Dredgers, it is 10000 MT.
3. D.C.E. qualification for RSV tankers shall be as specified in the Circulars issued by DG Shipping for M.S. Act vessels.
4. On dredgers, Master, Mate, and NWKO-NCV may be substituted by Dredge Master Grade-I, Dredge Master Grade-II, and Dredge Mate Grade 1 respectively.
5. For RSV of 3000 GT and above, one additional 1st Class I/V Master is required when the voyage duration (or dredging operation in port) exceeds 72 hours.
6. For vessels < 200 the operations are allowed only against fair weather forecast/conditions unless specifically authorized by the Directorate.
7. Vessels of < 500 GT engaged in continuous service at an SPM facility within the notified port limits shall carry at least one officer holding valid STCW Certificate of competency.

F-3: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - River-Sea Vessel (Type 1), including Harbour Operation

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No
F3- a	< 200	1st Class IV Master/ 2 nd Class I/V Master with 1 year experience	1	2 nd class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	-	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	-
F3- b	≥ 200 < 500	1 st Class IV Master	1	2 nd Class IV Master	1	-	-		-		2		-
F3- c	≥ 500 < 1600	NWKO (NCV)/1 st Class IV Master with	1	1 st Class IV Master/ 2 nd Class I/V Master with 1-	1	-	-		-		1		1

		1 year experience		year experience.									
F3- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	NWKO (NCV)	1	1 st Class IV master/ 2 nd class I/V Master with 1 year experience	1	-	-		-		2		1
F3- e	≥ 3000 < 6000 (See general note 2)	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 6 months of experience.	1	NWKO (NCV) With 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See general note 5)	1		2		2		1

Notes: 1. For vessels below 1600 GT, at least one officer shall hold a valid Restricted Operator Certificate.
2. For vessels 1600 GT and above, at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC.

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F-4: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - Any River-Sea Vessel engaged in Harbour Operations other than RSV Type 1

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
F4- a	< 200	1st Class I/V Master/ 2 nd Class I/V Master with 1 year experience	1	2 nd Class I/V Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	-	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	-
F4- b	≥ 200 < 500	1 st Class I/V Master	1	2 nd Class I/V Master	1	-	-		-		1		1
F4- c	≥ 500 < 1600	Mate NCV/NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO-NCV/1 st Class I/V Master/ 2 nd Class I/V Master with 1-year experience.	1	-	-		1		2		1
F4- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO-NCV/1 st Class I/V Master with 1 year of experience	1	-	-		1		2		1
F4- e	≥ 3000 < 6000 (See general note 2)	Master NCV	1	NWKO (NCV) With 1 year of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See general note 5)	1		2		2		1

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- Notes:**
1. For Vessels below 500 GT, at least one officer should hold valid Restricted Operators certificate.
 2. For vessels above 500 GT, at least one officer should hold a valid Indian GMDSS CoC.


08.12.25

F-5: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - River-Sea Vessels — Types 2, 3 & 4, engaged in Daylight Voyages between Nearby Ports

Referen ce Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualificati on	No.	Qualification	No	Qualificati on	No	Qualificati on	No
F5- a	< 200	NWKO (NCV)/1 st class IV Master with 1 year of experience	1	2 ND Class IV Master	1		-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	-
F5- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master (NCV)/ NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	2 nd Class IV Master	1		-		1		1		1
F5- c	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV/ NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO- NCV/1 st Class IV Master/ 2 nd Class IV Master with 1- year experience.	1		-		1		2		1
									1		2		1
F5- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO- NCV/1 st Class IV Master	1		-		1		2		1
F5- e	≥ 3000 < 6000 (See general note 2)	Master NCV	1	Mate (NCV)/ NWKO (NCV) with 1 year experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See general note 5)	1	2	2	1			

Notes:

1. For vessels below 200 GT, at least one officer shall hold a valid Radio Operator Certificate
2. For vessels 200 GT and above, at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.


08.12.24

F6: Minimum Safe Manning Scale River-Sea Vessels — Types 3 & 4 engaged in Coastal Voyages of duration < 48 hours

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No.
F6-a	< 200	NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	2 nd Class IV Master	1		-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	-	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	-
F6-b	≥ 200 < 500	Master (NCV)/ NWKO (NCV) with 2 years of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) /1 st Class IV Master	1		-		1		1		1
F6- c	≥500 < 1600	Master NCV/Mate (NCV) with 6 months of experience	1	NWKO- NCV/1st Class IV Master	1		-		1		2		1
F6- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/ Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO NCV with 1 year of experience	1		-		1		2		1
F6- e	≥ 3000 < 6000 (See general note 2)	Master NCV	1	Mate (NCV)/ NWKO-NCV with 18 months of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See general note 5)	1		2		2		1

Notes

1. On all vessels, at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.

L.H.
08.12.21

F-7: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - River-Sea Vessels — Type 4 engaged in Unrestricted Operation

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
F7- a	< 200	NWKO (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	2 nd Class IV Master with 6 months of experience	1		-		1		1		-
F7- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master-NCV/ Mate (NCV) with 6 months of experience	1	NWKO (NCV)/1 st Class IV Master	1		-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	1	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	1
F7- c	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV/Mate (NCV) with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO-NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO-NCV OR 2 nd Class I/V Master	1		2		1		1
F7- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV	1	NWKO NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO/ 2 nd Class I/V Master	1		2		1		1
F7- e	≥ 3000 < 6000 (See general note 2)	Master NCV	1	Mate (NCV)/ NWKO (NCV) with 2 years of experience	1	NWKO (NCV) (See general note 5)	1		2		2		1

Notes

- On all vessels, at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.

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Annexure G: Minimum Safe Manning Scale for Passenger Ships, Ro-Ro / Ro-Pax Ships, and Special Trade Passenger Ships

G-1: International Voyages

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
G1- a	< 200	Master FG	1	2 nd Mate FG	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as Cook as applicable	1
G2- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	-	-		2		2		1
G3- c	≥ 500 < 3000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG	1		3		3		1
G4- d	≥ 3000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG	2		3		3		1

Notes:

1. On all vessels either one dedicated Radio Officer holding a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency OR two deck officers holding valid Indian GMDSS CoCs shall be carried on board.
2. Passenger vessels < 200 GT may operate only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

W.L.
08.12.25

Annexure G-2: NCV / Short International Voyages * (See note 2)

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
G2- a	< 200	Master NCV (500 GT)/Mate NCV with 6 months experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	1
G2- b	≥200 < 500	Master NCV (500 GT)/Mate NCV with 6 months experience	1	Mate NCV	1	-	-		2		2		1
G2- c	≥ 500 < 3000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	1		3		3		1
G2- d	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	2		3		3		1
G2- e	≥ 6000 and above	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	2		3		3		1

Notes:

1. On all vessels either one dedicated Radio Officer with a valid Indian GMDSS CoC, or two deck officers holding valid Indian GMDSS CoCs, shall be carried.
2. *** For Short International Voyages (outside the NCV region), all NCV CoC holders shall be substituted by officers holding appropriate Foreign-Going (FG) Certificates of Competency.**
3. Vessels < 200 GT may operate only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

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Annexure G-3: Operations on Indian Coast (including A&N Islands) within 20 NM of the Coast

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
G3- a	< 200	Master NCV (500 GT) or Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	1		-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	**1
G3- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master NCV (500 GT)/Mate NCV with 6 months of experience	1	NWKO NCV	1		-		2		2		**1
G3- c	≥ 500 < 3000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	**1		3		3		1
G3- d	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	**1		3		3		1
G3- e	≥ 6000 and above	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	2		3		3		1

Notes:

1. On all vessels at least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
2. ** One additional OINW-qualified officer (NWKO NCV / 2nd Mate NCV) and Cook is required only when voyage duration exceeds 12 hours.
3. For vessels < 200 GT, operations are allowed only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

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06.12.11

Annexure G - 4: Operation between two Indian Ports in Fair Weather, within 5 NM of the Coast

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No
G4- a	< 200	Master NCV (500 GT) GT/NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV/ 1 st Class IV Master	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	1	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	**1
G4- b	≥ 200 < 500	Master NCV (500 GT)/NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-		2		2		**1
G4- c	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV/NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-		2		3		1
G4- d	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	NWKO NCV	**1		2		4		1
G4- e	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	**1		2		4		1
G4- f	≥ 6000 and above	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	NWKO NCV	2		2		4		1

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Notes

1. ** One additional OINW (NWKO NCV / 2nd Mate NCV) and Cook is required for voyages exceeding 12 hours.
2. At least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
3. For vessels < 200 GT, operations are permitted only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

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Annexure G - 5: Type 3 River-Sea Passenger Vessels, including Ro Ro/ Ro-Pax

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.	Qualification	No.
G5- a	< 500	Master NCV (500 GT) /NWKO NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	1
G5- b	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV /NWKO NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-		3		3		1
G5- c	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV/Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	NWKO NCV	1	-	-		3		3		1
G5- d	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	1		3		3		1
	≥ 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO NCV	2		3		3		1

Notes

1. At least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
2. For vessels < 200 GT, operations are permitted only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

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Annexure G - 6: Type 4 River-Sea Passenger Vessels - Including Ro-Ro / Ro-Pax, carrying more than 12 and not more than 400 passengers

Reference Code	GT of the vessel	Master		Chief Officer		OINW		AB		OS		Cook	
		Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No	Qualification	No
G6- a	< 500	Master NCV (500 GT) /Mate NCV with 6 months of experience	1	Mate NCV or NWKO NCV with 1 year of experience	1	-	-	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	2	Rating with Basic STCW safety training	2	Basic STCW safety training and CoC as applicable	1
G6- b	≥ 500 < 1600	Master NCV /Mate NCV with 1 year of experience	1	Mate NCV NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV	1		3		3		1
G6- c	≥ 1600 < 3000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV or NWKO NCV with 1 year experience	1	NWKO NCV	1		3		3		1
G6- d	≥ 3000 < 6000	Master NCV	1	Mate NCV	1	NWKO NCV	1		3		3		1
	= > 6000	Master FG	1	Mate FG	1	2 nd Mate FG / NWKO NCV	2		3		3		1

Notes

1. At least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
2. For vessels < 200 GT, operations are permitted only against fair-weather forecast/conditions, unless specifically authorised by the Directorate.

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Annexure G-7: Minimum Safe Manning Scale - High Speed Crafts (Category A): (Operating at Port Blair & Indian offshore region /EEZ)

S.N.	Qualification/COC	Number of seafarers
1	Master (FG / NCV) with Type Rating Certificate	01
2	Mate (FG / NCV) with Type Rating Certificate	00
3	2nd Mate / NWKO (NCV) with Type Rating Certificate	01
4	Able Seafarer Deck (II/5) / Rating forming part of a navigational watch (II/4)	02
5	Rating (Deck)	01

Notes

1. The operating area includes Sri Lankan waters, subject to acceptance by the Maritime Administration of Sri Lanka, and operations shall be restricted to daylight hours only.
2. At least one officer shall hold a valid Indian GMDSS Certificate of Competency.
3. Officer shall hold required Type Rating Certification as per HSC Code and the requirement prescribed by the Directorate.
4. For operations in foul weather conditions or extended voyages, additional manning may be required based on risk assessment and operational needs as may be specified by the Directorate.


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