



No.: DC/C-SH/2023/2619

31 JUL 2023

To,

MANSA/INSA  
ALL PORT USERS  
SHIP AGENTS  
SHIP OWNERS/CHARTERERS  
SHIPPING CORPORATION OF INDIA  
ALL OIL COMPANIES  
CHARTERERS/MANAGERS/OPERATORS OF ALL KINDS OF VESSELS

**CIRCULAR**

**ASSURANCE OF SAFE PILOT TRANSFER ARRANGEMENT FOR  
VESSELS CALLING AT MUMBAI PORT**

In view of the serious incident of parting of pilot ladder, while boarding the pilot to a vessel in Mumbai Port on 20.07.2023, all Vessel Agents, Owners, Masters and Representatives are directed to strictly comply with IMO resolution A. 1045 (27) for Pilot Transfer Arrangement (SOLAS Chapter V, Regulation 23) (amendments applicable as and when amended).

**This circular supersedes previous circular No.DC/C-SH/3041 Dated 29.10.2020.**

In order to avoid any such incident in future following procedures to be followed:

1. All vessels calling Mumbai Port to have valid pilot ladder manufacturer's certificate or inspection certificate as per ISO 799:2004 issued not later than two years.
2. Declaration and undertaking by Master of the vessel for physical verification of condition of pilot ladder along with securing arrangements and boarding area for safe pilot boarding arrangements.
3. Master to confirm (6 hrs. prior Pilot boarding) the condition of pilot ladder to VTS on VHF Ch. 12 after physical verification before arriving at pilot boarding ground or when ready to sail out before boarding pilot.
4. Master to confirm the condition of pilot ladder along with securing arrangements to the pilot after re-verification whenever in contact with VHF before boarding.

5. Any unsafe boarding arrangements may lead to cancellation of the vessel movement.
6. Upload approved Pilot Ladder certificate (as mentioned in Point 1) along with Master's declaration (as mentioned in Point 2) and date of last inspection on PCS portal for approval of vessel's profile.
7. The Pilot ladder is regularly inspected and record of inspection is maintained to ensure that Pilot ladder is safe to use.
8. The use of mechanical pilot hoist is prohibited on all ships (SOLAS Reg.v/23 Para 6) (amendments applicable as and when amended).
9. Safe convenient and unobstructed passage to be provided for any person embarking or disembarking from ship.
10. The securing strong points, shackles and securing ropes are in good condition.
11. Embarkation/disembarkation area should be properly illuminated.
12. The rigging of the Pilot ladder and embarkation of a Pilot is supervised by a responsible officer, and safety equipment, life jackets, harness, lifelines and life buoys should be in place for safety of Pilot.
13. In view of above, ship owners/managers and Masters are advised to ensure that Pilot boarding/ Transfer arrangement are complying with applicable regulations.

All concerned are here by directed to strictly comply with the above mentioned procedure. It is to request that your efforts and co-operation will help in ensuring safe and efficient shipping operation.

  
(Capt. B. CHAND)  
DEPUTY CONSERVATOR