



भारतसरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोतपरिवहन और जलमार्गमंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
नौवहनमहानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

File No. 23-MIN/2/2024-CREW-DGS (C. No. 30828)

Date: 04.04.2025

DGS Circular No. 12 of 2025

Subject: Visa Exemption for Civilian Sea Crew Members Traveling to Republic of Malta to join the ships from Maltese Ports – reg.

The Directorate General of Shipping, Government of India, extends its regards to all stakeholders and wishes to inform them of the recent update communicated by the High Commission of the Republic of Malta concerning visa requirements for seafarers.

2. Under Article 4 of the EU Visa Regulation 2001/539, the Republic of Malta has exempted civilian seafarers who proceed to Malta directly from India, to join their ship which is berthed in Malta, do not require a visa. This exemption applies under the following conditions:

- a. Applicable Personnel: Seafarers who are travelling directly from India to the Republic of Malta for the purpose of joining vessels berthed at Maltese ports.
- b. Required Documentation: Even though the visa requirement is waived, crew members must carry a form endorsed by the Malta Police. This form will serve as a necessary document for transit and boarding.
- c. Effective Date: This exemption is effective immediately, and all relevant entities must ensure compliance with this updated regulation.

3. Further, all the RPS / Shipping Companies must ensure that their seafarers are informed about this exemption and equipped with the necessary documentation when traveling to Malta. Liaise with appropriate authorities to facilitate smooth transit for crew members joining ships in Maltese ports.

4. This issue with the approval of the Director General of Shipping, Mumbai.

(Capt. Daniel J. Joseph)
Dy. Director General of Shipping

To,

1. All the Stakeholders
2. RPSL and Shipping Companies.
3. Hindi Branch for Translation
4. E-Governance Branch for uploading on DGS Website

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