



# National Maritime Day Celebrations (Central) Committee

Registered Society & Charitable Trust, Regn. No. MS BOM-679/1988-GBBSD & F/13025/BOM  
• PAN No.: AAATN2565R • GST No. 27AAATN2565R1ZX

**No.63<sup>rd</sup> NMDC/Awards/2026**  
**(Computer No. 6636)**

**Date: 24.12.2025**

To,  
Indian Ports Association,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, South Tower, NBCC Place,  
Bhishman Pitamah Marg, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110003.

**Sub: Nomination for Sagar Samman Awards – 2026-reg.**

Dear Sir,

As you are aware that the National Maritime Day is celebrated every year on 5<sup>th</sup> April in commemoration of the maiden voyage of the first Indian Vessel “S. S. LOYLTY” owned by M/s. Scindia Steam Navigation Company from Mumbai to London on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 1919. The National Maritime Day recognizes the services of seafarers and services of persons and organizations connected with promotion and development of national maritime industry by giving them awards, scholarship and facilitations.

2. The ‘National Maritime Day’ (NMD) synonymous with the ‘Merchant Navy Week’ is proposed to be observed from the 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 (Monday) to 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 (Sunday). As you all are aware that that as suggested by Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Govt. of India, the NMDC (Central) Committee reduced the number of Awards by continuing three (03) ‘Individual – based Awards’ and changed the others ‘Institution/ Entity based Awards’ into ranking system. On this occasion, following awards will be given.

3. ***Further it is also to inform that as per the direction of Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India; the new development is introduced from this year onward. The application for the below mentioned three Sagar Samman Awards shall only be submitted through ‘Rashtriya Puraskar’ Portal (National Award Portal <https://awards.gov.in>).***

(1) **“Sagar Samman Varuna Award”**: This is the highest category of such awards, granted for consistently exceptional and outstandingly all-round and leadership contributions made by an individual in the maritime sector, over time. The award would consist of a statue of Lord Varuna, Certificate and a Citation.

(2) **“Sagar Samman Award for Excellence”**: This is the second highest category of such awards, granted for meritoriously excellent contributions, of a very high order, made all-round and consistently by an individual in the maritime sector, over time. The award would consist of a Ship Model, Certificate and a Citation.

(3) **“Sagar Samman Award for Gallantry”**: This award is recognition of an exceptional act of outstanding bravery demonstrated in extraordinarily adverse circumstances in a maritime situation, including at risk to one’s life.

4. ***It is therefore, requested that nomination(s) from your organization for the ranking system (Sr. No. 1 to Sr. No. 6) listed below for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025 may kindly be sent to us separately with full details of nominees latest by 28<sup>th</sup> February.***

*2026, so that the same can be examined and evaluated by the Committee, appointed for the purpose. The nomination received after the due date will not be considered for evaluation.*

(1) **“Recognition of outstanding Maritime Training Institutes”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the exceptional contributions made by three such entities, in each of the three identified categories, for advancing the cause of human resource development and skill up-gradation.

(2) **“Recognition of outstanding Indian Ship-owning Companies”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the all-round and consistent contributions made by three of the best Indian ship-owning companies for progressing the cause of the Indian merchant shipping flag, including tonnage and maritime safety & security and marine environmental pollution control.

(3) **“Recognition of outstanding Indian Employer of Seafarer”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the consistently outstanding contributions made by three of the best Indian employers for advancing the overall welfare of seafarers, including creation of sustainable employment opportunities.

(4) **“Recognition of outstanding Foreign Employer of Indian Seafarers”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the consistently outstanding contributions made by three of the best foreign employers of Indian seafarers, in each of the three identified categories, for advancing the overall welfare of seafarers, including creation of sustainable employment opportunities.

(5) **“Recognition of outstanding Indian Port”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the consistently outstanding contributions made by three of the best Indian Ports through their best-in-class and globally oriented infrastructure, operational efficiencies, benchmarks, innovations and best practices.

(6) **“Recognition of outstanding Indian Terminal”**: This will be by way of formal recognition of the consistently outstanding contributions made by three of the best Indian Terminals through their best-in-class and globally oriented infrastructure, operational efficiencies, benchmarks, innovations and best practices.

5. The National Maritime Day Celebrations (Central) Committee invites nominations for awarding the above categories to eminent persons/ companies eligible as mentioned above and to confer the same to the recipients on the occasion of the 63<sup>rd</sup> National Maritime Day Celebrations (Main Function) on **5<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (Sunday)**.

6. For further information with regard to guidelines on the above ranking system awards, you may kindly visit our website namely [dgshipping.gov.in](http://dgshipping.gov.in) so as to download the guidelines.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Sudhir S. Kohakade)

Deputy Director General of Shipping &  
Member Secretary, NMDC (Central) Committee.

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Encl: As above.

Copy to: DDG (E-Gov) with a request to upload the Guidelines for NMDC Award 2026 on DGS Website.