



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 ORDER No 14 of 2024**

**File No: 21-12011/1/2020- COASTAL-DGS-Part-1**

**Dated: 09.10.2024**

**Sub: Issuance of Seamen Identity Card to Sailing Vessel Crew Andaman & Nicobar Islands Reg.**

It is noted that, the Merchant Shipping (Sailing Vessels) Rules, 1997, notified under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958), mandates that every person serving on board a sailing vessel shall be having an identity by card issued the issuing authority specified in Schedule V of the said rules.

2. Whereas, Andaman & Nicobar Sailing Vessel Association, has raised the challenges faced by the Association. The Association indicated that the crew members employed in the industry are experiencing a standard of living that is considerably low. Furthermore, the association submitted that the crew of sailing vessels typically works for a duration of one month before seeking alternative employment, resulting in a continuous cycle of new crew members being hired. This frequent turnover complicates the retention of crew for extended periods. Additionally, new crew members must apply for and obtain a sailing vessel identity card, which presents challenges in the boarding process for these crew members.

3. Whereas, Section 456 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, empowers the Central Government to issue an order in writing, and to impose such conditions as it deems fit, to dispense with the observance of any specified requirement that must be complied with by any ship, sailing vessel, master, tindal, or seaman, provided it is satisfied that the requirement has been substantially complied with or whether that compliance should be exempted given the circumstances of the case.

4. Whereas, the Director General of Shipping in exercise of power conferred under section 456 read with S.O. 3144 dated 17/12/1960, has exempts the requirement of Passport for the purpose of applying Sailing Vessel Seaman Identity Cards for those persons aspiring to work on only board sailing vessels which are plying in Andaman & Nicobar Islands as indicated in the subsequent Para no.6 of this order.

5. Whereas, the validity of these identity cards will be limited to one year. Furthermore, holders of these restricted identity cards will be employed exclusively on the designated sailing vessels, and their crew lists must be submitted to the Surveyor –In Charge (SIC), Mercantile Marine Department (MMD), Port Blair, and the Port Management Board of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration.

6. Whereas, it is hereby informed that, this exertion is exclusively available to the crew members employed on board following four sailing vessels operating solely within the Andaman and Nicobar Islands:

Sr. No.	Name of Ship	Call Sign	Registration No.
1.	Aysha	8XCU	CAL-007
2.	Al Busmala	8XCD	CAL-016
3.	Om Sakthi	8XND	CAL-020
4.	Follow Jesus	8XNL	CAL-021

It is however, clarification that other than passport requirement all other necessary documents must be uploaded in the online application, along with a processing fee of Rs. 500/- for obtaining the Sailing Vessel Seaman Identity Card.

8. This is issued in public interest welfare and operational efficiency of sailing vessels which are plying at Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

(Shitesh Ranjan)  
Ship Surveyor-cum-Dy. Director General of Shipping (Coastal/Tech)