



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Sagar Sandesh

Maritime Tabloid English Weekly E-Paper

In association with R L Institute of Nautical Sciences, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. | RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759 | Wednesday, April 22, 2020 | Voyage 9 Wave 12

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Mr Maneesh Pradhan, MD Anglo- Eastern Ship Management (India) Pvt Ltd speaks about the lesser known Warriors in COVID-19 – Our Seafarers



and facing grave physical hazards. Modern seafarers form a crucial element of the global economic system, while braving risks, pressures and hardships that are unique to a life at sea. A seafarer is a rare professional of one of the most globalized and heritage industries. It's a moving industry engrained with the home away from home – so the 'industrial output' coupled with the basics of life starting from producing drinking water to treating sewage is all part of the responsibility. What is unique is that there is no 2nd person with the same skill to back up – each person is of a unique rank with a fixed set of responsibilities. No external aid such as doctors or professionals to solve problems are available when things go out of hand. An entire set of encyclopedias could be written on what rides on a seafarer and honestly that is not within my capacity to be writing because it is fairly difficult to pen down the entire list of responsibilities. Many luxuries, which are normal to people working ashore, are definitely elusive for a seafarer. Despite all this, the seafarer is hidden from life and little known for the fact that without the maritime industry the world would not be in its present state. A seafarer is primarily unheralded and unacknowledged.

ANGLO-EASTERN

The Indian Government too is using all its intellect and might in

the fight against this deadly virus, the Covid-19

What we are witnessing today with respect to the Covid-19 pandemic is something unprecedented and was unimaginable till this happened. The virus has today reached practically all parts of the globe and governments across are frantically stepping up their efforts to fight the pandemic. The Indian

Government too is using all its intellect and might in the fight against this deadly virus. The world stands in its state of anxiety and uncertainty but all that we can helplessly do is wait and watch, with the hope that we see victory against this virus soon.

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These are indeed unprecedented times which requires extraordinary cooperation from each and every inhabitant of this planet. One such important requirement is that of social distancing and I urge all to follow it strictly: Maneesh Pradhan

'Who is a Seafarer'?

A seafarer is defined by the lexicographers at Oxford Dictionaries as 'A person who regularly travels by sea; a sailor'.

A seafarer is a rare professional of one of the most globalized and heritage industries

Being one myself, my definition is a bit expanded - Seafarers have facilitated maritime trade, civilizational contacts and new discoveries since time immemorial, even at the cost of enduring difficult conditions (like what we are facing today)

Following activities will continue to remain prohibited across the country until May 3rd with the extension of the lock down



NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

All domestic and international air travel of passengers, except for purposes enumerated in for security purposes, all passenger movement by trains, except for security purposes, Buses for public transport, Metro rail services and Inter-district and inter-State movement of individuals except for medical reasons or for activities are permitted under these guidelines.

All educational, training, coaching institutions etc. shall remain closed.

All industrial and commercial activities other than those specifically permitted under these guidelines;

Hospitality services other

than those specifically permitted under these guidelines;

Taxis (including auto rickshaws and cycle rickshaws) and services of cab aggregators;

All cinema halls, malls, shopping complexes, gymnasiums, sports complexes, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres, bars and auditoriums, assembly halls and similar places.

All social/ political/ sports/ entertainmenU academic/ cultural/ religious functions/ other gatherings;

All religious places/ places of worship shall be closed for public. Religious congregations are strictly prohibited;

In case of funerals, congregation of more than twenty persons will not be permitted.

Mr Maneesh Pradhan, MD Anglo- Eastern

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The global lockdowns and shut down of almost all airspaces have made commute of seafarers impossible.

As on date, the seafarers are very adversely affected too. There is no respite for them as they have to work round the clock on their respective ships to ensure that the global supply chain keeps moving with their trading vessels. The anxiety levels also go high whenever they have to call on a port and mitigate the risks of getting anyone infected onboard whilst dealing with the local port workers. The worry of their families back home stays on each seafarers mind. What has added to their agony, is the inability of the seafarers to come back home after the completion of their tour of duty. The global lockdowns and shut down of almost all airspaces have made commute of seafarers impossible. Considering the tough job at hand, we all remain worried

as to how each one may be dealing with his stress and fatigue levels.

The seafarers though not spoken of much are actually indispensable to the world today

A lot is being spoken of the medical staff and law enforcers and as to how they are playing a vital role in fighting Covid-19 and saving lives, but there is little mention of the crucial role of seafarers in keeping global supply chains open. The seafarers are the ones transporting energy, food, medicine and other basic necessities between continents, as well as the raw materials needed to produce these necessities in the first place. These supply chains too are absolutely critical for all of us to get through this pandemic. The seafarers though not spoken of much are actually indispensable to the world today. Constant efforts are being made to get seafarers to be recognized

as 'Key workers' but that may just be only a part of the battle won as each government across the globe has to accept this and allow free passage for these unsung soldiers. Crew changes will still be a complex puzzle to put together given the present travel / immigration / quarantine restrictions in place which generally apply to travelers. Some Companies have given their willingness to charter aircrafts for ferrying our seafarers for signing off and joining a ship, but we still await clearances for that.

All efforts will continue with each sunrise along with the hope that this deadly virus is eradicated for good and soon. I have the seafarers and their families in my prayers each day.

My adulation and salutations to each Brave heart who is sailing in these present times.

Wish to add on that these are indeed unprecedented times which requires extraordinary co-operation from each and every inhabitant of this planet. One such important requirement is that of social distancing and I urge all to follow it strictly.

I am sure that 'this too shall pass'.

Travel ban imposed by Kerala on movement of persons from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka



Strict vigil is being maintained in border areas to prevent illegal entry of people from the neighbouring states.

The decision came close on the heels of intelligence reports suggesting that Keralites stuck in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka might try to sneak in through various means, including goods and Parcel trains operating at present.

Recently, four railway engineers were apprehended while trying to enter the state in a railway maintenance coach. Students stuck in neighbouring states might also try to reach home in goods wagons.

Specific instructions have been given to Railway Police officials about the possibility of people illegally trying to enter from other states.

Instructions given to scrutinise inter-state vehicles carrying goods to prevent smuggling people across the border

The sources added that instructions have also been given to scrutinise inter-state vehicles carrying goods to the state, in order to prevent them from smuggling people across the border. “

There were reports coming from border check posts in Walayar, Pulliyarai and Kaliakavilai, which suggested that some drivers were ferrying people to the state, after making them pay a handsome amount as transportation charge. This is a matter of serious concern and we have launched intense vehicle to stop the movement.

Strict vigil is being maintained in border areas to prevent illegal entry of people from the neighbouring states... instructions have also been given to scrutinise inter-state vehicles carrying goods to the state, in order to prevent them from smuggling people across the border.

TIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

People from Tamil Nadu or Karnataka cannot enter Kerala without proper documents as the police have decided to intensify its action against lockdown violators and those who try to enter the state from neighbouring states without valid documents.

A directive to this effect was given by the Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan to the district police chiefs during a video conference on April 16th.

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