October 23, 2026

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

New ship and port security rules set 96-hour notice and fees

G.S.R. 909(E) replaces the 2024 security rules for Indian ships, ships calling at Indian ports and port facilities: plans, officers, certificates, notice and fees.

THE MINISTRY OF PORTS, Shipping and Waterways issued notification G.S.R. 909(E), dated October 23, 2026, making the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2026. It appears in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 838, dated October 23, 2026, and was put online on October 26, 2026. The Central Government made the rules under section 130(1) and clauses (a), (b), (g) and (h) of section 130(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025). They supersede the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2024, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before the supersession. The rules come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. They are signed by Venkatesapathy S, Joint Secretary, under F. No. SY-19014/185/2025-MG-Part(2)(ii).

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

PUBLISHED

October 23, 2026

ISSUED BY

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

DOCUMENT

Notification G.S.R. 909(E), the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2026

New ship and port security rules set 96-hour notice and fees

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways · October 23, 2026

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways issued notification G.S.R. 909(E), dated October 23, 2026, making the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2026. It appears in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 838, dated October 23, 2026, and was put online on October 26, 2026. The Central Government made the rules under section 130(1) and clauses (a), (b), (g) and (h) of section 130(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025). They supersede the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2024, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before the supersession. The rules come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette. They are signed by Venkatesapathy S, Joint Secretary, under F. No. SY-19014/185/2025-MG-Part(2)(ii).

The rules cover the safety and security of every Indian ship, including mobile offshore drilling units and high-speed craft, wherever it may be, that meets the requirements in Schedule I; any other ship when it calls at an Indian port or Indian offshore facility, or is at anchorage within Indian jurisdiction; every Indian port facility; and any company owning, operating or managing a vessel or port facility they apply to. The "Administration" is the Director-General of Maritime Administration. It sets security levels for Indian ships, approves ship security plans and verifies ships. The "designated authority" is the Bureau of Port Security, constituted under section 13(1) of the Act. It sets security levels for port facilities and approves their security assessments and plans. Every ship entering a port within India's jurisdiction sends a pre-arrival notification of security (PANS) to the designated authority at least ninety-six hours before arrival, in the Schedule VI form. When the voyage is shorter than ninety-six hours, the notice goes within two hours of leaving the last port.

Each company designates one or more company security officers. Where the company has ships above 500 gross tonnage, that officer holds a Management Level Certificate of Competency (Foreign Going) issued by the Administration and a Company Security Officer Certificate from a training institute. A ship security officer is a management level officer of the ship holding a ship security officer certificate. An initial ship security assessment is done before the ship is put into service. The ship then carries a ship security plan approved by the Administration, in English and the ship's working language, with measures for security levels 1, 2 and 3. Ships registered in India and constructed on or after July 1, 2004, and the older ships listed in rule 12, are fitted with a ship security alert system. Drills take place at least once every three months, and security records are kept on board for at least three years. Schedule I sets, by type and size of vessel, which of these each ship needs. Ships on international voyages get an International Ship Security Certificate, and coastal vessels and River Sea Vessels a Ship Security Certificate.

An International Ship Security Certificate, in the Schedule V format, is issued after an initial or renewal verification. The Administration, a "recognised security organisation" authorized by the

Central Government, or the jurisdictional Mercantile Marine Department issues or endorses it. It lasts for the period the Administration sets, up to five years, with at least one intermediate verification between the second and third anniversary dates. An interim certificate lasts six months, or until the full certificate is issued if that comes first, and can't be extended. A certificate stops being valid if verifications are not completed on time, if it is not endorsed, when a company takes over a ship it did not operate before, or when the ship moves to another flag. Each port facility has a port facility security officer and a port facility security plan approved by the designated authority. For its statement of compliance, it goes through an initial, an intermediate and an annual verification. EXIM port facilities also engage a deputy port facility officer. The Administration or the designated authority decides when a declaration of security is needed, and a ship may also request one, for example when it operates at a higher security level than the port facility.

Schedule VII sets the fees, paid through the Bharat Kosh portal and not refunded, and the measures for breaches. Approving a ship security plan costs Rs. 1,00,000 for worldwide operation and Rs. 50,000 for coastal operation. Approving a port facility's security assessment or plan costs Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 2,00,000, by quay length or type of port. A ship sailing with an expired International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate is detained until it produces a valid one, and its owner pays Rs. 800000. False information in a pre-arrival notification brings detention and Rs. 200000, and each missing or faulty item of security equipment brings detention and Rs. 1,00,000. The rules don't say whether plans, certificates or approvals issued under the 2024 rules stay valid, beyond the saving for things done before the supersession, or what has changed from those rules. Some cross-references don't match: Schedule VII cites rule 31 for fees, which are in rule 32, and Schedule IV cites rule 22(2) for verification, which is rule 23(2). As printed, the heading for approval of a port facility security plan starts at item 26, so single buoy mooring ports appear under it twice, at Rs. 1,00,000 and Rs. 1,50,000.

Issued by	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Document	Notification G.S.R. 909(E), the Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2026
Dated	October 23, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 838, October 23, 2026; Gazette ID CG-DL-E-26102026-277432, put online October 26, 2026
Takes effect	On the date of publication in the Official Gazette; the Gazette is dated October 23, 2026
Made under	Section 130(1) and clauses (a), (b), (g) and (h) of section 130(2) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025)

Replaces	The Merchant Shipping (Ships and Port Facility Security) Rules, 2024, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before the supersession
Applies to	Indian ships, including mobile offshore drilling units and high-speed craft, that meet the requirements in Schedule I; any other ship calling at an Indian port or Indian offshore facility, or at anchorage within Indian jurisdiction; Indian port facilities; companies owning, operating or managing those vessels or port facilities
Administration	The Director-General of Maritime Administration
Designated authority	The Bureau of Port Security, constituted under section 13(1) of the Act
Pre-arrival notification of security	To the designated authority at least ninety-six hours before arrival, in the Schedule VI form; within two hours of departure from the last port if the voyage is shorter than ninety-six hours
Ships listed on the Schedule VI form	Passenger ships including high speed passenger craft; cargo ships, including high-speed craft, of 300 GRT and upwards; mobile offshore drilling units; sailing vessel; yacht
Declaration of security	Required when the Administration or the designated authority determines; a ship may request one in the cases in rule 6(2); completed by the master or ship security officer for the ship and the port facility security officer for the port facility; ships keep the records for at least three years
Certificate by voyage (Schedule I)	International Ship Security Certificate for vessels on international voyages; Ship Security Certificate for coastal vessels and River Sea Vessels (for a River Sea Vessel, included in the "Harmonised Certificate")
International Ship Security Certificate	For the period the Administration specifies, not more than five years; at least one intermediate verification between the second and third anniversary dates
Extensions	Up to five months by endorsement where the renewal verification is done but the new certificate is not issued; up to three months to reach the port of verification; up to one month for a ship on short voyages
Interim certificate	Six months from issue, or until the full certificate is issued, whichever is earlier; not extended
Port facility verification	Initial, intermediate (between the second and third anniversary dates) and annual, for a statement of compliance

Ship security drills	At least once every three months
Records kept on board	At least three years, or as the Administration specifies
Port facility security advisory committee	A port may constitute one; it meets at least once every six months for security review of the port
Fees paid through	The Bharat Kosh portal, www.bharatkosh.gov.in; no fee is refunded
Signed by	Venkatesapathy S, Joint Secretary
File number	F. No. SY-19014/185/2025-MG-Part(2)(ii)

Schedule VII: scale of fees and measures (items 1 to 21 for a shipping company or vessel, items 22 to 44 for major ports and ports other than major ports; each heading in the Items column is shown on the first item it covers, as printed)

Sr. No.	Items	Category	Fees
1.	Ship Security Plan	Approval of the Ship Security Plan-Worldwide	Rs. 1,00,000.
2.		Approval of the Ship Security Plan-Coastal	Rs. 50,000.
3.		Amendment and review of the Ship Security Plan	Rs. 25,000.
4.	Continuous Synopsis Record	Issue of Continuous Synopsis Record	Rs. 30,000.
5.		Amendment to Continuous Synopsis Record	Rs. 15,000.
6.	International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Verification audit visit for International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate (per visit)	Rs. 8,000.
7.		Issuance of International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Rs. 15,000.
8.		Extension or endorsement of International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Rs. 15,000.

9.	Other Fees	Company operating without a qualified Company Security Officer or declaring false name of the Company Security Officer or Alternate Company Security Officer	a) Rs. 5,00,000. b) For repeated non-compliance an additional fee of Rs. 5,00,000 and withdrawal of International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate.
10.		Loss of Ship Security Plan	Rs. 1,00,000. Note: (a.) The Company Security Officer shall make a new Ship Security Plan and change the earlier passwords or code word or contact details or confidential data immediately and report to the Directorate General of Shipping. The Approved Ship Security Plan is to be arranged to be connected expeditiously to the ship; (b.) Fees for the approval of the New Ship Security Plan, in the event of a loss, will be 1.5times more than normal fees, namely- i. for Cargo ship- Rs.1,87,500; ii. passenger ship- Rs.1,95,000.
11.		Fees for re-inspection of a ship subsequent to withdrawal of International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate due to major non-conformities	Rs. 8,00,000.
12.		Carrying out an external security audit of Ship beyond the window period and ship sailing with expired International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Rs. 3,00,000.
13.		If the company requests for an audit in time (6 months before the due date) and recognised Security Organisation is unable to visit the ship for the audit	No fee
14.		Company Security Officer engaged in multiple companies	Rs. 2,50,000.
15.		The ship sailing with an expired International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Detention of vessel till production of valid International or Coastal Ship Security Certification and in addition fees of Rs. 800000 to be paid by the owner.

16.		Ship declaring incorrect information such as false port of calls or any other false information in pre-arrival notification of security	Detention of vessel till declaration of correct port of call or correct information with flag endorsement and in addition fees of Rs. 200000 to be paid by the owner.
17.		Ships not maintaining or not possessing Ship Security Equipment	Detention and Rs. 1,00,000. per faulty equipment or missing equipment.
18.		Ships Automatic Identification System found to be fed with false name/ false call sign/ false ship data	Detention of vessel till Ship security equipment is operational or fitted and in addition fees of Rs. 1,00,000 per faculty or missing equipment to be paid by the owner.
19.		Security or stowaway incidents not reported to the Directorate General of Shipping by the Master or Company Security Officer	Rs. 2,00,000.
20.		Internal Security audit not conducted on time	Rs. 1,00,000.
21.		Repeated observation or non-conformity in the next external security audit of the ship	Rs. 2,00,000. followed by an additional external audit after six months.
22.	Approval of Port Facility Security Assessment	For ports less than 500 M Quay Length	Rs. 50,000.
23.		For ports 500 M to 1000 M Quay Length	Rs. 1,00,000.
24.		For ports above 1000 M Quay Length	Rs. 1,50,000.
25.		For anchorage ports	Rs. 50,000.
26.	Approval of port facility security plan	For single buoy mooring ports	Rs. 1,00,000.
27.		For ports less than 500 M Quay Length	Rs. 1,00,000.

28.		For ports 500 M to 1000 M Quay Length	Rs. 1,50,000.
29.		For ports above 1000 M Quay Length	Rs. 2,00,000.
30.		For anchorage ports	Rs. 1,00,000.
31.		For single buoy mooring ports	Rs. 1,50,000.
32.	Other Fees	Amendment or review of assessment or plan	Rs. 25,000.
33.		Port operating without a qualified Port Facility Security Officer or declaring false name of the Port Facility Security Officer or Deputy Port Facility Security Officer	Rs. 1,00,000.
34.		Port Facility Security Officer found without training certificate from Director General approved institute	Rs. 2,00,000.
35.		Port facilities not addressing or complying within the stipulated time frame on the observations raised during the Port Facility Security Audit	Rs. 2,00,000.
36.		Port not carrying annual or renewal of Port Facility Security audits within window periods	Rs. 2,00,000.
37.		Acting as Port Facility Security Officers for multiple port facilities	Rs. 2,50,000.
38.		Loss of Port Facility Security Assessment or Port Facility Security Plan	Rs. 5,00,000.

39.	Port facility allowing Ships to berth without possession of International or Coastal Ship Security Certificate	Rs. 2,00,000.
40.	Port facility allowing ships with declaration of incorrect pre-arrival notification of Security and not informing to Directorate General of Shipping	Rs. 2,00,000.
41.	Port refusing to exchange Declaration of Security	Rs. 1,00,000.
42.	Security or stowaway incidents not reported to the Directorate General of Shipping by the Port Facility Security Officer or agent	Rs. 2,00,000.
43.	Internal Security audit not conducted on time	Rs. 1,00,000.
44.	Repeated observation or non-conformity in the next external security audit of the port	Rs. 2,00,000 followed by an additional external audit after six months.

The notification (PDF, 1.4 MB)

Source: Gazette of India, CG-DL-E-26102026-277432.

Checked against the official copy on November 1, 2026.

IndusDesk

hello@indusdesk.com · +91 11 4141 3939

9th Floor, Hemkunt House, Rajendra Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110008, India

Read online: indusdesk.com/mopsw/insights/new-ship-and-port-security-rules-set-96-hour-notice-and-fees/