



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

**MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE 01 OF 2020**

F.No: ENG/MMAM-37(03)/2019

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

**Subject: Requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of life boats, rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear for lifeboats, rescue boats, fast rescue boats and davit launched life rafts.**

**A. BACK GROUND:**

- 1) Recalling the measures to prevent accidents with lifeboats (MSC.1/Circ.1206/Rev.1) and the interim recommendation on conditions for authorization of service providers for lifeboats, launching appliances and on-load release gear (MSC.1/Circ. 1277)
- 2) Recognizing the need to establish a uniform, safe and documented standard for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats (including free fall lifeboats) and rescue boats (including fast rescue boats), launching appliances and release gear, the 96th session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee adopted amendments to SOLAS Regulations III/3 (Definitions)& III/20 (operational readiness, maintenance and inspections ) and also adopted requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear vide Resolution MSC 404 (96) and MSC 402(96), respectively.
- 3) The amendments to the international convention for the safety of life at sea, 1974, as amended by Resolution MSC 404 (96) prescribes the mandatory requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliances and release gear for all ships and the requirements stipulated in IMO Resolutions MSC 402(96) regarding requirements for maintenance, thorough examination, operational testing, overhaul and repair of lifeboats and rescue boats, launching appliance and release gear requirements will take effect on 1st January, 2020 upon entry into force of the associated amendments to regulations III/3 and III/20 of the SOLAS Convention.

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