

## भारत सरकार/GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय/MINISTRY OF SHIPPING नौवहन महानिदेशालय/DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING

टेलीफोन: 022 - 25752040/1/2/3 फैक्स: 022 - 25752029/35

ई-मेल: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेब: WWW.dgshipping.gov.in 9वीं मंजिल, बिटा बिल्डिंग/9th floor, Beta Building आई थिंक टेक्नो कैंपस/I-Think Techno Campus कांजूर मार्ग (पूर्व)/Kanjur Marg (East) मुंबई/MUMBAI-400 042

Tele: 022- 25752040/1/2/3 Fax: 022-25752029/35

E-mail: <a href="mailto:dgship-dgs@nic.in">dgship-dgs@nic.in</a>
Web: <a href="mailto:www.dgshipping.gov.in">www.dgshipping.gov.in</a>

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## Utilization of Centralized Port Reception Facility Portal: Swachh Sagar

## 1. Introduction:

India being a signatory to MARPOL Convention is obliged to provide adequate waste reception facilities in its ports for various ship generated wastes. The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, mandates and imposes responsibility for the ports to provide in their own capacity such facilities to the satisfaction of Central Government. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Directorate General of Shipping being the Indian Administration under Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 is responsible to International Maritime Organization and hence obligated to deal with any reported inadequacies of such port reception facility. Over the years, the Directorate has been answering a number of complaints registered on IMO GISIS Website by foreign ships on inadequacy of reception facility in Indian ports.

An assessment of port reception facilities provided by various Indian ports was carried out and it has been noted that many factors such as lack of advance notification; non-availability of details of port reception facility providers on port website; non-availability of port reception facilities for various ship generated waste in some ports and other administrative issues caused inadequacies in service delivery.

In order to facilitate ships and to help Indian ports create an efficient, effective and transparent port reception service delivery, the Directorate has developed an on-line Centralized Port Reception Facility portal. This portal, the link of which is available on DGS Website, is known as "Swachh Sagar". Apart from easing the provision of port reception facility, the portal will capture data to provide following other services in due course: