

In association with R L Institute of Nautical Sciences, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. | RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759 | Monday, October 18, 2021 | Voyage 10 Wave 70



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## Hindu Council of Australia presents "Certificate Of Honour" for the bravery and services of Marine Pilot Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria



Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria

The Hindu Council of Australia felicitated Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria, in the presence of Hon. Alex Hawke, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs of Australia, for his significant accomplishments and display of outstanding seamanship in the service of others

Indian Australian Pilot Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria had earned the prestigious international award, "Certificate of Commendation from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) " for his" Exceptionally brave at Sea " for saving two lives of two Torres Strait Island citizens in adverse weather conditions.

Virtual Felicitation Ceremony for Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria was conducted on 5th October,2021 by Hindu Council of Australia to present the Certificate of Honour.

The ceremony began with warm welcome from emcee Ms. Durga Viswanathan followed by national anthem of each country Australia and India.

Mr. Prakash Mehta, National President of Hindu Council welcomed distinguished guests, august gathering and expressed his proud moments in celebrating outstanding achievements for one of its own member Capt. Ritesh on a prestigious international award

"Certificate of commendation" from international maritime organization. This award recognizes people who risk their life to perform acts of exceptional bravery and outstanding courage. What Capt. Ritesh did was extraordinary. He has shown bravery to save two human lives who were stranded in a shark infested sea on 2nd Dec,2020, he added. He conveyed his hearty congratulation to Capt. Ritesh and best wishes for continuous success in future

Secretary Hindu Council of Australia introduced Capt. Ritesh. Joined sea in 1995, Master since 2009 and migrated to Australia in 2017. Completed Masters' in Business Administration. Over 25 years of experience at sea with 9 years as Master and 4 years as Marine Pilot. A regular Plasma donor and registered as a donor for bone marrow.

High Commission of India, his excellency Shri. Manpreet Vohra thanked Hindu Council of Australia for organizing the function and shared that it is important for all of us to recognize excellence when we see it. He expressed his hearty congratulations to Capt. Ritesh for winning this Certificate of Commendation from the IMO and also for winning the Indian National maritime gallantry award and congratulated his wife Rashmi Ji and both his children for standing behind the success.

Capt. Gajanan Karanjikar, President AIMPA acknowledging all the dignitaries present, expressed his delight for encouraging the maritime pilots in saving lives and that tradition of seed which is been given in safety of life at sea, the bible of merchant navy as we all know, he described. As one of the highest traditions, ever existed is to save life and that is captain's prime duty. Capt. Ritesh escalated to position of pilot did not forget the duty. The celebration is highest because it respect human life. It respectsto help someone who is in danger and constantly be at. It doesn't happen all of sudden. He expressed that to find someone in distress and need of help and having that alertness in mind is the greatest gift humanity has. Capt. Ritesh has put that gift onto very high protestant into maritime community, into Australia and into Hindu Council, so digging all four aspects, Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria's celebration is everyone's celebration today and everyone should pat their back, he voiced.

Alex Hawke, Hon. Minister congratulated Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria for

his great efforts in saving lives at sea and presented the Certificate of Honour. It's a great record recognition from the people here. It's a small token from all of us here in Australia to say thank you and we are very proud of you, proud of your efforts, he conveyed

Dignitaries Mr. Craig Crawford, MP and Michelle Rowland, MP who could not attend had sent their congratulation messages and these were exhibited in the ceremony.

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Marine Pilot Capt. Ritesh Bhamaria conveyed his heartiest thanks to all viewers watching the live ceremony and expressed honour to have been presented with this opportunity to stand in the midst of the distinguished

sense of gratitude for allowing me with this opportunity. I stay humbled having received this award.He attributed this award to the greater community, the greater pilot community and to

the greater world of mariners. Its not only me, it's the whole world marine community who stood firm during the difficult times of Covid and made supply chain moving. I thank Al Mighty Lord Krishna and Shri Swami Narayan Bhagwan for presenting me with this opportunity to serve the mankind and to serve my Karma Bhumi. We believe our Karama Bhumi( land of work ), Matrabhumi the land of our birth that's India and now my Karma Bhumi being Australia and we have the greatest honour for these two places.

I thank the Australia and the Australians for providing me this opportunity and I am also grateful to Hindu Council for allowing me to show my face to the world and allowing me to express my views. Finally I would like to say that any pilot or any mariner would have done same thing in a similar circumstances, these are the virtues which we practiced all through".

The Ceremony came to a delightful end with vote of thanks from corporal of Australian Air Force Ms. Smruti.



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