



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

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China Delays Release Of 16 Stranded Indian.....



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India looks to continue Chabahar port

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Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways....

Concern For Seafarers Hits The Air Waves

Access To Covid Vaccine For Seafarers Is a Must : MASSA



Capt. Shiv Halbe_ CEO- MASSA

A tete-a-tete with CEO of MASSA, Capt. Shiv Halbe, was aired by popular radio station, 92.7 BIG FM on 4th Feb in Mumbai.

Its rare that seafarers and their problems get the attention that they deserve, especially in the mainstream media, and rarer still to get on the airwaves!

MASSA has been advocating the need to include seafarers in the priority list of recipients of the COVID vaccine recently approved by the Govt of India.

Though, India has included seafarers

in the 'key worker' status, they have not yet accorded them the privilege of the 'frontline' workers.

Admittedly, the frontline workers, like the doctors and nurses etc should be amongst the first to be vaccinated against COVID. However, considering that the seafarers are much smaller in number and only about 15000 embark on board every month, the number of vaccine doses required for them is minuscule in comparison. To give an idea, the Ministry of Health and family welfare shows that more than 4 million personnel have been vaccinated in barely 2 weeks. **Thus, the allocation of vaccine for seafarers is like a proverbial 'drop in the ocean'.**

Another point which MASSA has been trying to bring forth is that with the vaccine being based on 'primary and booster' dose, then it will be at least 4 weeks before a seafarer can embark on board after the first dose. **With India making steady progress in the fight against COVID, unfortunately, rest of the world is not faring too well. Thus, it makes it more important that the Indian seafarers are offered a chance to vaccinate themselves before they embark on board, where possibly, be exposed to the dreaded virus.**

'We are appealing to the powers that

be to consider our request, especially, since this will not be a burden on the exchequer in any manner, as we will pay for the vaccine', said **Capt. Shiv Halbe, CEO of MASSA**, when he was contacted for comments.

We sincerely hope that the powers that be pay heed to MASSA's appeal and lend a sympathetic ear to the plight of the seafarers.



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CMA CGM India Introduces First Shipping Line Dedicated Python Train Service

The CMA CGM Group, a world leader in shipping and logistics, announced the launch of CMA CGM - GatewayRail PYTHON Train Service on February 1st, 2021 on Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) from New Kishangarh Junction, Rajasthan.

The two Double stack 'Ship to Rail'

dedicated trains, one leaving from Mundra and the other from Pipavav, were clubbed at New Kishangarh Junction for the onward journey on the WDFC to New Ateli Junction and were split from there for Gateway Rail's Inland Container Depot - Gurugram (Garhi Harsaru)

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