

- (2) ऐसे अड़वाल या गार्ड रेल 100 सेंटीमीटर से कम ऊंचे नहीं होंगे, जिनका मापन डेक के शीर्ष से सबसे ऊपर की रेल के शीर्ष तक मापा जाएगा और जब तक मजबूत जाल प्रदान नहीं किया जाता है, तब तक रेल 230 मिलीमीटर से अधिक अलग नहीं होगी।
- (3) जहां अड़वाल नहीं लगाए गए हैं, यात्रियों की सुरक्षा के लिए मुक्त किए गए पत्तनों पर उपयुक्त ग्रिड लगाए जाएंगे।

[फा. सं. आईडब्ल्यूटी-11011/91/2021-आईडब्ल्यूटी]

सुनील कुमार सिंह, सलाहकार (सांख्यिकी)

## MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

### NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 7th June, 2022

**G.S.R. 423(E).**—Whereas draft of the Inland Vessels (Crew and Passenger Accommodation) Rules, 2022 was published, as required under sub-section (1) of section 106 of the Inland Vessels Act, 2021 (24 of 2021), *vide* notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways vide number G.S.R. 145 (E) dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022 in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022 inviting the objections and suggestions from all persons likely to be affected thereby before the expiry of the period of thirty days from the date on which copies of the Gazette containing the said notification were made available to public;

And, whereas, copies of the said Gazette notification were made available to the public on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2022;

And, whereas the objections and suggestions received from the public in respect of the said draft rules have been considered by the Central Government;

Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) of Section 7 and Section 80 read with clauses (zv) and (zza) of sub-section (2) of section 106 of the Inland Vessels Act, 2021, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely:-

### PART – I

#### PRELIMINARY

**1. Short Title Commencement.** - (1) These rules may be called the Inland Vessels (Crew and Passenger Accommodation) Rules, 2022.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

**2. Definitions.** - (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires -

(a) “Act” means the Inland Vessels Act, 2021 (24 of 2021);

(b) “existing vessel” or “existing inland vessel” means any inland vessel that falls within the ambit of the definition provided under clause (q) of section 3 of the Act;

(c) “major conversion or modification” means any of the following -

(i) change in gross tonnage of the vessel by more than ten per cent.;

(ii) change of vessel type; and

(iii) change of propulsion system/ main engines or type of fuel;

(d) “new inland vessel” means any inland vessel whose keel is laid or which is at a similar stage of construction on or after the date of coming in to force of the rules;

(e) “gross tonnage (GT)” of a vessel is the gross tonnage calculated as per the provisions of the International Tonnage Convention, 1969;

(2) Words and expressions used and not defined in these rules but defined in the Act, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

**PART-II**  
**CLASSIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE**

**3. Categorisation of inland vessels.** - For the purpose of these rules, inland vessels shall be classified in the following categories -

(A) Category – A. - The vessels which falling in this category are the decked vessels of any of the following types-

- (a) vessels, other than houseboats, that are more than 24 metres in length and houseboats of more than 30 metres in length;
- (b) vessels that carry more than 50 passengers on board;
- (c) all vessels equipped for towing other vessels, having a bollard pull capacity exceeding 10 tonnes;
- (d) vessels designed and constructed to carry petroleum goods, chemicals or liquefied gases in bulk as cargo;
- (e) vessels carrying dangerous goods; and
- (f) vessels of 300 gross tonnage and above.

(B) Category-B.- vessels not covered under category A or category C.

(C) Category-C.- vessels of less than 10 metres in length.

**4. Compliance of the requirements.-** (1) All existing inland vessels shall comply with the requirements existing prior to coming into force of these rules;

(2) The owner and master of the new inland vessels, shall ensure that the vessel is constructed, maintained and operated as per the provisions of these rules.

(3) No new inland vessel shall be issued with the certificate of survey under the Inland Vessels (Survey and Certification) Rules, 2022, unless such vessel complies with the standards for the accommodation of crew and passengers under these rules.

(4) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rules (1) to (3), the State Government may apply additional requirements to any category of vessels.

(5) State Governments may exempt any inland vessel that embodies features of a novel kind from any of the provisions of these rules, the application of which might seriously impede research into development of such features and their incorporation in vessels.

**PART-III**  
**RULES FOR VESSELS OF 300 GROSS TONNAGE AND ABOVE**

**5. Application.-** This part shall apply to all “Category-A” vessels of 300 GT and above.

**6. General requirements of accommodation.-** (1) Inland vessels shall have accommodation for the persons lodging habitually on board and for the minimum crew.

(2) Accommodation shall be so designed, arranged and fitted out as meet the health, safety and comfort needs of those on board and the accommodation shall be of safe, and easily accessible and adequately insulated against heat and cold.

(3) For the purposes of sub-rule (2), the crew accommodation and the means of access thereto and egress there from shall be so arranged and constructed to ensure-

- (a) protection of the crew against injury to the practicable extent;
- (b) protection of the crew accommodation against unfavourable environmental conditions;
- (c) exclusion from the crew accommodation of effluvia originating in other spaces in the vessel; and
- (d) exclusion from the crew accommodation, to the practicable extent, of noise originating in other spaces in the vessel.

**7. Special design requirements for accommodation.-** (1) Every part of the crew accommodation, other than pantries, laundries drying rooms, lockers, storerooms sanitary accommodation, passageways, offices, shall be properly lighted by natural light and the community living quarters shall, as far as possible, provide a way out:

Provided that in any space in the vessel it is impracticable to provide proper natural lighting, such lighting shall not be required, if adequate electric lighting is always available in that space.

- (2) Mess rooms and sleeping cabins shall have at least two exits which are as far apart from each other as possible and serve as escape routes and one of the exits may be designed as an emergency exit.
- (3) The requirement of exits under sub-rule(2) shall not apply to rooms with an exit leading directly onto the deck or into a corridor which serves as an escape route and large rooms, such as dormitories shall be provided with two exits and emergency exits, which may include skylights and windows, shall have a clear opening of at least 0.36 square metre and a shortest side not less than 0.50 metre and permit rapid evacuation in an emergency.
- (4) The insulation and cladding of escape routes shall be made of flame-retardant materials and the usability of escape routes shall be guaranteed at all times by appropriate means such as ladders or separately attached rungs.
- (5) The floor area of mess rooms shall be not less than 0.7 square meter per person and the number of persons to be taken into account for this may be limited to 70% of the total crew on board.
- (6) The floor area of sleeping cabins shall be at least 2.5 square metres per person in general and for sleeping cabins accommodating more than one person, the minimum floor area may be reduced to 1.75 square metres per person.
- (7) Doors shall have an opening with a clear width of at least 0.60 metre and the prescribed height may be achieved by means of sliding or hinged covers or flaps.
- (8) Doors shall generally open to the outside except the cabin doors opening into a corridor and it shall be possible to open them from either side.
- (9) Stairways shall be permanently fixed and shall be designed that -
- (a) they are at least 0.60 metre wide;
  - (b) the tread is at least 0.15 metre deep;
  - (c) the steps are non-slip; and
  - (d) stairways with more than three steps are fitted with at least one handrail or handle.
- (10) Pipes carrying dangerous gases or liquids, and particularly those under such a high pressure that a leak could pose a danger to persons, shall not be located in the accommodation spaces or in corridors leading to the accommodation spaces: provided that this sub-rule shall not apply to steam pipes and hydraulic system pipes and provided they are fitted in metal sleeves.

**8. Sanitary Installations.-** (1) The following sanitary installations shall be provided on vessels-

- (a) one toilet per eight crew members which shall have proper ventilation;
- (b) one washbasin per four crew members; and
- (c) one shower or bath per eight crew members.

**9. Galleys.-** (1) For vessels having persons living onboard, a galley shall be provided for the preparation of food: provided that a small pantry with refrigerator and electric heater may be sufficient for vessels designated for operation on short voyages with arrangements for supply of food from outside.

(2) Space and arrangements shall be provided for the storage of dry provisions for the crew having regard to the maximum period likely to elapse between successive replenishments of stores and to the maximum number of persons for whom food is to be served.

(3) Means shall be provided to store perishable provisions and box freezers and cold rooms of adequate capacity shall be provided for this purpose.

**10. Supply of fresh water and drinking water.-** (1) There shall be available a supply of fresh water sufficient for the wash basins, baths and showers fitted in the vessel.

(2) The supply shall be provided from tanks of a capacity of at least 50 litres for each member of the crew for each day likely to elapse between successive replenishments of the water or by other equally efficient means.

(3) There shall be supply of drinking water in the crew accommodation from tanks of an adequate capacity, having due regard to the number of persons in the crew and time likely to elapse between successive replenishments of the water and other efficient means may be accepted in lieu of this arrangement.

(4) Potable water installations shall-

- (a) be made of a material on their inner surfaces which resists corrosion and poses no physiological danger;
- (b) be free of pipe sections where a regular flow of water is not guaranteed; and
- (c) be protected against excessive heating.

- 11. Air Conditioning and ventilation.-** (1) Crew accommodation areas shall be adequately ventilated.
- (2) The enclosed parts of crew accommodation shall be ventilated adequately even when the doors are closed and the ventilation shall ensure adequate air circulation in all climatic conditions.
- (3) The accommodation shall be so designed and arranged to prevent the entry of foul air from other areas of the vessel such as engine rooms or holds.
- (4) Where provided, the air conditioning system, of a centralized type shall be so designed to—
- maintain the air at a satisfactory temperature of 28°C with 50 per cent. relative humidity when ambient temperature is 35°C with 70 per cent. relative humidity;
  - ensure eight air changes per hour in any mess room or recreation room and six air changes in any other room, the amount of re-circulated air not exceeding 50 per cent. at any stage, while on voyage.
- 12. Other accommodation installations.-** Each crew member living on board shall have an individual berth and an individual clothes locker fitted with a lock.
- 13. Construction of bulkheads and panelling.-** (1) All bulkheads enclosing or within any part of the crew accommodation shall be properly constructed of steel or other suitable material and if the bulkheads are exposed to the weather, they shall be of watertight construction and means of closure shall be provided for all opening in such bulkheads so as to enable them to be made weather tight.
- (2) If the partitions or bulkheads within the accommodation spaces are not constructed of steel then the paneling/ceiling used in the accommodation shall be made of non-combustible material of an approved quality.
- (3) Any bulkhead which separates any part of the crew accommodation (other than a recreation deck space) from a space used as—
- an oil fuel bunker;
  - a cargo or machinery space;
  - a lamp room or paint room;
  - a store room not forming part of the crew accommodation (other than a dry provision store room);
  - a chain locker; or
  - a cofferdam;
- shall be gas tight, and shall be water tight to protect the crew accommodation.
- (4) Any inside panelling in the crew accommodation shall be constructed of a suitable material with a surface, which can be easily kept clean.
- (5) Neither bulkheads nor inside panelling shall be constructed with tongued and grooved boarding or in a manner or with material likely to harbour vermin.
- 14. Overhead decks and flooring.-** (1) Every overhead deck exposed to the weather shall be constructed of steel or equivalent material.
- (2) Every deck which forms the floor in the crew accommodation shall be properly constructed and shall have a surface which provides a good foothold and is capable of being easily kept clean.
- (3) The floor covering shall be impervious to water and if the deck is situated on the top of oil tank, the covering shall be impervious to oil.
- 15. Medical cabinet.-** Every vessel shall carry the following medical appliances for the use of crew-
- one number of first aid box not less than that prescribed for a life boat; and
  - one number of stretcher for easy evacuation of casualties.
- 16. Protection from mosquitoes and rats.-** (1) The crew accommodation, other than galleys, storerooms and recreation spaces on the open deck, shall be provided with protection against the admission of mosquitoes.
- (2) The protection referred to in sub-rule (1) shall be provided by means of screens of rust proof wire or other suitable material which shall be fitted to all side scuttles, natural ventilators, skylights and doors leading to the open deck and by providing mosquito nets to individual crew members.
- (3) Effective rat proofing measures are to be provided.

**PART-IV****RULES FOR VESSELS OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED UNDER PART-III**

**17. Application.-** (1) The provisions of this part shall apply to all Category A passenger vessels other than those covered under Part-III.

(2) These rules may be applied to Category B passenger vessels, in so far as they are considered practicable and reasonable by the Designated Authority.

**18. Maximum passenger numbers.-** The number of passengers allowed onboard shall be determined on the basis of the-

- (a) stability requirements given in Inland Waterways (Design and Construction Rules), 2022; and
- (b) clear deck area requirements under Rule 20.

**19. Allowable Passenger Spaces.-** (1) Only one passenger deck is permitted below the waterline and bulkhead deck and passenger spaces do not include-

- (a) toilets
- (b) companion ways or stairways or means of escape and any passageway less than 750 millimetre wide;
- (c) areas permanently occupied by safety equipment and other vessel related to operational equipment; and
- (d) Areas designed for the safe operation of the vessel such as-
  - (i) Machinery or navigation or mooring;
  - (ii) enclosed vehicle carrying spaces provided on Ro-Ro vessels; and
  - (iii) open deck vehicle carrying spaces.

(2) In assessing the clear area for enclosed spaces, the space occupied by tables and permanent fittings shall be excluded.

(3) For open deck spaces, the clear area shall be measured between points within which the surveyor considers the area fit for the safe and proper accommodation of passengers.

(4) Clear area means the area which remains after they are occupied by hatchways, skylights, companionways, casings, ventilators, navigating space, luggage lockers and lifesaving appliances carried on the open deck and lockers.

(5) The decks on which passengers are accommodated shall form part of the permanent structure of the vessel and shall be of adequate strength:

Provided that if any deck is constructed of wood, it shall be properly laid and caulked and shall be continuous from side to side of the space in which the passengers are carried.

(6) Lamp rooms, paint rooms and spaces used for the storage of inflammable oils shall not have a direct access to the passenger accommodation by doors or situated as to constitute a danger of passengers and passengers shall not be accommodated in a space adjoining an oil fuel bunker unless the space is separated from the bunker by an additional steel vapour proof bulkhead so that the space between the two bulkheads is well ventilated and accessible.

(7) For the purpose of sub-rule (8) passenger accommodation may be situated on a deck forming the crown of an oil fuel space if-

- (a) the deck is oil-tight;
- (b) passenger space is well ventilated;
- (c) no manhole or other opening to oil fuel space exists in passenger spaces; and
- (d) flooring of passenger space is of a material and of a thickness approved by the Designated Authority for the purpose.

(8) Passenger accommodation shall be separated from cargo spaces, store rooms, lamp rooms and paint rooms and other space used for storage of inflammable oils by means of gas-tight steel bulkheads and decks.

**20. Clear deck areas.-** (1) Where only seating accommodation is provided, the number of passengers allowed for a passenger space shall be determined by dividing the clear area excluding passages in square metres by 0.60.

(2) Where passengers are allowed access to the top of deckhouses, the number of passengers allowed shall be determined by dividing the clear deck area excluding passages in square metres by 0.85.

**21. Provision of Cabin Berths.-** (1) Where the duration of voyage is more than 24 hours, proper sleeping berths shall be provided.

(2) The number of fixed berths properly constructed and fitted shall determine the number of passengers allowed to be carried in cabin class accommodation provided in any vessel.

(3) No cabin accommodating cabin class passengers shall contain more than eight such berths.

(4) There shall not be more than two tiers of berths in any cabin and there shall be provided not less than 3.35 square metres of clear space for each cabin class passenger and where small berths are fitted for children, the total space allocated shall be 3.5 square metre for every pair of such berths.

**22. Provision of bunks.-** (1) Where bunk spaces are provided for the accommodation of passengers, in lieu of cabin berths, such bunks shall comply with the following requirements-

(a) the size of a bunk shall not be less than 1.90 meters long and 0.70 meters wide;

(b) every bunk shall give direct access to a passage-way and the passage-ways shall be so arranged to give ready access to an escape route;

(c) the width of passage-ways shall be not less than 0.70 metre;

(d) bunks may be fitted in single or double tiers and the following requirements shall be complied with, namely:-

(i) the distance between the deck and the base of the lower bunk shall not be less than 0.45 meter;

(ii) the distance between the base of the lower bunk and the base of the upper bunk shall not be less than 0.90 meter;

(iii) the distance between the base of the upper bunk and the underside of any overhead obstruction shall not be less than 0.90 meter; and

(iv) suitable means shall be provided with access to upper bunks.

(e) bunks shall be fitted with lee boards or lee rails and where bunks are fitted side by side suitable means of separation shall be provided;

(f) bunks and their fittings shall be constructed of metal and shall be of the type approved by the Designated authority;

(g) no bunk shall be fitted within 0.90 metre of any hatch opening except where such opening are trunked or otherwise protected to the satisfaction of the Designated Authority.

(h) no bunk shall be fitted within 0.60 metre of the face of the frames, sparring or linings at a vessel's side;

(i) no bunk shall be fitted within 0.75 metre of the entrance of any stairway or ladder way, wash place, lavatory or battery or latrines or of any water tap or fire hydrant; and

(j) no bunk shall be fitted in space or part there of which in the opinion of the Designated Authority, is unsuitable for accommodation of bunk class passengers.

(2) Total number of bunks provided in any vessel shall be such to ensure that the number of a passengers carried in a space does not exceed the gross volume of that space in cubic metres divided by 3.06 cubic metres.

**23. Passenger seating.** - (1) Where the voyage is of not more than 24 hours duration, passengers may be accommodated in spaces where only seating accommodation is provided.

(2) Every passenger shall be provided with a seat, subject to the sub-rules (3) and (4).

(3) Inland vessels operating on short voyages of 30 minutes or less need to provide seating for 50 % of passengers, provided the motions and accelerations in all normal operation would not make standing difficult.

(4) All seating and furniture shall normally be fixed and any moveable furniture may be permitted, provided that the same shall not be a hazard or impede escape in the event of an emergency.

Explanation. - For the purpose of this sub-rule, seating may be individual seat or bench type seating.

(5) If seating is removed to accommodate a specific operation or function, the number of passengers shall be reduced accordingly.

**24. Minimum seat dimensions.** - (1) Suitable clear space shall be allowed for access, assembly and escape with a minimum width of 750 millimetres being provided.

- (2) A length of 450 millimetres measured horizontally along the front of each seat shall be allowed for the accommodation of seated passengers.
- (3) When any space in front of a seat is required for access, the space within 230 millimetres of the front of the seat shall not be taken into account when measuring the width of the access.
- (4) The distance between any part of the back rest of any seat and the back rest of the seat facing it, shall not be less than 1600 millimetres.
- (5) There shall be a clear space of at least 680 millimetres in front of the backrest of any seat measured from the centre of each seat and a clear space of at least 310 millimetres in front of any part of that seat.
- (6) There shall be a clear space of at least 620 millimetres between any part of the front of a transverse seat, and any part of any other seat which faces it.
- (7) The number of passengers accommodated by bench seating shall be by dividing the length in metres of each continuous fixed seat by 0.45 and the measurements being taken along the inner edge of the seats and buoyant apparatus may be used for seating.

**25. Spaces unfit for passenger accommodation.-** (1) Accommodation for passengers shall not be provided in any of the following spaces, namely-

- (a) any deck lower than the one immediately below the waterline or bulkhead deck;
- (b) any part of the between deck where the clear headroom is less than 1.90 metres; and
- (c) frontside of the collision bulkhead or the upward extension thereof.

(2) During rainy season, no space on the weather deck shall be measured as being available for passenger accommodation except that it may be measured as airing space.

**26. Lighting and Ventilation.-** (1) All passenger accommodation spaces shall be efficiently ventilated and lighted during both day and night.

(2) Every part of the accommodation, other than pantries, laundries drying rooms, lockers, storerooms sanitary accommodation, passageways, shall be properly lighted by natural light.

(3) Wherever possible, natural lighting shall be provided and if in any space in the vessel, it is impracticable to provide proper natural lighting, such lighting shall not be required if adequate electric lighting is always available in that space.

(4) In every new passenger vessel the enclosed parts of the passenger accommodation shall be ventilated by a system, which shall maintain the air therein in a state of purity adequate for the health and comfort of the passengers and such system shall be capable of being so controlled as to ensure a sufficiency of air movement under all conditions of weather and climate to which the vessel is likely to be subjected, during the voyages on which she is intended to be engaged and shall be additional to any side scuttles, skylights, companions, doors or other apertures not intended solely for ventilation.

(5) In every passenger vessel, as a minimum, adequate fans shall be provided in the enclosed spaces of the accommodation.

(6) Where the air conditioning system is provided, whether of a centralized type or individual unit type, the same shall be designed to-

- (a) maintain the air at a satisfactory temperature of 28° with 50 per cent. relative humidity when ambient temperature is 35°C with 70 per cent. relative humidity; and
- (b) ensure eight air changes per hour in any mess room or recreation room and six air changes in any other room, the amount of re-circulated air not exceeding 50 per cent. at any stage, while on voyage.

**27. Protection from mosquitoes and rats.-** (1) Passenger accommodation spaces, other than galleys, storerooms and recreation spaces on the open deck, shall be provided with protection against the admission of mosquitoes.

(2) The protection referred to in sub-rule (1) shall be provided by means of screens of rust proof wire or other suitable material which shall be fitted to all side scuttles, natural ventilators, skylights and doors leading to the open deck.

(3) Effective rat proofing measures are to be provided in accommodation spaces.

**28. Airing space.-** Where the duration of voyage exceeds 4 hours, airing space shall be provided for all passengers at the scale of 0.5 square metre per passenger and such airing space shall be marked conspicuously.

**29. Marking of spaces.-** Any space intended for the accommodation of passengers shall be conspicuously marked at or near the entrance to that space indicating the number of such passengers that the space is certified to accommodate.

**30. Provision of medical stores.-** Every passenger vessel carrying more than 100 passengers and on voyages of more than 24 hours shall carry medicine, medical stores disinfectants, and surgical appliances as may be specified by the Designated Authority.

**31. Toilet facilities.-** (1) For vessels provided with seating accommodation only, toilet facilities shall be provided for the use of all seated passengers, and the number of toilets shall be as follows-

(a) up to 50 passengers 1 water closets (WCs);

(b) up to 100 passengers 2 WCs; and

(c) for each additional 100 passenger, or part thereof 2 WCs or 1 WC and 1 urinal.

(2) Separate toilets shall be set apart for the exclusive use for male and female passengers and fitted with entirely separate entrances and all toilets shall be clearly marked and lighted to indicate whether they are intended for use of male or female passengers.

(3) For vessels provided with sleeping accommodation, four toilets shall be provided for the first hundred passengers and two toilets for every additional fifty passengers.

(4) The requirements provided in sub-rule (1) may be relaxed for open inland vessels and those vessels engaged on voyages of less than 30 minutes duration, provided that WCs are provided in the vicinity of embarkation or disembarkation places.

(5) All sanitary facilities shall be sufficiently ventilated.

**32. Wash places and baths.-** (1) In passenger vessels performing voyages exceeding 48 hours duration, there shall be provided for the exclusive use of passengers washing facilities, namely-

(a) one wash basin or sink with running fresh water for every 25 passengers; and

(b) one water tap or shower for bathing for every 25 passengers or part thereof and at least one tap or shower shall also be fitted to supply running hot water and so regulated as to prevent scalding.

(2) Every passenger vessel performing a voyage of less than 48 hours duration but not less than 24 hours shall be provided with wash basins, taps or showers at half of the facilities provided in sub-rule (1).

(3) Every passenger vessel performing a voyage not exceeding 24 hours shall be provided one wash place for male passengers and one for female passengers and each of such wash basins or sinks shall be functional with running cold fresh water.

(4) Where the voyages exceed 12 hours duration, showers or taps with fresh running water shall be provided in each wash place.

(5) At least one wash place shall be set apart for the exclusive use of female passengers.

**33. Supply of food, fuel and water.-** (1) Every passenger vessel on voyages exceeding 6 hours shall have provisions for food, beverages and drinking water to the passengers.

(2) In no case a passenger shall be permitted to cook food on board.

(3) There shall be fresh water of not less than 22.5 litres per day supplied to passengers for all purposes inclusive of the quantity necessary for drinking.

(4) Fresh water may be carried in double bottom tanks or in other tanks fitted above double bottoms or any other tanks fitted for this purpose.

(5) All fresh water tanks shall be cleaned, cement washed or if coated with bituminous plastic or other proprietary composition, re-coated where necessary shall be aired and disinfected at intervals not exceeding 12 months and in addition, the tanks shall be thoroughly pumped out, hosed and disinfected prior to refilling at six months intervals.

(6) The disinfection as provided under sub-rule (5) shall be carried out under the supervision of the Port health Officer or Officer appointed by the Designated Authority.

(7) There shall be provided on every deck used by passengers, efficient means for the regular supply of cold, fresh and potable drinking water suitably distributed in the passenger spaces.

**34. Guard rails and stanchions.-** (1) All passenger vessels carrying passengers shall be provided with bulwarks or guard rails on every deck to which the passengers have access.



- (2) Such bulwarks or guard rails shall be not less than 100 centimeters high, measured from the top of the deck to the top of the uppermost rail and the rails shall be not more than 230 millimeters apart unless strong netting is provided.
- (3) Where bulwarks are fitted, the freeing ports shall be fitted with suitable grids for protection of passengers.

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