

**ADVISORY FOR INDIAN SEAFARERS IN THE GULF OF GUINEA
(NIGERIA, BENIN AND CAMEROON)**

Of late, cases of Indian seafarers in distress on board merchant vessels in the Gulf of Guinea (Nigeria, Benin and Cameroon) have come to the notice of the High Commission of India, Abuja, Nigeria. The complaints received from the seafarers include non-payment of salaries, poor working conditions on ships, inadequate supplies of food, water and fuel, absence of proper medical care, inaction on the part of the local agents and agencies in India and delays in sign-off.

2. An analysis of the common cases; reveals the recruitment of the Indian seafarers through unregistered companies and unscrupulous agents in India who dupe the seamen by making promises of jobs/employment which turn out to be hollow once the seafarers arrive abroad.

3. The seafarers are thus advised to exercise due diligence and take up jobs offers only through authorised Recruitment and Placement Services License (RPSL) recruiters and agents in India, in accordance with guidelines of Ministry of Shipping.

4. Notwithstanding the above, in case Indian seafarers fall into distress they should contact the High Commission of India, at the following co- ordinates; for assistance:-

High Commission of India, Abuja

(a) Mr. Sreenivasan Nair

Email- cons1.abuja@mea.gov.in

Mobile- +234-9070349989

(b) Mr. A.S. Prem Ramyo

Emergency No- +234-9070343860

Office of High Commission of India, Lagos

(a) Mr Ramesh Subbu

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