Members of Parliament who are members of this board would meet the Finance Minister and impress upon him the urgency to resolve this long standing issue.

b. **Extension of scheme of subsidy for the shipbuilding industry**

Ministry's representative informed that the proposal for subsidy to shipbuilding structure is under the consideration of government.

c. **Piracy issues**

Ms Lakshmi Venkatachalam, Director General of Shipping (DG) informed the members about the recent IMO Resolution 1025(26) and 1026(27), tiled as 'Djibuti Code of Conduct' which is an agreement between African nations around Somalia for legislation framework to deal with captured pirates. She also highlighted that there have been incidents of piracy where a merchant ship was taken over by the pirates in an area about 1000 nautical miles off the coast of Somalia and this was a worrying factor in combating the menace of piracy. She further emphasized that combating the piracy is essentially a subject to be dealt by Law enforcement agencies such as Navy and Coastguard and the DGS has the function of dealing with situational issues such as dealing with families of affected seafarers, payment of compensation etc.

NA informed that in 2007, there were only 4 ships and 28 seafarers affected by piracy and in 2008 and 2009, this figure had increased to 42 ships, 188 seafarers and 47 ships, 350 seafarers, respectively.

Rear Adm. Lamba, representing the Indian Navy informed that Indian Navy has one ship stationed in the region which escorts 4-6 Indian ships every month as against the total of about 20-30 Indian ships that operate in and out of the region every month. He also informed that there are presently 30 Naval ships of 27 Navies operating in the area and that a 'Task Force 1.51' has been set up in the region which

comprises of European Navies. President INSA intervened to inform that considering the voyage time through the affected area is about 2 days and therefore it takes 4 days for Indian naval ship to come back to escort next convoy, it is not commercially feasible for Indian ships to wait for being escorted by Indian naval ship.

d. **Coastal Policy**

Ministry's representative informed that the draft coastal policy is being examined in the department in consultation with the concerned Ministries/Departments.

7. Presentation on recent casualties by Capt. Deepak Kapoor

Thereafter, Capt. Kapoor was invited to make his presentation on recent casualties on ships loading iron ore fines ex-Indian ports. Copy of this presentation is at **Annexure III**. Subsequent to a very comprehensive presentation, Shri S. B. Agnihotri, Jt. DG inquired if similar status were also available from foreign ports which export iron ore. Capt. Kapoor clarified that the major iron ore exporting countries in the world are India, Brazil and South Africa and he had not come across similar incidents of casualties from these countries.

It was generally agreed that major cause of these recent shipping casualties was excessive moisture content in the iron ore fine that were loaded in Paradeep and Mangalore during the monsoon months.

8. Presentation on 'Criminalization of Seafarers' by Capt. V. K. Gupta, Master, CMMI

Capt Gupta presented a paper on Criminalization of seafarers. This presentation is enclosed at **Annexure IV**. During his presentation, Capt. Gupta brought out the seafarer's perspective and the related international law and inter-governmental measures to safeguard the interests of seafarers. Capt Gupta emphasized the need for a) adoption of

model contract of employment, b) prompt and effective state support at diplomatic level and c) the need to create maritime constituency where such issues could be raised for expeditious solutions.

9. Presentation on 'Marine Algae – a potential candidate for Bio-diesel Production by Prof. Dr. N. M. Ramaswamy

Prof. Dr. Ramaswamy, Member of NSB presented a paper on Marine Algae. This presentation is enclosed at **annexure V.** During the presentation, Dr. Ramaswamy comprehensively dealt with the subject of marine algae and its future uses as fuel of the future. He informed that the most practical and achievable rotes to production of biofuel from micro algae is the production of methane from anaerobic digestion of micro algal biomass.

10. Discussions on the subject of **'Need to amend the coasting vessel Act, 1838 and the Inland Vessels Act, 1917** were not taken up since Shri M.K.Pandhe, who had forwarded this agenda point, was not present in the meeting.

11. "Formulation of Pilot SOPs for Port Security

DIG MV Baadkar, Chief of staff, Coast Guard Region (West), representing the Indian Coast Guard informed that the subject of formulation of SOPs for ports is being addressed by the Coast Guard in the Coastal Command structure.

12. Overcoming the threat to marine environment from ships sunk off India's coastline

DIG MV Baadkar informed that about 3,000 tonnes of oil pollution has damaged the marine life on Indian coast. He also informed that 12 vessels had sunk in the last 4 years on the Indian coast endangering the

marine environment. He emphasized the need for stringent legislation binding on the ship-owner and the P & I Club.

Chairman enquired about the list of ships from the representative of Indian Coast Guard and after a brief discussion on the subject, it was decided that DGS and Indian Coast Guard shall have a bilateral meeting to resolve the issues.

Rear Adm. Sunil Lamba, FOMAG, representing Indian Navy, brought to the notice of the Board that many a times the vessels plying in the Offshore Defence Area, undertake change of crew without approval form the Indian Navy. He emphasized that it is mandatory of the vessel's owner/manager to obtain the security clearance from the Indian Navy for operating in the offshore defence area and that the required Naval clearance includes approval of crew list of the ship and therefore it is mandatory that any change of crew should not be done without the permission of the Navy.

DG(S) noted that it would be prudent to also invite the representation of MHA for fruitful discussion on the issues related to security clearance of crew and other immigration related issues. Chairman agreed with the suggestion.

13. Resolutions of the NSB Board meeting

a. INSA would prepare a 'Position Paper' on income taxation on Indian seafarers and a delegation of NSB members comprising of Honb'le members of Parliament would meet with the Union Finance Minster and present the case for waiver of Income Taxation for Indian seafarers.

(Action: INSA & NSB members)

b. **Govt. to issue guidelines for loading of iron ore fines ex- Indian ports.**

(Action: Ministry of Shipping)

c. **Ministry of shipping to consider measures for strengthening legislative mechanism strengthen port entry Rules.**

(Action: Ministry of Shipping)

14.0 Meeting ended with Vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

List of Members and Special Invitees participated in the 112th Meeting of the National Shipping Board held on 08th January,2010 at 1000 hours at Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai.

Sr. No.	Name of the Member/Special Invitee	Name of Organization represented	Signature
1.	Capt. P.V.K. Mohan,	Chairman, NSB.	
2.	Lakshmi Venkatachala	DG. Shipping	
3.	Somendra Nath Mitra	M.P. (R.S.)	
4.	M JITENDRAN	CMD Cochin Shipyard	
5.	Rahul Asthana	Chairman MbAT	
6.	S.K. SINGH	Dy Chairman MbPT	
7.	CMDT J NEHRU MUGHAD	MP LOK SABHA	
8.	HAMDULLAH SAYEED	MP LOK SABHA	
9.	K. B. Shanappa	MP RS	
10.	S. HAJARA	President, INSA CMD, SCI	
11.	Y. D. KHATAU.	VC MD Various Shipping Ltd	
12.	V. K. GUPTA	MASTER Company of Master Mariner	
13.	ANIL DEVLI	PRESIDENT, of India Mercator Lines Ltd.	
14	RETHREKAR, M.J	Vice President of National Union of Seafarers (NUSI)	
15	S. S. Khan	General Secretary Maritime Union Of India	
16	SADHAN KANJILAL	GENERAL SECRETARY, FORWARD SEAMEN'S UNION OF INDIA	
17	PRADEEP KUMAR	Member (Finance) Inland waterways Authority	
18	S. B. AGNIHOTRI	Jt DG Shipping & India	

19	Manoj Baadkar	DIG	INDIAN COAST GUARD
20	G. S. Bhalla	Indian Coastal Confed SCI	
21	R Adm. Sunil Lamba FONAC	INDIAN NAVY	
22	Smt. JACINTA JOSE	Dy. Secy. M/Shipping New Delhi	
23	A. BANERJEE	D-G Shipping	
24	CAPT. M. M. SAGGI	D.G. Shipping	
25	CAPT L.K. PANDA	P.O MMD KOLKATA	
26	Prof Dr N.M. Ramaswamy	Chairman, NMRFRD, Che	
27	Deepak Kapoor	D. G. Shipping	
28	ANANT GEETE	M.P. (L.S.)	
29	Capt H. Khatri	Dy DG Shipping	
30	Darse. Sampad	DD G, DG Shipping	
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
38			
39			
40			