

Seafarer's Welfare Fund Society (SWFS)

The Seafarers' Welfare Fund Society (SWFS) was set up by the Government of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, to look after the welfare of Indian seafarers and their families.

The SWFS is managed under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways. A Committee of Management, which includes members from the Indian shipping community, oversees its work.

- 1. Survivor Benefit Scheme (SBS):**
Financial assistance to the family of a deceased Indian seafarer
- 2. Invalidity Benefit Scheme (IBS):** Support for Indian seafarers declared permanently unfit for the sea
- 3. Family Benefit Welfare Scheme (FBWS):**
Provides support to dependent families of Indian Seafarers
- 4. Maternity Benefits Scheme (MBS):**
Financial assistance for Indian women seafarers during maternity
- 5. Old Age Benefit Welfare Scheme (OABWS):**
Assistance for seafarers who attain the age of 65 years on or after 01.01.2019
- 6. Death on Board Benefit Scheme (DBBS):**
Support in cases of death or presumed death occurring on board
- 7. Ex-Gratia Support Benefit Scheme (ESBS):**
Additional financial aid for specific cases of hardship
- 8. Award to Meritorious Child of Seafarers (AMCS):** Educational incentives for children of Indian Seafarers



FOSMA

The Foreign Owners Representatives and Ship Managers Association (FOSMA), established in 1989, represents foreign shipowners and managers in India, promoting their interests and fostering collaboration. Registered as a non-profit, it addresses industry issues with authorities and supports seafarer welfare, training and education through its dedicated institutes, FOSMA Maritime Institute and Research Organisation. FOSMA is also represented on SWFS Committee of Management (CoM).

 www.fosma.net



An Overview of Welfare Schemes by

Seafarers' Welfare Fund Society (SWFS)

Seafarers' Welfare Fund Society (SWFS) Schemes

1. Survivor's Benefit Scheme (SBS)

- ₹2,00,000 for death occurred on or after 16.03.2016 and ₹4,00,000 for death occurred on or after 29.04.2024
- Death within 24 months off article period w.e.f. 29.4.2024
- Paid to the nominee registered for the last voyage before death.
- The deceased seafarer should be last engaged through Indian Shipping Co./RPSL.
- Claim to be submitted within 3 years from the date of death.

2. Invalidity Benefit Scheme (IBS)

- ₹2,00,000 for permanent disability on or after 16.03.2016 and ₹6,00,000 for permanent disability on or after 29.04.2024 - Disability due to loss of limbs
- Permanent unfitness due to accidental injury within 24 months off article period w.e.f. 29.4.2024
- Claim to be submitted within 03 years from the date of certificate issued by the DGS approved medical practitioner

3. Maternity Benefit Scheme (MBS)

- Only for Indian female seafarers having sea service through Indian Shipping company or RPS, before 60 months of delivery
- ₹25,000 per delivery (maximum for 2 deliveries)
Claim to be submitted within 2 years of delivery; delivery after 21.08.2014.

4. Family Benefit Welfare Scheme (FBS)

- ₹50,000 (daughter or son of the seafarer) on completion of Pre-Sea training course from DGS approved Training Institute & obtains CDC
- ₹25,000 (daughter or son of the seafarer) on completion of post-graduation full time 2 years Degree/Diploma course (other than maritime stream) approved by Indian University / AICTE
- The seafarer should have minimum 6 months sea service after 01.04.2014
- Application to be submitted within 12 months of course completion

5. Old Age Benefit Scheme (OABS)

- ₹50,000 for seafarers holding Indian CDC and on completion of age 65 years on/after 01.01.2019
- The seafarer should have minimum 6 months sea service after age 55 (post 01.04.2014) through Indian Shipping company or RPSL
- Indian CDC must be cancelled

6. Death On Board Benefit Scheme (DBBS)

- ₹2,00,000 ex-gratia assistance to the nominee registered for the vessel
- Any type of death on board or presumed death on board, on/after 12.03.2025
- Indian CDC holder and Bonafide employment through Indian Shipping Co./RPSL
- Application to be submitted within 3 months of death/missing

7. Ex-Gratia Support Benefit Scheme (EBSS)

- ₹10,000/month ex-gratia support paid to the nominee for maximum 12 months or till the point of abandonment of the seafarer, whichever is earlier, in respect of stranded/abandoned Bonafide seafarers
- Applicable for stranded/abandoned on/after 12.03.2025
- Assistance is paid after 2 months of being stranded, based on confirmation from local authorities.
- Application to be submitted within 2 months from date of stranded/abandonment

8. Award to Meritorious Child of Seafarers (ACSS) wef 12.03.2025

- Cash award of ₹25,000 paid for children of the seafarer, who top in full-time degree/PG Degree course from Indian University (non-maritime).
- Application to be submitted within 2 months of university confirmation

To download the Welfare Scheme Application Form, Scan the QR Code.



Important Contacts:

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