

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

**Sub: Big attack on Indian Seafarers by new Income Tax Tribunal judgement**

**Removal of Income Tax benefit to seafarers on Indian and Foreign Flag ships**

**All** Officers, Petty Officers and Ratings, whether working on **Indian** or **foreign** flags ships have been getting income tax benefits if they qualify for the **non-resident** status. This benefit has been received by all seafarers for **decades**.

Recently an Income Tax tribunal judgement from Kolkata dated 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2016 has **denied** this benefit to the seafarers. This has resulted in many seafarers from Kolkata being sent notice from the Income Tax Department. This judgement will have **negative** effect on the income of seafarers residing in other parts of India also. If this judgement is not challenged, then it will **snatch** away the Income Tax benefits presently received by thousands of seafarers working on all Indian or foreign flag ships.

This will lead to payment of **heavy** income Tax on the whole income, even when the seafarer is non-resident whether serving on Indian or Foreign Flag ships.

The **Maritime Union of India (MUI)** and the **National Union of Seafarers of India (NUSI)** are jointly challenging the Kolkata Tribunal judgement. MUI and NUSI do not want our Officers, Petty Officers and Ratings who are sailing on the high seas, away from and for family, under difficult conditions to **suffer**, because of this judgement. We are also taking up the matter in the statutory National Shipping Board (NSB) meeting in New Delhi.

But we want **your strong support**. To make a strong case, all seafarers will have to send a PETITION in support of the efforts of MUI and NUSI. In case the Officers, Petty Officer or the Ratings are onboard their ships, then their **family members** can also send the PETITION on their behalf. The more PETITIONS we get, the more strong will be our case. All seafarers are directed to fill-in the details in the attached PETITION which will also enable us to get in touch with you in case we require to do so.

Officers should send their petition **by email** to mail@maritimeunionofindia.com **or by post** to The Maritime Union of India, Udyog Bhavan, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 29 Walchand Hirachand Marg, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 001.

Petty Officers and Ratings should send their petition **by email** to nusi@vsnl.com **or by post** to National Union of Seafarers of India, NUSI Bhavan, 4 Goa Street, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 001.

**Only those who give us their details in the petition will get priority and benefit of MUI and NUSI efforts.**

Treat this as **important** and **urgent** for your compliance in your **own** interest.

Yours sincerely,

Amar Singh Thakur  
General Secretary,  
**The Maritime Union of India**

Abdulgani Y. Serang  
General Secretary – cum – Treasurer  
**National Union of Seafarers of India**