

Aero Medical Evacuation from Ships Not Equipped with Helipad

The Indian maritime sector has entered a high-growth phase fuelled by the country's spectacular economic growth and rapidly increasing seaborne trade. The most striking feature of this development is the simultaneous buoyancy in all the sub-sectors shipping, ports and shipbuilding. This provides tremendous opportunities for all the players in the maritime field.

As per Lloyd's-Fairplay 'World Fleet Statistics for 2006', the country's ranking in terms of gt was 20th amongst major maritime countries of the world. In DWT terms, the country stood 15th. With the fleet acquisition plans currently undertaken by the shipping companies, it is hoped that the country's fleet will cross 10-million GT mark shortly. Since the country's ex-im trade is expected to double (and touch 1 billion tones) by 2011-12, from the present 450 million tones, in order to maintain the present share of ships in the carriage of India's overseas trade at about 14 per cent, the country's shipping tonnage is being rapidly expanded from the present 9 million GT to about 20 million GT.

Global Air Rescue 999 headed by Dr.G.Sairamanan M.D. is approved by the Director General of Shipping to take care of the medical aspects including medical evacuation and hospitalization for the shipping fraternity and most of the oil exploration companies.

It will be of great use to evacuate any medical emergency as most of the ships and oil exploration vessels do not have helipads on board for landing helicopters.

If a helicopter Operator with NSOP is in position to give a helicopter with winch facility on charter to Global Air Rescue 999, Dr.G.Sairamanan M.D can approach various Shipping Companies through the Marine Club to give a suitable sum as security deposit(not bearing interest) for utilizing this service and also to pay "on Case Basis".