



**RTI matter/ Time Bound**

Government of India  
Ministry of External Affairs  
New Delhi

No. E/551/1/2020-RTI

08 January 2021

Subject: Information sought under Right to Information Act, 2005

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application bearing Registration No. MOEAF/R/E/20/01385 addressed to Ministry to RTI cell, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.

2. As per records available, Indian bulk cargo vessel MV Jag Anand of Great Eastern Shipping company is on anchorage near Jingtang port in Hebei province of China since 13 June 2020, while MV Anastasia is on anchorage near Caofeidian port in China since 20 September 2020. Both these vessels have been waiting for discharge of their cargo. The Ministry of External Affairs was informed of the situation by Directorate General of Shipping via their correspondence dated 29 August 2020 for MV Jag Anand and 18 November 2020 for MV Anastasia.

3. As on date, the latest information available with the undersigned CPIO is as under:

*'Embassy of India, Beijing has repeatedly taken up these cases with the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the local provincial authorities, requesting that the ships be allowed to dock and/or the crew be allowed to be changed. The Ministry of External Affairs has also been following-up on this issue with the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi.*

*Chinese authorities have conveyed that on account of various COVID-19 related restrictions imposed by the local authorities, crew change is not being permitted from these ports. The Chinese MFA also conveyed that while crew change from Jingtang port would not be feasible, the shipping company/agent may apply for crew rotation from Tianjin port in China, and that the local authorities would examine after receiving requests for the same. The concerned shipping companies have been asked to make crew change applications expeditiously.*

*While the shipping companies are examining the logistics of sailing the ships away from their current points of anchorage, Embassy of India, Beijing is liaising with relevant authorities in Tianjin for berthing approvals to facilitate the crew change. The shipping companies have been requested to ensure that they file in their plans for crew change at the earliest for approvals by the local Chinese authorities.*

*Embassy of India, Beijing continues to remain in close and continuous touch with the Chinese authorities in Beijing, Hebei Province and Tianjin port. The Ministry of External Affairs is also following up through the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi for an early resolution.'*

4. If you are aggrieved with this reply, you may file an appeal to Shri Satish K. Sivan, Director (East Asia) & Appellate Authority, Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi -110001, within a month from the date of receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,



(Karthik G. Iyer)

DS (China) & CPIO

Room no. 270 A, South Block,

New Delhi – 110001

Telefax: 23011356

Email: [dschina2@mea.gov.in](mailto:dschina2@mea.gov.in)

CC to:

1. Shri Arun Kumar, Under Secretary (RTI), MEA, New Delhi

## RTI REQUEST DETAILS (आरटीआई अनुरोध विवरण)

<b>Registration Number (पंजीकरण संख्या) :</b> MOEAF/R/E/20/01385	<b>Date of Receipt (प्राप्ति की तारीख) :</b> 25/12/2020
<b>Type of Receipt (रसीद का प्रकार) :</b> Online Receipt	<b>Language of Request (अनुरोध की भाषा) :</b> English
<b>Status (स्थिति)(Rural/Urban) :</b> Urban	<b>Education Status :</b> Above Graduate
<b>Is Requester Below Poverty Line ? (क्या आवेदक गरीबी रेखा से नीचे का है?) :</b> No	<b>Citizenship Status (नागरिकता) :</b> Indian
<b>Amount Paid (राशि का भुगतान) :</b> 10 ) (original recipient)	<b>Mode of Payment (भुगतान का प्रकार) :</b> Payment Gateway
<b>Does it concern the life or Liberty of a Person? (क्या यह किसी व्यक्ति के जीवन अथवा स्वतंत्रता से संबंधित है?) :</b> No(Normal)	<b>Request Pertains to (अनुरोध निम्नलिखित संबंधित है) :</b> US (China)
<b>Information Sought (जानकारी मांगी):</b> (MOST URGENT ) Under the clause of Life and Liberty as per the proviso of section 7(1) of the RTI Act.	
<p>Can there be something more shocking Considering boundary issue with India, China is holding 39 Indian crew members of two merchant ships hostage for several months. They have been living like prisoners off two Chinese ports, barred from unloading their cargo or leaving the ships. Indias feeble response is shame for every citizen of SOVEREIGN India.</p> <p>1. Kindly let us know the final solution on record from Ministry of External Affairs and entire Govt. of India regarding immediately release of all 39 Indian Crew members of Indian Ship that was held by China as hostage for past several months in China. Kindly provide me on record information within the next 24-48 hours mandatorily under section 7(1) of act about the final solution and all crews members release from China and their subsequent arrival in India.</p>	

2. Which Govt. Official and Ministry of GOI is fully responsible to ensure immediate release (Life and Liberty according to Indian Constitution) of all 39 crew members of two merchant ships lying at Chinese port for past many months. Kindly provide details.

3. When did such abovementioned important issue have come into notice of MEA, GoI firstly through formal and informal communication. Please provide on record certified report of Indian Ambassador in China regarding abovementioned issue to Ministry, GoI and what competent action as on date have been taken to make all crew members free from China. Please provide details.

The whole details of news report published in Media and my tweets are attached herewith 685 KBS PDF File .

Please provide only certified sought details of abovementioned queries within 24-48 hrs. according to section 7(1) of RTI Act.