

For Favour of Publication

Sub: **Relaxation of Cabotage**

SRI ground-breaking report on global Cabotage laws

Mr. Abdulgani Y. Serang, General Secretary-cum-Treasurer has issued the following statement for the press:

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NUSI has always felt that cabotage policy has positively supported the Indian shipowners and also ensured gainful employment for Indian seafarers. Relaxation of the cabotage in the Indian coast will lead to loss of jobs for Indian seafarers.

As per a survey conducted by the Seafarers Rights International (SRI) a UK based organization on cabotage practices worldwide, some of the leading maritime nations of the world have strict cabotage restrictions to safeguard their national interests.

On 25th September, 2018 in Washington DC, Seafarers' Rights International (SRI) has released report – Cabotage Laws of the World – a ground-breaking analysis of maritime cabotage laws around the world. The goal is to educate policy makers, the maritime industry and unions about the importance protecting and promoting maritime cabotage laws.

The report, commissioned by the ITF, provides the first independent analysis of maritime cabotage since 1992. The SRI report **reveals that 91 countries representing 80% of the world's coastal UN Maritime States have cabotage laws** restricting foreign maritime activity in their domestic coastal trades.

Referring to the report, Mr. Abdulgani Y. Serang, NUSI General Secretary-cum-Treasurer said “Countries not having cabotage are a minority, in overall interests they should make it their priority”.

The full copy of the report is available here: **<https://seafarersrights.org/seafarers-subjects/cabotage/>**