

## BANGLADESH

# SEA ALLOWANCE FOR NAVAL PERSONNEL DEPLOYED IN UNIFIL, MTF

## 1. ISSUE PAPER THEME: Self-Sustainment

## 2. SUMMARY

Sea life is highly influenced by sea condition and operating environment in the midst of electronic emissions. Sea can change very rapidly from fair to rough where life is very uncomfortable. Working in such unfavorable condition causes tremendous physiological and psychological stress on any combat personnel. The performance of the ship solely depends on the performance of its crews. As such, some incentive may be considered for the ship's crew operating at sea, for their moral boosting.

It may be mentioned that some of the renowned Navies of the world like US Navy; Royal Australian Navy etc. are providing sea allowance for deployment at sea. Besides, the example of flying allowance for the pilots at the rate of USD 450 per month can be cited in this connection which is basically paid to pilots in UN deployment acknowledging their operating environment. So, it is only justified to acknowledge extraordinary operating environment of the ship's crew and introduce Sea Allowance amounting US\$ 200 per month for an individual deployed onboard a combat ship operating in AMO.

## 3. BACKGROUND

Presently Bangladesh deployed one navy ship BNS SANGRAM in the status of Corvette in UNIFIL. Due to combat role, the naval vessels are compact and quite different from the commercial vessels. As a result, living and habitability on board are also severely restricted. Ship deployed in UNIFIL remains at sea approximately more than 65% or 20 days in each month. Presently, there is no incentive for the sailors remaining in such adverse condition (prolonged period at sea).

Renowned Navies of the world like US Navy; Royal Australian Navy etc are providing sea allowance for deployment at sea. Besides, the example of flying allowance for the pilots at the rate of USD 450 per month can be cited in this connection which is basically paid to pilots in UN deployment acknowledging their operating environment.

## 4. DETAILED PROPOSAL

Consequently, we propose:

The Working Group-2023 may include the proposed issue to incorporate in COE Manual (preferably at Chapter 4 on Preparation, Deployment/Redeployment and Transportation of Contingents and Chapter 5 on Special Case Equipment) or revise the provision of LOA that sea allowance will be provided for actual deployment days at sea..

Due to uniqueness of naval platform and operating environment, the need for incorporating few common issues in COE Manual pertinent to naval vessel and its personnel deployed in UN Mission is a common concern. The ships in UNIFIL remain at sea for prolonged period. Life at sea is quite different from that in land. Basically, the complexity of operational environment vis a vis psychological stress due to prolonged stay in sea, the need for sea allowance is sincerely felt for moral boosting of naval personnel. As such, UN may consider sea allowance \$ 10 per person per day for actual sea deployment period.

It would cost approximate \$ 10 per person per day for actual sea deployment. In an average, a person remains at sea for 20 days in a month. As such about US\$ 200 will be needed for each person per month.

In this regard necessary steps may be taken **“introduce Sea Allowance at the rate of US\$ 200 per month for an individual deployed onboard a combat ship operating in AMO”** for justifiably acknowledge extraordinary operating environment.