

## Late Cmdr. Lalit Sharma

## A Star is Gone

The first Chairman of MASSA, Cmdr. Lalit Sharma has passed away early morning of 20<sup>th</sup> Aug 2022, whilst visiting family in Toronto, Canada, due to a heart attack. The end came peacefully, whilst he was asleep. Cmdr Sharma led Massa through a very trying period in Indian Maritime History, when 'liberalization' was the buzz word, and STCW 95, GMDSS etc. were the new kids on the block.

A true Mariner of the old school, resilient and compassionate, he led ship owners side in many a wage negotiations at National level through the National Maritime Board (India) agreements and for the Indian seafarers on foreign flag ships- through the Maritime Employment Board (India), popularly known as the ITF TCC agreements.

He was an ardent supporter of Maritime Education and Training, supported many an initiative for training of Indian seafarers, the major being his association with TS Rahaman spanning a period of over 45 years!

He is survived by his wife, Shirley, daughters, grandchildren and a host of well-wishers. Heartfelt condolences to the family members.

RIP Sir.

He will be sorely missed!