



भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

DGS Order 24 of 2020

File No. 20-16/4/2020-O/0 TRG-DGS

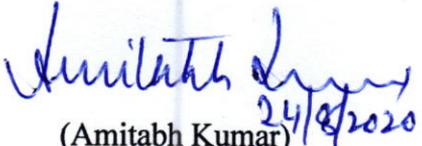
Dated: 24.08.2020

Subject: Availability of courses for Seafarers including trainee seafarers at Maritime Training Institutes during the period of COVID-19 pandemic-reg.

1. Whereas Directorate vide DGS Order 20 of 2020 has facilitated existing seafarers having approved seagoing service in last 5-years to undergo refresher courses at Maritime training Institutes (MTIs) for various Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) via Virtual Class/Live Video Sessions, which has paved the way for Master, Officers and Ratings to revalidate their Certificate of Competency (CoC) / Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) and thus continue with their sea service.
2. Whereas vide DGS Order 20 of 2020, the Directorate has also facilitated seafarers who have recently acquired a CoC but do not possess required approved sea service, as stipulated for revalidation in last 5-years, to do special training courses such as Oil & Chemical Tankers and Liquefied Gas Tankers via Virtual Classes/Live Video-Sessions prior joining Tankers.
3. Whereas while permitting conduct of STCW Courses via Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions, the Directorate has ensured that the specific requirements for training of seafarer by distance learning and e-learning provided by Section A-I/6 and Section B-I/6-7 of the STCW Code, 1995 as amended are complied with through issuance of following circulars/orders:
 - i) DGS Circular 19 of 2020 dated 18.05.2020: Conduct of Maritime Courses using Virtual Classes/Live Video Session.
 - ii) Paragraph 5 of DGS Circular 24 of 2020 dated 08.06.2020 for conduct of Maritime Courses detailed in this Order for candidates who are unable to use Virtual Class/Live Video Sessions.

- iii) DGS Circular 21 of 2020 dated 27.05.2020: Issuance of digitally signed certificates for successfully completing maritime courses conducted by Maritime Training Institutes.
 - iv) Training Circular 13 of 2020: Procedures for assessing e-learning modules for maritime STCW Modular Courses.
 - v) DGS Circular No. 17 of 2020: Guidelines for On-line Exit Exam for DGS approved modular courses. Candidates should specifically refer to the note-3 of Paragraph 8.2 of the Circular with respect to number of attempts allowed to pass the exam.
4. Whereas vide DGS Order 20 of 2020, the Directorate has permitted the deemed re-validation provision provided by DGS Order 16 of 2020 to continue for all those seafarers who are joining ship on or prior to 31/08/2020. However, there are number of representations being received from the seafarers for foreseeable delays in booking the slots for the requisite courses and in the postal process for obtaining re-validation stickers during COVID 19 pandemic.
 5. Whereas the Directorate has ensured that the training provided via the e-learning and distance learning mode meets the Standards of Training and Assessment set out in Section A-I/6 and B-I/6-11 by implementing a 3-Tier learning mechanism comprising of E-Learning, Virtual Classes/Live Video-Session and an Exit examination.
 6. Whereas vide DGS Circular 28 of 2020, the Directorate has permitted Pre-sea cadets who have completed theory, safety courses (*relevant courses under Chapter VI of STCW*) and are only left with practical and final examination ashore to join ship for completion of their necessary ship-board training and then to complete their remaining practical's and examination.
 7. Whereas many of the pre-sea cadets are unable to join ship type tankers as they are being advised by shipping companies that they need to undergo specialized basic training course for tankers (*Oil & Chemical Tankers and Liquefied Gas Tankers*)
 8. Whereas the requirements as per Chapter V of STCW (*Regulation V/1-1 and V/1-2*) is for officers and ratings assigned specific duties and responsibilities related to cargo equipment on oil or chemical tankers and on liquefied gas tankers and not for trainee seafarers.
 9. Whereas all other tanker personnel (persons other than mentioned in foregoing paragraph no 8) are only required to undergo familiarization training onboard and, where appropriate, ashore before being assigned to shipboard duties as per guidance provided in section B-V/1, Chapter V of STCW.
 10. Whereas some shipping companies represented that the trainees may also be permitted to undergo the basic trainings on tankers at MTIs as the same is required by vetting inspectors of major oil companies.

11. Whereas there are also seafarers/ratings, other than the trainees, who have completed their basic safety course and are required to complete special training to join ships of Oil / Chemical Tankers and Liquefied Gas Tankers.
12. Whereas, as per STCW, even though the Ratings/pump-man to hold advanced trainings on tankers is not required but is being insisted by companies to fulfill the requirements of some oil majors / vetting inspectors and that there exist an Engineering Circular (1 of 2018 dated 22.06.2018) which allows pump-man and all such seafarers to undergo advanced course on specific type of tankers oil/chemical, gas.
13. Whereas, other than the tanker courses, there are many operational level Officers, who have acquired their management level CoC and now require special courses like "Ship Security Officer" to join ships.
14. Considering all the above, till such time normalcy is restored and class room training is resumed at MTIs, the Directorate has now decided to extend by one more month in the applicability of DGS Order 16 of 2020 i.e., till 30th September 2020 instead of 31st August as stated in DGS Order No. 20 of 2020. Further all seafarers including trainees are permitted to undergo the courses specified in paragraph 11 (sr. no vii to xii) of DGS order No. 20 of 2020 if such courses are required by them to join ships.
15. Following two more courses are added to the list of courses mentioned in DGS order 20 of 2020 that can be conducted via the three tier approach consisting of a combination of e-learning, distance learning(Virtual Classes/Live Video Session) and Exit Examination:
 - i) Indian Maritime Legislation Course for issuance of Certificate of Endorsement
 - ii) Company Security Officer
16. MTI approved to conduct the courses detailed in Para 14 are allowed to conduct the courses through Virtual Classes/Live video sessions after ensuring that all requirements of Circulars detailed in Para 3 and follow the SOP as contained in DGS order 20 of 2020 for conduct of exit examination for seafarers and MTIs.


(Amitabh Kumar)
Director General of Shipping