



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI



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

Date 14.01.2022

DGS Order No. 02 of 2022

Sub: - Conduct of Training during Third COVID Wave: Consolidation of all Orders & Re-issuance of Measures during Third Wave

1. Whereas the COVID Pandemic hit India and the World and all training was closed down due to lock down and to save lives with effect from March 2020.
2. However, to ensure that neither seafarer jobs and nor continuity of shipping services due to inability to meet required safe manning are impacted, the Directorate ensured continued validity of seafarer certificates 6 months beyond expiry date as permitted by Force Majeure clause of STCW Convention 1978 as amended.
3. However, to ensure compliance with the STCW Convention and at the same time conduct of mandatory course which are required to be completed before a seafarer joins ship, the Directorate issued following orders:

3.1. DGS Training Circular 19 of 2020 dated 18.05.2020: Conduct of maritime courses using Virtual classes / Live Video sessions

3.1.1. This permitted conduct of theory part of long duration courses and Competence courses (required for appearing for competence examinations) to be conducted via Virtual Classes/Live Vide Sessions.

3.1.2. Since the long duration pre-sea courses majorly comprises of theory and practical, it was also allowed that practical part of these courses can be completed after a candidate completes his necessary sea service for appearing for competence examinations.

3.2. DGS Order 20 of 2020 dated 03.08.2020: Conduct of Training courses for issuance of CoPs during the period of COVID-19 pandemic

3.2.1. After ensuring necessary digitization in place, the Directorate via this Order permitted certain short duration courses to be conducted via three tier training methodology comprising of Virtual Classes/live Video Sessions, E-Learning and an Exit Examination.

3.2.2. The above ensured continued validity of mandatory short duration courses mandatorily required by seafarer prior joining ship and at the same time complying with the STCW Convention, as far as possible

3.2.3. These courses included: Refresher in Personal Survival Techniques, Refresher in Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boats, Refresher in Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Refresher in Advanced Fire Fighting, Refresher in Medical First Aid, Revalidation Course for Engineers, Basic Oil and Chemical Tanker Familiarization Course, Basic Training Course for Liquefied Gas Tanker Cargo Operations, Advanced Oil Tanker Course; Advanced Chemical Tanker Course, Advanced Liquefied Gas Tanker Cargo Operations Course, Security Training for seafarers with designated security duties and Ship security officers course.

3.2.4. Since many courses had a practical element, to ensure compliance with the STCW Convention, only those seafarers demonstrating continued professional competence through approved sea service were permitted to be enrolled in these courses and complete the same and get a CoP valid for 18-months (PST/PSCRB/FPFF/AFF/MFA) pending completion of practical part of the course.

3.3. DGS Order 24 of 2020 dated 24.08.2020: Availability of courses for Seafarers including trainee seafarers at Maritime Training Institutes during the period of COVID-19 pandemic:

3.3.1. It modified DGS Order 20 of 2020 and permitted all seafarer including to complete courses required for them to join ship through the Three Tier Training Methodology of Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions, E-Learning and Exit Exam.

3.3.2. The above-mentioned courses are: Basic Oil and Chemical Tanker Familiarization Course, Basic Training Course for Liquefied Gas Tanker Cargo Operations; Advanced Oil Tanker Course; Advanced Chemical Tanker Course; Advanced Liquefied Gas Tanker Cargo Operations Course & Security Training for seafarers with designated security duties.

3.3.3. It also permitted conduct of additional courses such as Indian Maritime Legislation Course & Company Security Officer Course on Three Tier Training Methodology of Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions, E-Learning and Exit Exam.

3.4. DGS Order 28 of 2020 dated 01.10.2020: Re-Opening of Maritime Training Institutes for Practical Training under Controlled Conditions: As the COVID-19 pandemic situation eased up with re-opening of Country, the Directorate permitted re-opening of Pre and Post Sea MTI under controlled conditions with following key requirements:

3.4.1. All theoretical classes to be continued through Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions even for those students/seafarers who are in campus or attending short term courses practical.

3.4.2. The number of students to be permitted in the Pre-Sea MTI campus at any point of time shall be based on infrastructure/hostel facility or 1/3rd of batch strength, whichever is less. There were also certain quarantine requirements imposed after a student joined these pre seas MTI along with other restrictions on hair cutting saloon, gymnasium etc.

3.4.3. Post Sea MTI were allowed to conduct practicals per day for only those number of students of a particular course or different courses as calculated based on 1/3rd of the students per batch from all courses being conducted every day under normal situation or the number of students based on an assessment detailed in the order, whichever is less. Further these post sea MTIs were allowed to conduct practical training for only those students/seafarers who have completed the theoretical portion of the stated course for which practical were being conducted.

3.4.4. MTI's both pre and post were permitted to conduct practical classes' 12-hrs a day including Saturday and Sunday and in single or two shifts. MTI were directed to ensure that no practical, which is unsafe or involve demonstration inside mock-up/on a waterfront were conducted after it is dark and with proper cleaning and sanitization of laboratory/workshop and equipment between two shifts. No practical involving entry into water of swimming pool was permitted.

3.5. Merchant Shipping Notice No. 13 of 2020 dated 04.11.2020: Clarification regarding refresher courses for Medical First Aid and Medical Care: This notice clarified that there was no requirement under the STCW Convention to have refresher courses conducted every 5-years for Medical First Aid and Medical Care Courses and refresher for these courses are required to conducted by only those seafarers who employed in companies insisting on refresher every 5-years.

3.6. DGS Order 36 of 2020-dated 05.11.2020: Addendum 4 to DGS Order No. 20 of 2020: This Order permitted conduct of Refresher Course in Medical Care via Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions.

3.7. DGS Order 38 of 2020 dated 12.11.2020: Addendum-I to DGS Order No. 28 of 2020:

3.7.1. It listed about 65 Short Duration courses including the methodology of conduct of these courses, that is, Single Tier, Two Tier or Three Tier training methodology.

3.7.2. It also detailed as to which course require practical, or the courses requiring entry into water of a water body or a visit to hospital.

3.7.3. It gives a clear idea as to which courses completion certificate/CoP will be issued with unlimited validity or un-limited validity subject to 5-Years refresher training or 18-Months validity (subject to completion of practical/practical involving entry in water or visit to hospital).

3.7.4. It permitted conduct of Basic Safety Courses without practical.

3.7.5. It shifted competency courses permitted to be conducted only via Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions vide Training Circular 19 of 2020 to Three Tier Methodology of Training

3.8. DGS Order 40 of 2020 dated 17.12.2020: Addendum No. 2 to DGS Order 28 of 2020 dated 01.10.2020 with respect to conduct of Maritime Training Courses:

3.8.1. This Order benefitted the Maritime Community in following ways: It enhanced the list of 65 courses detailed in DGS Order 38 of 2020 to 80 courses and also changed methodology of conduct of certain courses from two tier to three tier as the E-Learning/Exit Exam for these courses were developed.

3.9. NT/Exam Circular 02 of 2020-dated 03.01.2021: Clarification regarding completion of GMDSS course for nautical discipline oral examinations: This Notice clarified that there was no requirement for a candidate appearing for Nautical Grade Competence Oral Examination to have GMDSS Certificate and it was required prior issuance of CoC.

3.10. DGS Order 02 of 2021 dated 08.01.2021: Addendum III to DGS Order 28 of 2020 dated 01.10.2020: Completion of part held courses vide DGS Order No. 2 of 2020 dated 16.03.2020: The COVID 19 scare of early 2020 has led to closure of all Pre-Sea and Post Sea MTI and many candidates were left stranded with incomplete short duration courses of up to 10 days duration. Via this Order, the Directorate permitted completion of those courses.

3.11. DGS Order 13 of 2021 dated 18.03.2021: Addendum IV to DGS Order 28 of 2020: Re-opening of Maritime Training Institute for practical under controlled conditions and further relaxation in the issued SOP for Pre-Sea and Post –Sea: Due to further relaxation in the lock-down, following modifications were carried out on DGS Order 28 of 2020 to re-start complete training:

3.11.1. Pre-Sea Courses were permitted to operate with 100% strength under certain conditions.

3.11.2. Post-Sea MTIs were permitted to operate with 50% capacity for Practicals for all courses other than simulator courses, while the simulator courses were permitted with 100% capacity.

3.11.3. All practical requiring entry into water body including swimming pool were permitted.

3.11.4. With effect from 04.04.2020, all short duration courses such as BST, Refresher in PST/PSCRB etc. except Medical Care were directed to be completed in entirety including practical and with Three Tier Training Methodology. Medical Care Course was only permitted to be conducted without visit to Hospital and issuance of 18 Months CoP.

3.11.5. The Candidates who were earlier issued 18 Months CoP (except those with Medical Care CoP of 18 Months) pending completion of Practicals, were permitted to complete Practicals and get CoP extended to 5 Years.

3.12. DGS Order 14 of 2021 dated 05.04.2021: Deferment of DGS order 13 of 2021 dated 18.03.2021 till further order: Taking into account situation developed by the Second Wave of COVID-19, the said Order 13 of 2021 was deferred till further Orders.

3.13. DGS Order 17 of 2021 dated 01.05.2021: Addendum-V to DGS Order No. 28 of 2020 dated 01.10.2020 with respect to conduct of maritime training course:

3.13.1. As the second COVID-19 Wave hit Indian with subsequent lock down in various states, the Directorate re-started conduct of certain courses without practical particularly by those MTI located in lock down areas.

3.13.2. The Directorate re-introduced Part A and Part B of the Digitized CoP with 18 Months and then extended to 5-Year validity for these courses.

3.13.3. The Courses permitted were: Basic Safety Course, Personal Survival Techniques, Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boat other than Fast Rescue Boat, Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boat, Advanced Fire Fighting, Medical First Aid, Medical Care, Refresher in Personal Survival Techniques, Refresher in Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boat apart from Fast Rescue Boats, Refresher in Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting, Refresher in Advanced Fire Fighting, Refresher in Proficiency in Fast Rescue Boat, Refresher & Updating Course in Medical First Aid, Refresher& Updating Course in Medical Care,

3.14. Merchant Shipping Notice 04 of 2021 dated 15.07.2021: Clarification regarding Liquid Cargo Handling simulator course for issue of Management level DCE (Advanced oil DCE) for officers of nautical discipline: This Notice informs that the Liquid Cargo Handling Simulator Course (LCHS) shall not be considered a mandatory requirement till 31.12.2022 for issuance of 18 Months CoP in Advanced Training for Oil Tanker cargo operations and on completion of the LCHS course, the full term certificate for 5 years will be issued

3.15. DGS Order 32 of 2021 dated 22.10.2021: Addendum - VI to DGS Order 28 of 2020: Re-Opening of Maritime Training Institutes under controlled conditions and further relaxation in the issued SOP for Pre-Sea and Post-Sea: This basically re-instated DGS Order 13 of 2021 permitting pre-sea MTIs to operate with 100% capacity and post-sea MTI to operate with 50% capacity for Practical courses other than Simulator Courses, for which they were permitted to operate with 100% capacity. Further, all training with effect from 26.10.2021 was required to be conducted with practical including Medical Care course.

4. Taking into account various DGS Order, the Maritime Training is being conducted at present is as follows:

4.1. DGS Order 20 of 2020 as amended by DGS Order 28 of 2020 and further amended by DGS Order 32 of 2021: With effect from 26.10.2021, all Short Duration Courses are being conducted with Practicals and no 18-Month CoP is permitted. Further, the post sea-MTIs can only conduct practical for these short-term courses, other than simulator courses, with 50% capacity. The simulator courses, however, 100% capacity is being permitted. The students are to be called for practical only after completion of theoretical Virtual classes/Live Video Sessions.

4.2. Merchant Shipping Notice 04 of 2021-dated 15.07.2021: The LCHS Simulator course is not mandatory for issuance of Advanced CoP in Oil Tanker Cargo Operations till 31.12.2022.

4.3. DGS Order 28 of 2020 and modified via DGS Order 32 of 2021: Pre-Sea MTIs are being operated with 100% capacity under controlled conditions as specified in DGS Order 28 of 2020 and modified via DGS Order 32 of 2021.

4.4. Theoretical Classes are being conducted in both pre and post Sea MTIs via Virtual Classes/Live Video Sessions.

5. Whereas, now with on-set of third COVID-19 wave, many States have imposed requirements for people's safeguard, which includes closure of all Educational Institutes, operating gymnasium, hair cutting saloon etc. with restricted capacity and other measures.

6. Taking all the above into consideration, the Directorate has decided to impose following measures till further Orders:

6.1. All the Pre-Sea and Post-Sea MTIs are required to abide by the applicable guidelines in relation to COVID issued by Local Authorities/State Government /Central Government or below mentioned directions, whichever is more stringent.

6.2. All Post-Sea and Pre-Sea MTIs to operate with only 50% capacity for all courses having Practicals, including that for Simulator Courses provided the State Government of the place of location has not ordered total closure of Educational Institutes.

6.3. No entry into water or a visit to hospital is permitted for completion of practical training for those courses which have these elements as detailed in DGS Order 40 of 2020, and whether conducted by any MTI located in lock down or non-lock down areas and only Part A of the CoP valid for 18 Months shall be issued for all such courses. This part of practical is also not permitted for those candidates who have earlier being issued Part A of CoP and now intend to complete practical for issuance of Part B. No batch detail uploading for issuance of Part B for such courses is permitted from two days after the issuance of this Order.

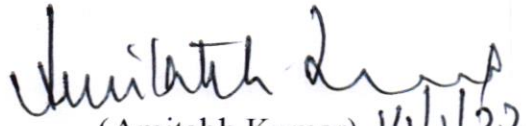
6.4. Pre-Sea MTI operating with 100% capacity will, within four days, ensure that the MTI is operational only with 50% capacity, with all precautions as specified in DGS Order 28 of 2020 and modified via DGS Order 32 of 2021.

6.5. All MTIs Conducting short term courses or Post Sea MTIs shall operate, similarly, under controlled condition as detailed in DGS Order 28 of 2020 and as modified by DGS Order 32 of 2021.

6.6. Reinstatement of DGS Order 17 of 2021 for conduct of Short-Term Courses by MTIs located in lock down areas.

6.7. MTIs located in the Non-lock down areas have to complete all the courses detailed in DGS Order 17 of 2021 in entirety expect as per para 6.3 above.

6.8. The Candidates joining the pre-sea MTIs should have a negative RT-PCR test report, conducted within 72 hours before joining, irrespective of whether they are fully vaccinated or not, and must undergo 7 days quarantine period at the MTI.


(Amitabh Kumar) 14/1/22

Director General of Shipping &
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