



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

नौवहनमहानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

F.No. 23-65011(11)/2/2020-Crew-DGS

Dated: 12.11.2020.

D G Shipping Circular No. 34 of 2020

Sub: Review of debarment of Continuous Discharge Certificates(CDC)-reg.

Whereas the Continuous Discharge Certificates (CDCs) are issued to Indian seafarers by the Government Shipping Offices of Shipping Masters at Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata. The issuance of CDCs is governed by the Merchant Shipping [Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2017.

2. And whereas the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India had, vide its letter No.B-11015/45/95-MT dated 07.02.97, issued guidelines for "Recognition of training Institutes in private sector and selection of candidates for pre-sea training in Government/approved trained institutes". Para 5 of the said guidelines reads, it is contextually as *"responsibility of training institutes to ensure the authenticity/genuineness of the certificates submitted by the candidates for obtaining CDCs, in case the certificates are found to be fake, the candidates shall be debarred for life from taking up a career at sea in Merchant Navy"*. Pursuant thereto, the Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India had vide its letter No.16(27)/CR/98 dated 24.06.1999, conveyed the said directions to the Shipping Masters. Following the same, candidates who were found to have submitted false/fake/forged documents for obtaining CDCs were debarred for life from applying for CDCs. At that time around 700 candidates have been debarred for life, accordingly.

3. And whereas, the Directorate received various requests/representations from applicants so affected for taking a sympathetic view in the matter and to review the said policy of debarment for life.

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4. And whereas the Director General of Shipping, Govt. of India reviewed it said policy, holistically and in perspective, in the light of other operating laws of the country, best international practices [in this regard] and parity with respect to other certificates issued by it, such as Certificates of Competencies and Certificate of Proficiency. On considering the foregoing, this office has decided to relax the punishment period from 'for life time' to 'for a period up to 5 years' and accordingly Crew Branch Circular No. 01 of 2016 dated 07.03.2016 was issued .

5. And whereas the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2017 was also notified simplifying the eligibility conditions for obtaining CDC . However, this office received various requests/representations from applicants affected by the debarment policy stating that they are not able to apply for CDC as they have been debarred for 5 years.

6. Now, therefore, considering the matter sympathetically, since it is a matter of livelihood of seafarers related to their employment, the Directorate has reviewed the matter holistically and in perspective and decided to reduce the debarment period as indicated herein-below.

6.1. If a candidate is found to have furnished fake/false/forged document(s), along with his application for a CDC, then he would be debarred from applying for a CDC for a period up to 3 years there from.

6.2 If any candidate who has already been issued a CDC and subsequently it is found that he had submitted false/fake/forged document(s) for obtaining a CDC then such a CDC shall be suspended for a period of three years.

6.3 However, before taking action under Para 6.2, the Shipping Master concerned would follow the due process of law & principles of natural justice and pass a speaking order to that effect.

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7. This Circular would take effect from the date of its issue. Candidates who have completed 3 years of such debarment, as on that date may apply for a CDC and would be issued a CDC, if found eligible.

8. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India.



(Subhash Barguzer)
Deputy Director General of Shipping (Crew)

Encl. Annexure-I

Copy to:

- (1) All Principal Officers of MMDs
- (2) All Surveyors-in-charge of MMDs.
- (3) All Shipping Masters, Govt. Shipping Offices.
- (4) All DGS, Gol approved maritime training institutes.
- (5) DGS website for hosting this circular therein.
- (6) Assistant Director (OL) for Hindi version

Copy also forwarded for an information to the:

1. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Shipping, Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi -110 001.
2. Sr. PS to the DGS, Addl. DGS, NA, CS and all Branch of this office