



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

नौवहन महानिदेशालय / DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING

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DGS Circular No.5 of 2016

Sub : Recognition of sea service of Electro Technical Officers employed directly-reg.

The Government of India has promulgated the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2005, vide its Notification No. G.S.R. 182 (E) dated 18.03.05, which has since been superceded by the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers) Rules, 2016. The latter rules provide for a mechanism for the protection of Indian seafarers working on board Indian and foreign flag vessels and necessary safeguards for their repatriation in the event of their being stranded, or during other exigencies, when the ship owner concerned fails to discharge its/his duty of repatriating such seafarers to their home ports.

2. The Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India has encouraged the placement of seafarers only through such recruitment and placement service [RPS] providers authorised under said Rules. However, it has been observed that seafarers continue to be recruited on board vessels, inter-alia, either directly by foreign flag ship owners or through unauthorised RPS agencies. In order to address such issues, this office had, through its DGS Circulars No. 9 of 2007[F.No. 33(1) CR/2000/Vol.-V] dated 21.09.07 and No. 2 of 2009 [F. No. 33(1)CR/2000/Vol.-VII] dated 21.03.09, decided that such sea service undertaken through unregistered RPS entities shall not be recognised for the purpose of competency examinations and certifications. Despite the same, several seafarers continue to get employed directly or through unregistered RPS entities. Since the last two years, this office has migrated many of its official transactional service delivery processes, including in relation to certificate of competency [COC]

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examinations and certifications on an e-Governance platform. As a result, applications of such candidates who have not been employed through authorised RPS agencies get stuck, as their sea service does not get reflected in the said system.

3. Some Electro Technical Officers [ETO's] have represented to this office with a request to consider such sea service for such examinations/certifications, lamenting the prospect of them being rendered unemployed. This office has undertaken discussions with the ETO Association and also carried out internal consultations, in the matter. It is observed that the requirement for examination & certification of ETOs came into being for the first time, through the DGS STCW Circular No. 1 of 2011 [F.No.TR/CIR/6(3)/2011] dated 10.02.2011. Further, vide this office EAC Branch Circular No. 131 of 2015 [F.No.ENG/EXAM-17(9)/99-III] dated 31.12.15, the eligibility criteria for such examination and certification were laid down. Hence, at the time when the said DGS Circular and. 9 of 2007 and 2 of 2009 were issued, the sea service of the ETOs was not relevant for the purpose of such examination and certification. Therefore, the DGS, GoI has decided to partly consider the said representations of the ETO Association. Accordingly, it has been decided that the sea service of such Electro Technical Officers who have been directly employed by owners of foreign flag ships can be considered for the purpose of such examination and certification only for such sea service undertaken before 01.11.16.

The candidates desirous of claiming sea service for the aforesaid purposes are required to submit the following documents, along with their application forms;

3.1. Original CDCs for verification by the Mercantile Marine Departments [MMDs] concerned (it is clarified that, as stipulated in this office said EAC Branch Circular No. 131 of 2015, every candidate applying for ETO examinations [COC] should be in possession of an Indian CDC & the sea service performed by him after 01.01.15 should be with an Indian CDC and such sea service shall be endorsed in the Indian CDC);

3.2. Original passport for verification by the MMD concerned;

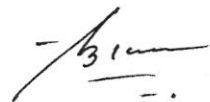
3.3. Original letter of sea service from the ship owner concerned;



3.4. A declaration-cum-undertaking stating that the sea service claimed is genuine and, if the same is found to be false, the candidate shall be liable to appropriate action(s) under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as amended.

4. The MMDs may accept such sea service only after due verification of the said original documents. Such sea service shall be accepted only with the prior & formal approval of the jurisdictional Principal Officer of the MMD concerned. The latter may, in case of any doubt, verify the sea service directly with the ship owners concerned. **It is reiterated that this relaxation is merely applicable for such sea service undertaken before 01.11.2016 only.** For recognition of the sea-service on foreign flag ship post 01.11.16, the said sea service should have been undertaken only through a recruitment and placement service authorised by the DGS,GOI.

5. This circular issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Secretary to the Govt. of India.



[Dr. Amol B. Kirtane]
Deputy Director General of Shipping[Crew]

To,

1. Nautical/Engineering Branches, DGS, Gol.
2. Principal Officers, Mercantile Marine Departments, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Kandla & Kochi.
3. Surveyors-in-Charge, Mercantile Marine Departments, Jamnagar, Goa, Mangalore, Tuticorin, Vishakhapatnam, Paradip, Haldia, Port Blair & Noida.

Copy forwarded for an information to the ;

1. Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Shipping, [Attn : Shri K. Touthang, Director (MA)] Transport Bhavan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi – 110001.
2. Hindi & E-governances Branches, DGS, Gol, for the Hindi translation & uploading of this circular on the official website of the DGS, Gol, respectively.