

Issue of restricted CDCs to naval officers for completing sea going service

D.G. Shipping Order No. 1 of 2006

No. 5(7)CR/2005

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Sub: Issue of restricted CDCs to naval officers for completing sea going service.

Whereas Rule 5 of Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2001, prescribes the issue of CDC to the certificated officers who are in possession of Certificate of Competency issued under Section 78 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1958 or a Certificate recognized under Section 86 of the M.S. Act, 1958.

Whereas Regulation II/9, Section B.1 and B.2 of META Manual prescribes eligibility of naval officers for issue of Certificate of Competency only after the naval officers perform the requisite sea going service of 6 months on trading ships on duties associated with Bridge Watch Keeping and after undergoing an oral examination and assessment as prescribed in the rules.

Whereas in order to sail on Indian ships a seafarer is required to be in possession of CDC.

However, before completing of the requirements as prescribed in Regulation II/9, Section B.1 and B.2 of META Manual, the naval officers cannot obtain a Certificate of Competency, and are, accordingly, not eligible for obtaining CDC under Rule 5 of the M.S. (CDC) Rules and, therefore, they cannot board a vessel to complete the requisite sea going service of 6 months on trading ships.

Now, therefore, the Director-General of Shipping and Secretary to the Government of India, exercising the powers conferred by Clause (1) of Section 456 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 read with notification issued by the Government of India vide S.O. No.3144 dated 17th December, 1960 delegating the said power to him, is pleased to extend the provisions of Rule 5 of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate -cum- Seafarer's Identity Document) , 2001 to such naval officers who have passed the written examination conducted by the Mercantile Marine Department and have completed all the specified modular courses to enable them to obtain a 'temporary CDC' with the validity period of 2 years, to enable such naval officers to complete the 6 months of requisite sea going service on trading ships on duties associated with bridge watchkeeping under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer, followed by an oral examination and on successful completion of the exam and after obtaining Certificate of Competency such naval officers will become eligible and can apply for a full-term Continuous Discharge Certificate-cum-Seafarer's Identity Document (CDC) of 10 years validity period as prescribed under the M.S. (CDC) Rules, 2001.

Sd/-

(G.S. Sahni)

**Director-General of Shipping &
Secretary to the Govt. of India**