

DGS- IGNOU scheme of one year Diploma in Nautical Science leading to BSc degree programme - Sea time requirement and eligibility criteria area for second mate examination Obsolete (Included in TEAP part A and B)

M.S. Notice 16 of 2007

**No:51-NT(1)/2005-IGNOU-
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Dated:

Sub: DGS - IGNOU scheme of one year Diploma in Nautical Science leading to BSc degree programme - Sea time requirement and eligibility criteria area for second mate examination.

Preamble:

1. This Directorate, being aware of the cyclic nature of the shipping trade and Industry, has initiated proactive and pragmatic measures to deal with the current and future needs of the Industry at large and seafarers in particular.
2. During the recession period in world shipping in the mid 1980s, there was a heavy surplus of Certificated Navigating officers, particularly the third officers and the second officers. These officers, at that time, could not even opt for an alternate career during the recession period due to lack of any higher educational qualification beyond the entry-level standard of 10+2.
3. In order to facilitate nautical trainees pursuing other employment in the event of down turn in shipping, as a precautionary measure, this Directorate had introduced a three-year full-time residential training programme for nautical trainees on Training Ship Rajendra in 1987, with affiliation from the University of Mumbai for the award of a B.Sc. degree in Nautical Sciences to these trainees on successful completion of the course and passing the University Examinations.
4. Subsequently, a few other maritime training institutes were also approved to commence the above three year B. Sc. Nautical Sciences degree course, with due affiliation from a recognized University.
5. However, this scheme constituted only about 15-20% of the total intake of the nautical trainees every year. The balance 80-85% of the nautical trainees still did not possess any higher educational qualification beyond the entry-level standard of 10+2.
6. In order to overcome this gap, a new scheme was launched in July 2004 encompassing one year pre-sea training leading to Diploma in Nautical Science, 18 months of structured on-board training and 4 months of post-sea courses followed by the Second Mates Foreign Going Certificate of Competency Examination. This facilitated the nautical officers in furtherance of their educational qualifications and the career prospects in shore based industry by obtaining a degree qualification. This scheme was dovetailed with Indira Gandhi National Open University as a three-year (6 Semesters) Distance Learning Programme for the award of B. Sc. Nautical Science degree.

Present Scenario:

7. However, linking up a distance education programme with the on-board training and acquisition of Certificate of Competency, has led to practical difficulties, particularly with regard to the logistics for these trainees to appear for the Semester end examinations of IGNOU, such as inadequate coordination between training and assessment, six monthly frequency of examination etc.
8. A meeting was held on 12th April 2007 at the Conference Room of this Directorate with representation from the DGS approved maritime training institutes conducting pre-sea training for the nautical trainees, Indian National Ship owners Association (INSA), Foreign Owners Representatives and Ship Managers Association (FOSMA) and Maritime Association of Shipowners, Ship managers and Agents (MASSA) on the subject of Pre-sea training for nautical discipline.
9. As an outcome of the above meeting, and considering the acute shortage of certificated navigating officers in the Indian Shipping Companies as well as the Foreign Companies employing Indian navigating officers, this Directorate, in partial modification of [M. S. Notice No. 12 of 2005 dated 21st October 2005](#) issues the following clarifications / directives:

Directives:

- a. The pre-sea training for the nautical trainees shall continue to be of one-year duration with its revised curriculum that will be in effect from 1st January, 2008.
- b. The trainees may then proceed to sea for the approved seagoing service of not less than 18 months, which shall include the following:
 - i. Maintenance of DGS-IGNOU approved Cadet Record Book (CRB) to be ensured by C.T.O, shipboard officers and assessed by examiner at the time of MMD orals.
 - ii. Structured Shipboard Training Programme (SSTP) from any DGS-IGNOU approved SSTP provider, as decided by the company providing on-board training.
 - iii. Candidates to perform, during the required seagoing service, bridge watch- keeping duties under the supervision of the Master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months.
- c. On completion of Sea time, the trainee are required to enroll in an approved Second Mate Foreign Going Competency preparatory Course and complete the prescribed Modular courses and then appear for the written and oral examination to obtain Second Mate Foreign Going Certificate of Competency as per MS STCW rules 1998.
- d. The candidates in their own interest are hereby advised that they should continue the enrollment with the university and pursue the approved Distance Education Programme simultaneously with their training, for acquiring the relevant degree qualification for their academic growth and excellence, and for the furtherance of career opportunities.
- e. This partial modification of the scheme shall be applicable for the bonafide students of IGNOU-DGS scheme, who have undergone their one-year pre-sea training in an approved institution from the batch commenced in August 2004 upto the batch commenced in January, 2007.
- f. A modified scheme will be promulgated shortly for the trainees of batch commenced in August, 2007 presently undergoing pre sea training for Diploma in Nautical Science of DGS-IGNOU scheme and all other subsequent batches.

This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Ex-officio Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

Sd/-

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