

Reorientation of different nautical streams for entry into deck department in fishing grade certification -recognition of long term pre -sea courses conducted at CIFNET.

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Dated:

Subject: Reorientation of different nautical streams for entry into deck department in fishing grade certification - recognition of long term pre-sea courses conducted at CIFNET.

Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical and Engineering Training (CIFNET), an institute under Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India has been conducting pre sea courses primarily for training Fishery grade officers since 1963 for manning fishing vessels. According to the existing M.S. (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended) - Rule 17 sub rule 2, a candidate is eligible for a remission of 12 months in sea service, if he produces a certificate from Director, CIFNET, for his/her attendance and proficiency in an approved course (of 18 months). CIFNET had upgraded their course to 24 months with affiliation to National Council of Vocational Training and has also started a 4 year degree programme affiliated to Cochin University of Science and Technology,(CUSAT) Kochi and approved by UGC. The enhanced syllabi of these courses are embedded with a vast curriculum on seamanship, navigational watch keeping and practical navigation, ship construction and a significant exposure in onboard practical training in subjects like fishery technology etc.,

Having recognized the decades long experience and reputation of CIFNET in training fishery grade officers, extended curriculum of these long term pre sea courses and the on board practical training offered in the institutes training vessels, the Directorate General of Shipping approves the under mentioned courses as approved pre sea courses for entry into career for appearing fishing grade COC examinations in the nautical stream as follows:

1. Eight semester Bachelor of Fisheries Science (Nautical Science)Degree holders from CUSAT shall be exempted from all written papers and directly (without post sea courses) appear for the Mate Fishing Vessel oral examination leading to the issuance of Certificate of competency as Mate of a Fishing Vessel under MS (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended) , provided the following criteria are met with: -

- i. Medical fitness requirement.
- ii. Completion of modular courses requirement as applicable.
- iii. Six months sea service on Fishing vessels of 24 meters and more in length

2. Approved Craftsman Training Scheme of 24 month "Vessel Navigator" certificate holders affiliated to NCVT, shall be eligible to appear directly (without post sea courses) for a Mate of Fishing Vessel written and oral examinations leading to the issuance of Certificate of Competency as Mate of a Fishing Vessel under MS (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended) , provided the following criteria are met with: -

- i. Medical fitness requirement.
- ii. Completion of modular courses requirement as applicable.

iii. Nine months sea service on a Fishing Vessel of 20 meters and more in length

To remove difficulty for the existing candidates who have undergone the approved course of 18 month in CIFNET as per Rule 17 sub-rule 2, MS (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended), the "Mate Fishing Vessel course" of CIFNET certificate holders, shall be eligible to appear directly (without post sea courses) for a Mate of Fishing Vessel written and oral examinations leading to the issuance of Certificate of Competency as Mate of a Fishing Vessel under MS (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended), provided the following criteria are met with: -

- i. Medical fitness requirement.
- ii. Completion of modular courses requirement as applicable.
- iii. Eighteen months sea service on a Fishing Vessel of 15 meters and more in length

4. The general candidates without any of the above pre seas course shall be eligible to appear for a Mate of Fishing Vessel written and oral examinations leading to the issuance of Certificate of Competency as Mate of a Fishing Vessel as per the existing provisions under MS (Examination of Skippers and Mate of Fishing Vessel) Rules, 1987 (as amended) with the following criteria

- i. Medical fitness requirement.
- ii. Completion of modular courses requirement as applicable.
- iii. Thirty six months sea service of which at least 6 months on a Fishing Vessel of not less than 15 meters in length

5. The sea service and other requirement of modular courses etc. for appearing subsequent fishing grade examinations viz., Skipper Grade II and Skipper Grade I are elaborately given in the flow chart appended.

The different stream of eligibility for appearing for Competency Examinations on the deck department of fishing grades are also detailed in the [flow charts](#) appended with this notice.

This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping.

Sd/-

(Capt. S.K. Shukla)

Dy. Nautical Advisor to

the Government of India