M.S. Notice 11 of 2010

No:7-NT(9)/2008 Dated: 07.07.2010

Subject: Special Drive on the conduct of Skipper Gr. I competency examination

Concerns were raised by various sections of the fishing industry on the shortage of Skipper Gr.I for manning the oceangoing fishing vessels. The statistical figures project a grim and grave situation on the issue. An urgent remedial measure to improve the situation is therefore, essential.

Hence, it is decided to address this issue of shortage Skipper Gr.I in Indian Fishing Vessel Industry by adopting following special measures though a special drive:

- 1) **Special drive on Dispensation**: All Skipper grade II certificate holders, who have completed 12 months of seagoing service on seagoing fishing of vessels 20 more in last 5 years will be eligible for dispensation as Skipper Gr. I. Dispensation may be granted to all eligible candidates on application by the respective employers. Immediately the dispensation may be given for 6 months to all eligible applicant. Dispensations may be limited to 150 candidates up to 31.12.2010.
- 2) Special Drive on Competency Exams: MMD Mumbai and MMD Chennai shall arrange intensive drive of competency Examinations for Skipper Gr. I. At least 6 exams may be conducted during August 10, Oct'10, Dec'10, Feb'11, Apr'11, June'11, on the basis of response from applicants. Exams may be conducted even if there is one applicant. The target of the said special drive is to have a total of 150 certificate holders of Skipper Grade I by June, 2011.

MMDs are therefore, advised to gear up for conduct of aforesaid exams. Action taken along with a quarterly report on dispensations issued (in line with sub para1 above) and report of candidates appeared and passed (in line with sub para 2 above) may be intimated to this Directorate.

Approved format of application and dispensation shall be made available through concerned MMDs.

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

Sd/-

(Capt. S.K. Shukla) Dy. Nautical Advisorto Government of India