



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

File No.: 23-POL/6/2025-CREW - DGS

Date: 01.08.2025

DGS Order No. 08 of 2025

Subject: Prohibition on Conduct of Maritime Training in India by Foreign Maritime Administrations or Authorized Entities Without Prior Approval of the Director General of Shipping – reg.

The Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India, is the central authority for the regulation of maritime training and certification in India under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the MS (STCW) Rules, 2014, and other instruments framed under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules.

2. Maritime education and training provided to Indian seafarers are required to meet strict national and international standards as prescribed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and enforced by the Directorate. The Directorate ensures compliance with the STCW Convention, 1978 as amended, and is responsible for safeguarding the quality and credibility of seafarer training in India.

3. It has been brought to the attention of this Directorate that certain foreign governments, maritime administrations, and their representatives have authorized private training centers for conducting maritime training courses leading to issuance of STCW Certificate of Competencies [CoC] and Certificate of Proficiencies [CoP] within Indian territory. However, many of the private training centers claiming to have authorization from foreign maritime administrations do not have approval of the Director General of Shipping.

4. Such activities are unauthorized and in contravention of Indian law and international obligations, and they undermine the regulatory authority of the Indian Maritime Administration. Section 86 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 clearly provides that the training of seafarers shall be such as may be prescribed, and further emphasizes that:

"No training shall be deemed to be valid unless it is of such standard and type as may be approved by the Central Government and in no case inferior to that provided under the authority of the Central Government or its recognized institutions."

5. **In view of the above, it is hereby directed that:**

No foreign Government, Maritime Administration, Agency, Institution, or representative shall conduct, promote, authorize, or deliver maritime training within the territory of India leading to issuance of CoC and CoP's under provisions of the STCW Convention, as amended — including online or distance learning accessible in India — without prior written approval of the Director General of Shipping.

6. Any entity found in violation of this directive shall be liable for regulatory and legal action, including but not limited to:

6.1 Blacklisting of Indian institutions or agents or seafarers involved

6.2 Referral to enforcement authorities under the MS Act and the Information Technology Act.

6.3 Rejection of certifications or training outcomes arising from such unauthorized courses.

7. All DG Shipping Ship owners, Ship Managers, approved Maritime Training Institutes (MTIs), RPSL Companies and related stakeholders are advised not to collaborate with any unapproved foreign training providers and to report any such offers or attempts to the Directorate without delay.

8. Any foreign administration intending to conduct maritime training in India must submit a formal proposal to the Directorate seeking prior approval, with full details of:

९वीं मंजिल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैम्पस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व) मुंबई- 400042

9th Floor, BETA Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai-400042

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-2575 2029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgshipping.gov

- 8.1 Course outline and compliance with STCW standards
- 8.2 Institutional and trainer credentials
- 8.3 Location and mode of delivery (in-person or online)
- 8.4 Partnership details with any DGS approved institutes.

9. Any institution who is already conducting STCW Courses leading to the issuance of STCW Certificate of Competency or Certificate of Proficiency including short duration modular courses on behalf of Foreign Maritime Administration must stop all such training with immediate effect and submit all required details to DGS for scrutiny and further investigation.

10. This Order is issued in the interest of maintaining the sanctity, sovereignty, and international credibility of India's maritime training system, and to ensure that no Indian seafarer receives substandard or unregulated training from unauthorized foreign sources.



(Shyam Jagannathan)

Director General of Shipping