

The draft Eng -EAC branch circular on the issuance of Electro-Technical Rating (III/7) Certificate of Proficiency to eligible seafarers and their career progression thereafter, is placed for the information of the stakeholders. Any comments or suggestions may be sent by email to praveen.nair@gov.in latest by August 27, 2025.

Praveen Nair,

Deputy Chief Surveyor, DGS



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

DGS (EAC-ENGG) Circular No. xx of 2025

File No. 13-11031/1/2021-ENGG - DGS	Date: 14.08.2025
Subject: Issuance of Electro-Technical Rating Certificate of Proficiency	
References:	a) DGS Training Circular No. 12 of 2020 issued on 01/04/2020 b) NT/ENGG Circular No.2 of 2016 issued on 20/09/2016
<p>I. Background</p> <p>1. The International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW), 1978, specifically the 2010 Manila Amendments, introduced the formal recognition of Electro-Technical Officers (ETOs) and Electro-Technical Ratings (ETRs) on merchant and passenger ships. These roles are now defined under STCW Regulations III/6 (ETO) and III/7 (ETR).</p> <p>2. The Directorate General of Shipping had issued various circulars/guidelines related to the conduct of ETO course and for streamlining the process of induction, training and certification of qualified seafarers as an ETO. These were issued with the intent to cause minimum disruption to the career paths of existing Electrical Officers and for a smooth transition to the new requirements as per STCW amendments.</p> <p>3. Recognizing that the modern merchant ships have become more complex, with advanced electrical and electronic systems being increasingly used for propulsion, navigation, automation, and various onboard services; there is an increasing role for individuals with specialized knowledge and skills in electrical and electronic engineering.</p>	

4. Noting that the electric and hybrid marine vessels are gaining wider acceptance in the maritime decarbonization scenario worldwide, the Directorate General of Shipping anticipates a larger demand for qualified and certified ETOs and ETRs who should be better equipped to understand the operations of such ships, comprehend the risk profile & the associated mitigatory measures for a reliable and efficient transition to greener technologies.
5. This Circular supersedes the NT/ENGG Circular No.2 of 2016 issued on 20/09/2016 and prescribes the eligibility criteria for seafarers interested in applying for the Certificate of Proficiency (CoP) as 'Electro-Technical Rating'. This Circular intends to provide more clarity to the eligibility criteria for the ETO course as notified by the DGS Training Circular No. 12 of 2020 issued on 01/04/2020 and widen the pathway to enable the Electro-Technical Ratings (Indian) CoP holders to undertake the ETO course and appear for the CoC examinations conducted by the DG Shipping.

II. Training & Certification as Electro Technical Rating (ETR)

The Merchant Shipping (STCW) Rules, 2014, as amended has prescribed the minimum requirements for certification of Electro-Technical ratings within Rule 49. Further, for the purpose of clarity and widening the entry level criteria, with respect to qualifications that meet the technical competence in table A-III/7 of the STCW Code, the sea going service requirements and age of the eligible seafarer, the following criteria shall be required to be followed for considering issuance of ETR CoPs:

Educational Qualification [#]	Sea going service [*]
Criteria I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass Std 10 from a recognized board, with science, mathematics as subjects & aggregate 40% marks, and • Minimum 40 % marks in English in 10th or 12th or Diploma or Degree, and • ITI trade certificate (full time) in electrical or electronics streams 	Nine months' service on a sea-going ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion power or more having performed duties relevant to electrical functions.
Criteria II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass three years' Diploma in Electrical/Electronics/ Telecommunication/ 	Six months service on a sea-going ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion

<p>Communication/Instrumentation/Control Engineering or equivalent from a Board recognized by the State/Central Government or AICTE, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 40 % marks in English in 10th or 12th or Diploma 	<p>power or more having performed duties relevant to electrical functions</p>
<p>Criteria III</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass Degree in Electrical/Electronics/Telecommunication/Communication/Instrumentation/Control Engineering or equivalent from a university recognized by the State/Central Government or AICTE, and • Minimum 40 % marks in English in 10th or 12th or Diploma or Degree 	<p>Six months service on a sea-going ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion power or more having performed duties relevant to electrical functions.</p>
<p>Criteria IV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete DG Shipping approved General Purpose (GP) Rating Course & pass the Exit Exam, and • Minimum 40 % marks in English in 10th or 12th or Diploma or Degree 	<p>Twelve months service on a sea-going ship powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion power or more, having performed duties relevant to electrical functions.</p>

*The Directorate General of Shipping has approved a '**ETR-Training and Assessment Record (TAR) Book**' for all the seafarers performing the sea going service referred above and the same shall be verified by the assessing officers of the Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) prior to the issuance of the CoP and is a mandatory requirement.

As permitted by the Article IX of the STCW Convention, the DGS notified Orders/Notices/Circulars establishing equivalence with regards to the educational qualification, training and seagoing service of Indian Navy or the Indian Coast Guard personnel shall be considered after examining the relevant DGS Order/Notices/Circulars issued for the said category of CoP.

III. Progression from Electro-Technical Rating to Electro-Technical Officer

The seafarer who has been issued with an ETR CoP, after completing the minimum sea going service as detailed below, can join the 4-month ETO pre-sea course at any DG Shipping approved Maritime Training Institute (MTI). The age limitation for enrollment to the ETO Course for those eligible seafarers who have the necessary sea service after getting the ETR CoP has been done away with. The two pathways for progression from ETR to ETO, are further categorized as below, for a better understanding of the requirement to be met by the ETR, prior applying to the MMDs for assessment and for the eligibility criteria to be followed by the MTIs prior admitting these candidates:

Category A: ETR without a Diploma / Degree in Electrical or Electronics stream

For progression from Electro-Technical Rating (ETR) to Electro Technical Officer (ETO):

- (a) the seafarer after being issued with a ETR CoP, have a minimum of 24 months sea going service on merchant ships powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion power or more, having performed duties relevant to electrical functions independently, out of which minimum 12 months sea going experience with an approved ETO TAR Book.
- (b) thereafter, attend DGS approved 4 months pre-sea ETO course;
- (c) appear written and oral examinations conducted by DG Shipping for ETO CoC Certification.

Category B: ETR holding a Diploma / Degree in Electrical or Electronics stream

For progression from Electro-Technical Rating (ETR) to Electro Technical Officer (ETO) for a ETR holding Diploma / Degree holder in electrical or electronics stream from a (State/Central/AICTE) recognized university, the seafarer should:

- (a) after being issued with ETR CoP, have a minimum of 12 months sea going service on merchant ships powered by main propulsion machinery of 750 KW propulsion power or more, having performed duties relevant to electrical functions independently out of which minimum 6 months sea going experience with an approved ETO TAR Book.
- (b) thereafter, attend 4 months pre-sea ETO course.
- (c) appear written and oral examinations conducted by DG Shipping for ETO CoC Certification.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

-Sd

(Praveen Nair)

Deputy Chief Surveyor

To

1. The Principal Officers, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai/Kandla/Kochi.
2. The Surveyor-in-Charge, Mercantile Marine Department, Goa/Jamnagar/Port Blair/Visakhapatnam/Tuticorin/Noida/Haldia/Paradip/Mangalore
3. Indian National Shipowner's Association (INSA), Mumbai.
4. Foreign Owner and Ship-Managers Association (FOSMA)
5. The Maritime Association of Ship Owners, Ship Managers and Agents (MASSA)
6. Indian Coastal Conference Shipping Association (ICCSA), Mumbai
7. Institute of Marine Engineers (India)
8. Engineering Wing
9. Hindi cell
10. Computer cell

Copy to:

11. The Chief Surveyor with the Govt.of India
12. Nautical Advisor to the Govt.of India
13. Surveyors of Engineering wing of the DGS

9वीं 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.in

Application for COP as Electro Technical Rating (ETR)

(Refer to Instructions given overleaf before filling up the application form)

To,		MMD: _____
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SUB: Application for Issuance of COP as ETR under STCW Convention, 1978 as amended.

Particulars of Candidate:

1	Name:	First name	Middle name	Surname	2. Date of Birth : DD/MM/YY			
	(in Block Letters)							
3	CDC Number		Date of Issue:	Place of Issue:				
4	Medical Certificate: (Photocopy to be attached)			Yes/ No				
5	STCW Courses record							
				Cert. No.	Name of MTI & Place			
	a. Personal Survival Techniques:							
	b. Fire Prevention and fire Fighting:							
	c. Elementary First Aid :							
	d. Personnel Safety and Social Responsibility :							
	e. Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (STSDSD)							
6	Record of Pre Sea Training , if any							
	Name of Institution			From	To	Total Time (MM/DD)		
7	Record of Sea Service:							
	Vessel's Particulars (starting from the latest)				Rank Served	Duration		Total Time Served Y.M.D
	Name	Type	K W	Foreign Going or Coastal		From	To	

I hereby declare that the particulars given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date :

Place: _____

Signature of Applicant

Note: Any person who makes a false representation or knowingly gives a false information is liable for punishment for cheating under the applicable sections of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

(FOR OFFICIAL USE)

Fees paid : ₹

Bharatkosh Receipt No.

Date

Office Assistant

I have scrutinized above application in line with applicable guidelines. Candidate has been assessed and examined and found eligible/ineligible* for certification.

* To delete as appropriate

Name and Signature of Duly Authorized Officer
Mercantile Marine Department:

CHECKLIST FOR ISSUANCE OF COP AS ELECTRO TECHNICAL RATING

Name:		Date:	
Indos No:		Date of Birth:	
(If Name and Place of birth is different in CDC and Passport Notarized affidavit to be submitted in Original)			
Photocopy of the following document to be submitted			
		Document Name	SEAFARER to check & tick the box [√]
1		Application form in original duly filled and signed	<input type="checkbox"/>
2		Copy of INDOS number print out	<input type="checkbox"/>
3		Copy of Indian CDC (all stamped pages) (self attested)	Self attested <input type="checkbox"/>
4		Copy of Indian Passport (all stamped pages) (self attested)	Self attested <input type="checkbox"/>
5		Sea service letter issue by ship-owner/ RPSL (Original)	<input type="checkbox"/>
6		Training record book (in original only)	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Copy of training courses as applicable :-		
	A	Pre-training as deck/engine or GP rating, IF ANY	<input type="checkbox"/>
	B	(i) FPFF Certificate and (ii) Refresher training in FPFF (Required only if the FPFF course was done more than Five years ago)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	C	Elementary First Aid	<input type="checkbox"/>
	D	(i) PST Certificate and (ii) Refresher training in PST (Required only if the PST course was done more than five years ago)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	E	Personal safety and social responsibilities (PSSR)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	F	Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (STSDSD)	<input type="checkbox"/>
8		Copy of articles of agreement or contract letter	Self attested <input type="checkbox"/>
9		Copy of Class X Mark sheet / Certificate	Self attested <input type="checkbox"/>
10		Copy of valid medical fitness certificate	Self attested <input type="checkbox"/>
11		Three recent colour photographs (passport size) in an Envelope	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
12		Fees of ₹3,750 payable by Bharatkosh to Principal Officer, MMD, _____	YES <input type="checkbox"/>

Name of the applicant

Signature of applicant

Name and Signature of the Authorized Officer at the MMD: _____

Remarks of the Assessing Officer / Dealing Assistant at the MMD, if any: _____