



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 Circular No. 02 of 2022 [ EAC Branch (Engineering) ]	
File No.13-11/5/2021-ENGG - DGS	Date: 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2022
<b>Subject: (A) Changes in the Question Pattern of MEO Class IV written examination.</b> <b>(B) Mandatory E-learning course.</b>	

1. This circular has been issued in supersession of EAC Branch (Engineering) Circular No. 28 of 2021 dated 20.12.2021.
2. Noting that India, being a prominent maritime and major manpower supplying nation, is continuously striving to strengthen its share in providing manpower to the world shipping.
3. Noting also that the competence of seafarer is the most critical factor in the safe and efficient operation of ships, and has a direct impact on the safety of life at sea as well as the protection of marine environment.
4. Realizing that the implementation of the requirements of Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping (STCW) Convention, alone, is not sufficient but also need to ensure timely re-alignment / updating in its examination processes to churn out the best of competent seafarers to man ships.
5. Whereas the MEO Class IV written examination has been migrated from pen and paper mode with descriptive type questions to computer based mode with multiple choice question (MCQ) in 2012 and continued till March 2020. However, during COVID -19 pandemic the MEO Class IV written examination could not be conducted from April 2020. And got resumed from October 2020 at MMD examination centres in manual mode (using pen and paper with MCQ), as the service provider for conducting the online exam was not available.
6. Whereas the present examination question pattern for MEO Class IV has a constraint of only allowing the questions to be multiple choice types limiting the ability to assess a candidate's situational awareness, demonstration of work procedure and ability to formulate arguments supported with reasoning and evidence among other aspects.

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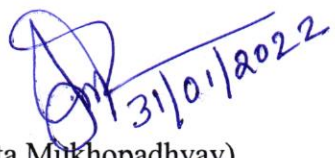
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7. Whereas the feedback received from external and internal stake holders has suggested to include subjective type questions in the MEO Class IV written examination to overcome the above constraints.
8. Whereas the Directorate has now developed a digitized system for conducting on-line written examinations through Remote Proctoring for all competence grades and the pilot trial for it has been conducted.
9. In careful consideration of all the above, the Chief Examiner of Engineers has decided that with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 there will be no fixed pattern of questions for MEO Class IV written examination. The question patterns will either be fully descriptive type or combination of descriptive, multiple choices, true and false, match the following etc.
10. It is also decided to conduct this MEO Class IV written examination on both remote mode (please refer DGS order 33 of 2021 dated 26.10.2021) and usual off-line mode at various Mercantile Marine Department (MMD), where the candidate can appear in person at MMD examination centre.
11. The aforesaid change in question pattern is not going to impact the candidate's ability in answering as the questions will be from the IMO model course 7.04 (Officer In-Charge of an Engineering watch) curriculum covering the competency table (Regulation A-III/1) of STCW, that are to be assessed for issuance of MEO Class IV Certificate of Competency (COC), and are also being covered/taught during the Marine Engineering pre sea training course in DGS approved MTI's.
12. The written examinations is not only to assess the candidate's competency but also serves as a tool to measure the performance of the MTI's, imparting the Marine Engineering pre sea courses for assisting in assignment of CIP rating.
13. **Mandatory E-Learning Course for MEO Class IV**
  - (i) In order to facilitate candidates to improve their knowledge and examination skill, the Directorate has developed E-learning course for operational level and many seafarers have been availing this facility for appearing MEO Class IV examination and reportedly being benefitted. This E-learning course is at present optional.
  - (ii) Considering the foregoing, the Directorate has decided to make this E-learning course mandatory to be completed by all candidates prior appearing for MEO Class IV examination at no additional cost to the candidate.
  - (iii) The E-Learning Course completion certificate shall be digital and forwarded automatically to the candidate's seafarer profile after satisfactory completion of

these classes.

- (iv) E-learning course once completed is valid till the candidate completes the MEO Class IV COC examination.
- (v) E-learning course to be completed after the candidate has completed the Qualifying Sea Service (QSS). It can also be completed during 6 months on board QSS subject to meeting the STCW rest hours requirement. However, the E-learning course is required to be completed within a maximum period of one year from the date of enrollment.
- (vi) E-learning course is mandatory for the candidates who are going to appear MEO Class IV examination for the first time from the month of June 2022. E-learning course is not mandatory for all those who are repeaters (have already appeared) or will be appearing prior June 2022 for MEO Class IV examination.
- (vii) The assessment/ generation of admit card will continue to be through e-pariksha system. However, the E-Learning completion certificate need to be additionally uploaded along with other documents.
- (viii) For enrolment in E learning course, candidate need to follow the instruction annexed to this circular.

This issue with the approval of the Chief Examiner of Engineers.

  
(Jayanta Mukhopadhyay)  
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To,

1. Sr. PS to DG (S)/Addl. DG(S)/CS/NA(I/C) for information.
2. Principal Officer, Mercantile marine Department Mumbai/Chennai/Kolkata/Kandla/Kochi.
3. Training & e-Governance Branch, DGS for necessary action.
4. INSA/FOSMA/MASSA/ICCSA.
5. Computer Cell, DGS for uploading on DGS Website.
6. Hindi Cell for Hindi translation.

#### ANNEXTURE.

1. Visit DG Shipping website- [www.dgshipping.gov.in](http://www.dgshipping.gov.in)
2. Click E learning & select competency course
3. On E-Learning competency course select "registration now" for registration.
4. Upon successful registration the candidate will receive system generated Log in ID and Password in candidate's registered e-mail id.
5. Candidate can now log in with the provided user ID& password for attending the E-learning course.