

**35th STCW Compliance Board Meeting to be held on 22.08.2024**

<b>Sr. no.</b>	<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Decision Taken</b>
1	Swimming Pool tie ups	<p>DDG Training informed that comments of members are required before putting the draft circular on website for comments of the stakeholders. DG stated that a consolidated circular in the matter needs to be issued superseding all the earlier circulars/guidelines.</p> <p>DDG Training briefed about the amendments in the draft circular. The related issues such as hygiene around the swimming pool, CCTV surveillance, chlorine level of the water, water quality testing by authorised laboratories, maintaining the PH level of water, variations in norms of the concerned local govt. Bodies about swimming pool, etc were discussed. He also raised the issue of signing tie ups for the swimming pools by DGS approved institutes for more than 5 MTIs, even if the slots are not available.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board :-</p> <p>A Sub-Committee comprising of various officers of DG Shipping is constituted, which will come up with the comprehensive circular on the swimming pool requirements for PST as well as PSCRB courses, and other courses which requires swimming pool/water bodies, taking into consideration all the earlier circulars /orders /guidelines issued by the Directorate and the earlier decisions taken in the matter by the STCW Compliance Board. The said Sub-Committee will also examine</p>

		<p>the tie-up arrangements, slot allocation, availability of equipment's for practical training, distance between the two MTIs, etc. for other MTIs. Comprehensive draft circular then be put before the STCW Compliance Board for deliberation and decision.</p>
2	<p>Conduct of Non DGS approved courses by DGS approved MTIs – revised draft circular reg.</p>	<p>DDG Training briefed about the requirement of revised circular on conduct of value added/non-DGS approved courses. He informed that some shipping company owned /run institutes conduct value added courses for their officers and ratings as per the demand of the company, however, it has been observed that smaller institutes conducting basic modular courses also conduct non-DGS approved courses, sometimes for other flag courses issuing certificates without conducting any classes. Such MTIs put 'DGS approved institute with MTI number' on the certificates issued for value added courses. There is no monitoring mechanism on such MTIs.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board:  A Sub-Committee comprises of PO, MMD, Mumbai; PO, MMD, Kolkata, DDG-Training [Dr. Kohakade] and DDG –Training [Shri Deependra Singh Bisen] as Member Secretary, to be constituted, which will come up with the comprehensive circular/ clear recommendations on conduct of value added/non-DGS approved courses taking into consideration all the earlier circulars /orders /guidelines issued by the Directorate, matrix &amp; parameters about the infrastructure, etc. This four member sub-committee can co-opt officers and members, as considered</p>

		<p>necessary. Clear recommendations /draft comprehensive circular then be put before the STCW Compliance Board for deliberation and decision.</p>
3	<p>Recognition of NIOS Board for admission in the pre-sea Training courses</p>	<p>Recognition of NIOS Board for admission in the pre-sea Training courses :</p> <p>Vide Training Circular No.4 of 2004 dated 24.02.2024, Directorate has recognised certificates issued by National Institute of Open Schooling [NIOS] at par with the certificates issued by other Boards such as Central Board of Secondary Education [CBSE] &amp; Council for Indian School Certificate Examination [CISCE], subject to the fulfilment of criteria of age &amp; % of marks laid down by this Directorate, as amended from time to time.</p> <p>The National Institute of Open Schooling [NIOS] [Formerly known as National Open School] is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary &amp; Higher Senior Secondary course examinations, through open and distance education.</p> <p>Vide Training Circular 12 of 2020 dated 1.4.2020 at Annexure-1, the Directorate has prescribed eligibility criteria with regard to educational qualification and age limit, for admission in pre-sea maritime courses. Para 12.1.3 of the said circular says that “Part time or distance learning or correspondence course or any combination of these shall not be considered.”</p> <p>However, the Training Circular No.04 of 2004 has not superseded in Training Circular No.12 of 2020, and therefore, the recognition of NIOS stands valid.</p>

		<p>The matter was placed in 35<sup>th</sup> STCW Compliance Board for deliberation and decision to continuation of recognition of NOIS which is approved by the Ministry of Education and allow the recognised boards doing distance learning courses for 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> standard examination for admissions in DGS approved pre-sea courses/MTIs.</p> <p>Chief examiner informed that the NIOS Board is listed in the brochures of IMU, Chennai.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The matter may be taken with the Ministry of Human Resource Development for clarification.</li> <li>2. The comments may be taken from IMU, Chennai.</li> </ol>
4	<p>Presentation on pendency of online in-principle approval and course approval of MTIs.</p>	<p>Member Secretary, STCW Compliance Board gave presentation on pending application of in-principle approval and course approvals. The case of Kathoke Charitable Trust, Mumbai for in-principle approval was discussed. DDG Training informed that Directorate has given around one year time but the Trust is requesting another one year to submit the documents.</p> <p>The application from Shrimant Shankar Academy was also discussed. PO, Kolkata informed that they have given their recommendation in online MTI Module.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The request from Kathoke Charitable Trust for In-principle approval be rejected.</li> </ol>

		<p>2. PO, MMD, Kolkata will give presentation on the In-principle application from M/s. Shrimanta Shankar Academy, Guwahati in the next STCW Compliance Board meeting.</p> <p>3. PO, MMD, Kandla will give presentation on the In-principle application from M/s. Rashtriya Raksha University in the next STCW Compliance Board meeting.</p> <p>4. With regard to pending course approval applications, jurisdictional PO are requested to expedite the applications.</p>
5	Update on examination reforms.	<p>During 35th STCW Compliance Board meeting held on 22.08.2024, NA i/c informed that proposal pending with the Ministry. It has been informed that extensive meeting was held yesterday in the matter. CDAC has been approved and they will approach the Directorate with MOU as a technology partner. The detailed discussion in the matter was held. It has been decided to approach to C-DAC for umbrella MoU as Technology partner, between Secretary MoPSW and Secretary MeitY, so that it allows organization other than DG Shipping to benefit as well. A meeting was held with C-DAC yesterday and DG(S) informed that C-DAC was opened to assess any vendor for the said e-examination reform work. A committee was to be constituted comprising of various officers of DG Shipping and allied offices which will do technical validation which would be vetted by both the chief examiners independently which then it would be put up before the STCW Compliance Board.</p>

		<p>After this the testing the validation of ARI module and roll out based on the secured platform to be hosted by M/s ARI such that no interference by ARI in result and question paper in the examination and without audit trail or formal permission from examination cell.</p> <p>Further, C-DAC will then certify the developed platform of M/s ARI or developed it ab-initio. In the meantime, If, the directions are received from the Ministry about engagement of NTA then DGS would request C-DAC to validate the above platform with PMC EY.</p>
6	<p>Updates on Comprehensive Review of STCW Convention and Codes</p>	<p>The Nodal officer for Comprehensive Review of STCW Convention and Codes informed STCW Compliance board that online meetings were held on 14th and 21st August, 2024. They have identified all the gaps. Chapter wise presentation by each member was given. They all submitted the gaps. IMO has given a circular inviting that intercession working group will be held in the month of October, they have given the template to make a paper and submit the papers and the gaps. The draft has been finalized now. A workshop has been organized on 27th August, 2024 wherein each member will present final draft. Post to that, we will have internal discussion with Shipping companies, and CS and NA and other core committee members for finalization. He further informed that there was also an issue on conduct of conference in India. So concept note and DO letter was prepared and will be sent to the Ministry with the concept note on why the conference be held in India Post adaptation of all the amendments to 2010 STCW.</p>
7	<p>Updates on Revamping of Training Manual</p>	<p>The Nodal officer for revamping of Training Manual informed that draft has already been complied each chapter wise as the manual is in four parts. First part is for</p>

		<p>pre-sea, second part is for post-sea, third part is for MTI Module and the fourth part is the compendium of circulars. The draft will be put for comments of stakeholders. Final draft will be put up to the committee members for discussion.</p> <p>The board was also informed about the communication to ARI about FRS and SRS for the new revamped MTI module so that frozen FRS and SRS should be part of the Part 3 of the Manual. Somewhere around first week of September, it is intended to publish for consultation of the stakeholders, say around 40 working days and then finalise it.</p>
8	Confirmation on publication of results at every STCW compliance board.	Confirmed by Both wings.
9	Review of legal matters in Training Division – updates thereof.	<p>Legal consultant informed that there were presently 19 cases, and presently there are 14 active cases as on date. The reference was made to the decision taken in the last STCW Compliance Board meeting regarding interpretation of DGS rules, complication of court orders which will basically become a barometer of interpretation by legal forum, and requested legal consultant to do it. Legal consultant stated that work will be done and will be presented in the next meeting. DDG Training informed that there is one major judgement of 2019 September by Madras High Court which is very elaborative to take it into account.</p>
10	M/s. Sriram Institute of Marine Studies, Noida – deficiencies observed during inspection	DDG Training informed that MTI was directed not to take any admission and the courses have been suspended online. But even then, the MTI admission GP rating –July 2024 batch as well as DNS batch. Now, MTI has submitted compliance and requested to open the uploading of the batch details. MMD officials stated that submission from MTI will be examined and re-inspection will be done and the

		<p>finding and recommendations will be submitted before the STCW Compliance Board in the next meeting.</p> <p>This decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board.</p>
11	<p>AMET Institute of Science and Technology, Chengalpattu [MTI No.406055]- approval for 2nd year of B.Sc. [Nautical Science] and B.E. [Marine Engineering] degree courses</p>	<p>M/s. AMET Institute of Science and Technology, Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu vide email dated 06.06.2024 has forwarded letter regarding request for inspection for second year infrastructure for the course of BSc Nautical Science and BE Marine Engineering and requested to inspect their MTI campus infrastructure with regard to suitability for conducting second year BSc Nautical Science and BE/B Tech Marine Engineering Programme. The MMD, Chennai conducted inspection and further informed that during the inspection, three observations were made by the inspection team, of which, observation no. 1 is complied by the MTI and regarding observation no. 2, an undertaking was given by the MTI for constructing the swimming pool in 6 months. Regarding observation no.3, MTI submitted that it was given time till 20.06.2026 for compliance by DGS vide approval no. 20-11011/26/2022-TRG-DGS, dated 21.06.2023, appending approval number, TR/A/06/2023, however, the Directorate may advise MTI to comply with observation no. 3 in a period of one year regarding the construction of its own Ship-in Campus for meeting the requirement. In view of the above, the PO, MMD, Chennai has recommended that the Directorate may consider accepting the recommendation of the inspection team for conduct of 2<sup>nd</sup> year B.Sc Nautical Science in 2 batches of 40 candidates each and 2<sup>nd</sup> year B.E./B.Tech Marine Engineering in 2 batches of 40 candidates.</p>



		As per discussion, the recommendation of the PO, MMD, Chennai is approved by STCW Compliance Board.
12	Unblocking of the INDOS Numbers	The Directorate has received requests from two candidates to unblock their INDOS. As they have redone the courses as seen in the master checker; their INDoS numbers have been approved by the STCW Compliance Board to be unblocked.
13	Cosmopolitan Technology of Maritime College, Sriperumbudur (MTI No. 402008) – admission of candidate from waiting list for July2024 GP Rating branch	<p>It has been informed to STCW Compliance Board that an email complaint was received from some candidates that the Management of MTI has taken money , but they had beaten the candidates and were thrown out. It has been proposed that we should not consider this issue since it's beyond the time limit.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.The request from Cosmopolitan Technology of Maritime College, Sriperumbundur for admission of candidates form waiting list is rejected.</li> <li>2. PO, MMD, Chennai shall inquire into the matter, may take necessary steps and submit the recommendation on decision. The same will be validated by the STCW Compliance Board.</li> </ol>
14	Introduction of “Basic awareness course for seafarer	<p>The matter was placed in the 35th STCW Compliance Board meeting for deliberation and decision. DDG[Crews] gave presentation in the matter.</p> <p>As per discussion, the following decision is approved by STCW Compliance Board :-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This familiarization course shall be made mandatory and to be included in the existing PSSR course. The module of the same to be made mandatory.</li> </ol>

		<p>2. There will be 3 aspects; 1) Structured module to be display on the DGS website, 2) Handouts/Pamphlets to be given to each seafarers and 3) The said module to be made mandatory for RSPL as well.</p> <p>3. DDG [crew] shall work with the framework and come up with the circular in the matter.</p>
15	M/s. Marine Officers' Training Academy (MOTA) (MTI No. 402014) – suspension period reg	<p>The Directorate had accorded approval to the MTI “Marine Officers’ Training Academy (MOTA), Puducherry” (MTI No. 402014), for conducting pre-sea and post-sea courses.</p> <p>MMD Chennai carried out an unscheduled inspection of the MTI on 01.05.2019 and pointed out several major lapses and violations DGS guidelines. The MMD inspection report was reviewed at the Directorate and additional deficiencies were noted. The MTI was found involved in the case of issuance of fake certificate to the seafarer. The Directorate General of Shipping issued Show Cause Notice to MTI on 20.09.2019 and subsequently, Order of withdrawal of approval and De-recognition of the institute was issued to the MTI vide order dated 12.02.2020.</p> <p>MTI submitted representation to the Directorate on 02.06.2024 which was forwarded to MMD, Chennai on 04.07.2024 for comments. MTI in the representation dated 20.06.2024 pointed out the following:</p> <p>a. Five years punishment of withdrawal already completed since May 2019 for mismanagement of subordinates of the MTI.</p>

b. In similar case of Pondicherry Maritime Academy only extended campus at Chennai was closed and then main campus with same INDoS of the MTI was allowed to continue without any suspension.

c. DGS suspended International Academy for less than 3 months when they flouted DGS guidelines and admitted ineligible candidates.

d. Recommendation of Hon'ble CM of Puducherry for consideration of restoration of MTI.

e. Recommendation of retired Hon'ble Justice of Madras High Court.

MTI citing the judgement dated 18.08.2023 in WP 33973 for 2023 requested for fresh inspection of the institute. It has been recommended that "the suspension of MOTA Pondicherry be considered for a period of 5 years, subject to further deliberation and concurrence from the STCW Compliance Board."

In 2019, the Directorate withdrew the approval of five MTIs that had issued fake course certificates without conducting the required lectures and practicals. debarment period.

In some cases, no period for the debarment of the Trustees was specified. The competent authority has since decided to standardize such cases by setting the debarment period to five years to ensure consistency.

It has been recommended that suspension may be considered for a period of five years, after which, the Institute has to apply a fresh, because MTI was not

		<p>functioning for last 5 years. Further, from E-governance module, it is seen that their lease agreement is also expired in 2022, so they should apply as a fresh institute. Legal consultant's opinion in the matter including the court case, may be taken on record.</p> <p>As per discussion, the above recommendation is approved by STCW Compliance Board.</p>
16	Zasha institute of Maritime Studies –Shifting of premises	<p>In 27<sup>th</sup> STCW Compliance Board meeting, the request of shifting of premises and courses along with applied courses, except two courses viz. PSCRB and Revalidation of Master &amp; Mates course was approved <u>by STCW Compliance Board</u> as recommended by PO, MMD.</p> <p>Subsequently, the MTI has submitted presentations dated 12.07.2024 and 19.08.2024 and has requested for restoration of the PSCRB and RMD courses for the following grounds that PO MMD Kandla has recommended for approval of these courses. MTI has requested to invite representation of MTI and re-discuss the issue and restore the withdrawal of approval. Accordingly, the MTI was invited to give Presentation before the STCW Compliance Board in its 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting scheduled on 22.08.2024.</p> <p>Capt. Beg from MTI gave presentation, which was taken on record.</p> <p>As per discussion the decisions taken is as under :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PO, MMD, Kandla to examine the matter.</li> </ol>

		<p>The outcome /decision of the sub-committee to be constituted for examining the swimming pool/water body matter may be taken into consideration. The committee will submit its recommendation within 2 weeks.</p>
17.	<p>Additional Agenda : Presentation on the STCW Training</p>	<p>The decisions taken is as under;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The said presentation to be email to all the members of STCW Compliance Board.</li><li>2. From next meeting onwards the agenda items to be fixed in structured manner as per presentation.</li></ol>