

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING		
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Ref: QMS: EACQP- 08- 01	Subject: Revised Scheme for Deck Ratings to appear for Second Mate (FG) and NWKO (NCV) grade C.O.C examination	File No: 7-NT(2)/2009
Authorized by: Director General of Shipping	Circular No: M.S. Notice No. 15 of 2012 (This notice supersedes M.S. Notice 19 and 20 of 2008)	Date: 30.05.2012

Ref: Rule 13 and Rule 17 of MS (STCW) Rules 1998
META Manual Volume I Section M-II/1 and M-II/5

1. Background:

- 1.1** Directorate General of Shipping, being aware of the cyclic nature of the shipping trade and industry, has initiated proactive and pragmatic measures as and when necessary to deal with the current and future needs of the industry at large and seafarers in particular.
- 1.2** Considering the demands from the industry to increase the number of Indian officers, due to Global shortage of sea-going officers and to provide opportunity for available pool of qualified deck ratings to become certified officers, the Directorate had issued **M.S. Notice 19 of 2008** specifying the scheme for **Deck ratings to appear for Second Mate (Foreign-going) Examination having educational qualification of 10+2 (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics)** and **M.S. Notice 20 of 2008** specifying the **scheme for Deck ratings to appear for Second Mate (Foreign-going) Examination having educational qualification of 10th standard** on 25th September 2008.
- 1.3** Consequently a large number of candidates from rating stream appeared for the Second Mate (FG) examination, if they met the requirements specified in M.S. Notice No. 19 and 20 of 2008. However, the number of candidates who successfully pass the second mate (FG) examination from this category has been quite low in the last three years, compelling the candidates to make repeated attempts to clear the examination with limited success.
- 1.4** The matter has been analysed in the Directorate and this has also been discussed with other Industry representatives and maritime training institutes. It has been decided that henceforth all candidates coming from rating stream to second mate (FG) examination would be required to successfully complete

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the two months foundation course and four months NWKO (NCV) course and NWKO (NCV) written examination as stated in section M-II/1 of META manual Vol.I before they are allowed to join the 2nd Mate (FG) post sea competency course. It has accordingly been decided to revise the M.S. Notice No. 19 & 20 of 2008 to make the rating to 2nd Mate (FG) transition more effective. This M.S. Notice hereby supersedes M.S. Notice 19 and 20 of 2008 as follows: AA & BB.

AA) Revised Scheme for Deck Ratings to appear for Second Mate (Foreign-going) Examination having educational qualification of 10 + 2 (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics). Superseding M.S. Notice 19 of 2008

1. Entry Qualification:

- 1.1 10+2 (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics)
- 1.2 Minimum 50% marks in English language at 10th or 12th examination as conducted by the Boards.

2. Age Criteria

Minimum 18 years.

3. Medical fitness:

As per Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2000.

4. Eye sight and Colour vision:

As per Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2000.

5. Sea Service Requirement:

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- 5.1 36 months approved sea going service in the deck department of a foreign going ship; this includes Bridge watch keeping duties (documented in an approved training record book) under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months.
- 5.2 However, the candidate may be permitted to undertake the NWKO (NCV) preparatory course and / or the modular courses on completion of 30 months sea service. An EXN-45 form will be issued to these candidates as communication of the result of the NWKO (NCV) written examination. Subsequently, the candidate may complete the requisite Bridge watch keeping duties (documented in an approved training record book) under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months and thereafter appear for the Second Mate (FG) competency course, second mate (FG) grade written and oral examination.
- 5.3 **Sea service performed on NCV trading ships:** Any deck rating, who have performed sea service of 36 months mainly on NCV trading ships of 500 GT or more will be allowed to appear for NWKO (NCV) course, written and oral examination. Upon successful completion of above examination and modular courses candidate will be awarded NWKO (NCV) Certificate of Competency. Thereafter candidate needs to complete at least six months of sea service as officer in-charge of navigational watch (OOW) on a NCV trading ship of 500 GT or more to be eligible to appear for second mate (FG) competency course and examination.

6. Foundation Course:

After completion of 18 months of sea service, candidates are permitted to attend the two months foundation Course and appear for foundation course examination for 2nd Mate(FG)

7. Preparatory course:

After completion of 30 months of sea service, candidates are permitted to attend the four month NWKO (NCV) screening Course and appear for its examination. Candidates are required to pass the NWKO (NCV) written examination prior joining the 2nd Mate (FG) competency course.

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8. Competency course:

After completion of 36 months of sea service and upon successful completion of foundation course and NWKO (NCV) examination stated above, candidates are permitted to attend the four months competency course for 2nd Mate (FG).

9. Advanced Modular courses:

All Modular courses required for the award of Certificate of Competency as Second Mate of a foreign-going ship, i.e. AFF, PSCRB, MFA, ROC, ARPA and GMDSS-GOC to be completed prior oral examination.

10. Written examination:

Candidates are required to appear and successfully pass in all subjects as specified for Second Mate F.G.

11. Oral examination:

Candidates are required to appear and successfully pass in all three functions.

12. Certification:

On completion of the written and oral examination including the required modular courses as per the requirement of the META manual Vol I and II, candidates will be awarded Certificate of Competency as Second Mate of a Foreign Going Ship (Officer In-charge of a Navigational Watch) on board ships of 500 Gross tons or more as per the provisions of regulation II/1 of STCW 1978 as amended.

[Encl : Please see the Flow Chart –I](#)

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BB) Subject: Scheme for Deck Ratings to appear for Navigational Watch-keeping Officer (Near Coastal Voyages) Examination having educational qualification of 10th Standard. (Superseding M.S. Notice 20 of 2008)

1. Entry Qualification:

- 1.1 10th Standard
- 1.2 Minimum 50% marks in English language.

2. Age Criteria: Minimum 18 years.

3. Medical fitness:

As per Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2000.

4. Eye sight and Colour vision:

As per Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2000.

5. Sea Service Requirement:

- 5.1 36 months of approved seagoing service, which includes Bridge watch keeping duties under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months. However, the candidate may be permitted to undertake the NWKO (NCV) competency course and the written examination and / or the modular courses on completion of 30 months sea service. An EXN-45 form will be issued to these candidates as communication of the result of the written examination. Subsequently, the candidate may complete the requisite Bridge watch keeping duties (documented in an approved training record book) under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months and thereafter appears for the oral examination.
- 5.2 However an Indian Shipping Company desiring to implement the Structured Training Programme for deck ratings based on the principles described in section B-II/1 of STCW code and submits their training plan to the Directorate, then this period of 36 months may be reduced to 18 months, provided the deck rating (i.e. trainee) employed

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on ship is considered as a prospective officer and the trainee is in addition to the minimum safe manning prescribed for the vessel and the candidate has undergone Structured Shipboard Training Programme of not less than 18 months from a DGS approved DLP provider which meets the requirements of section A-II/1 of the STCW Code as applicable to ships engaged in Near Coastal Voyages and is documented in an approved training record book, including bridge watch keeping duties under the supervision of the master or a qualified officer for a period of not less than 6 months.

6. Foundation Course:

Not Applicable

7. Advanced Modular Courses:

All Modular courses required for the award of Certificate of Competency as NWKO NCV, i.e. AFF, PSCRB, MFA, ROC, ARPA and GMDSS-GOC.

8. Post Sea Course and NWKO NCV Certification:

8.1 Duration four months (NWKO NCV course) and a written and oral examination of NWKO NCV certification including signals.

8.2 On completion of the written and oral examination including the required modular courses as per the requirement of the Section M-II/5 of META manual Vol. I, candidates will be awarded Certificate of Competency as Navigational Watch-keeping Officer (Near Coastal Voyages) on board ships of 500 Gross tons or more as per the provisions of regulation II/1 of STCW 1978 as amended.

[Encl : Please see the Flow Chart - II](#)

2.0 Implementation:

2.1 These revised schemes will come into effect from the date of issuance of this notice for the candidates who have not yet taken admission in a post sea training and education programme (i.e. second mate function course) on the date of issuance of this notice.

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2.2 Candidates who are undergoing post sea training and education course as on date may complete their courses, but will have to be assessed and appear for appropriate examination as per applicability of this M.S. Notice.

2.3 Those candidates who have already been declared eligible to appear for second mate(FG) examination as per the provisions of previous M.S. Notices 19 and 20 of 2008 will be allowed to appear for the examination for a maximum period of one year.

2.4 However candidates who are continuously failing in second mate (FG) examination or have low success rate are hereby advised to pursue NWKO (NCV) certification, for which due/corresponding credit will be given in NWKO (NCV) stream at par and no additional fee will be charged for assessment / change of grade in application form.

2.5 Henceforth enrolment in SSTP or Distance learning programme (DLP) for ratings pursuing on board training would be on voluntary basis only and no claim towards remission of seagoing service will be accepted towards assessment for Second Mate (FG) grade.

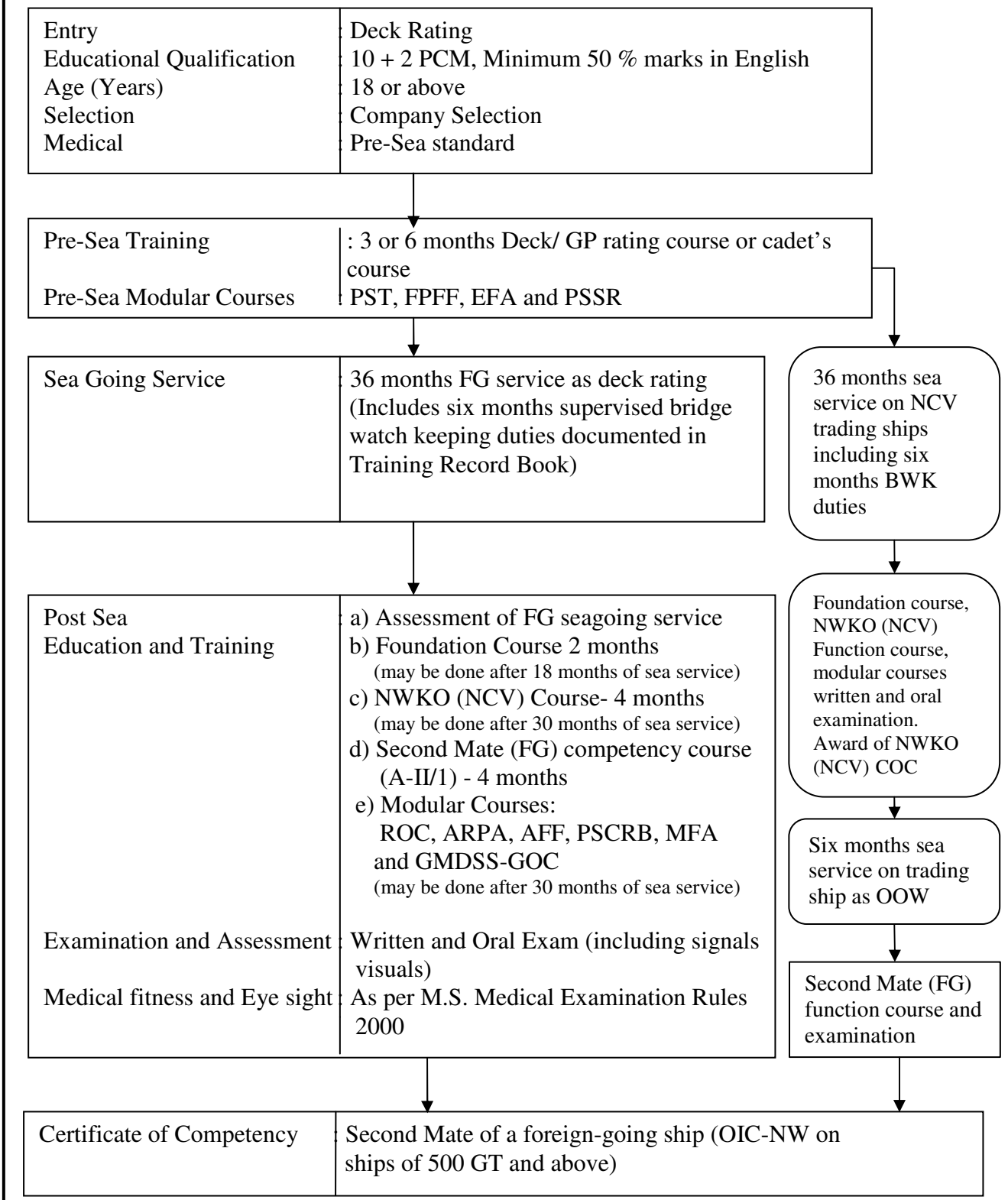
2.6 This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping and Ex-Officio Addl. Secretary to the Government of India.

Enclosure: Flow Chart I and II

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I. Flow Chart depicting the scheme for Deck Rating (10+2 PCM) to 2nd Mate (FG).



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II. Flow Chart depicting the scheme for Deck Rating (10th std) to NWKO (NCV)

