



Technical Circular

No.: 003/2021

Date: 11th January 2021

Subject: DGS Order No. 01 of 2021 Reg Extension of Certificates of Competency/ Certificate of Proficiency of Seafarers in view of COVID-19 pandemic.

1. In view of the currently continuing pandemic posed by Covid-19, Indian Administration vide DGS Order No. 01 of 2021 has granted extension of Certificate of Competency (CoCs) and/or Certificate of Proficiency (CoPs) until **31.12.2021** from the date of joining or one contract whichever is earlier for all those Seafarers who comply with **all of the following**:
 - a. The Seafarer has signed-off from a ship on/after issue of DGS Order 20 of 2020 (**04.08.2020**).
 - b. The Seafarer has not availed any extension of CoC/CoP under any previously issued Directorate Order/ Circular/ SoP whether while being on ship or ashore.
 - c. The Seafarer joins the ship on/before **31.03.2021** and demonstrates continuous professional competence as detailed in Annex I of DGS Order 01 of 2021 on the date of joining.
2. Ship owners/ operators and masters of Indian flagged ships are advised to be guided by above.

Enclosure:

1. DGS Order No. 01 of 2021, dated 01 January 2021



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MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

DGS Order 01 of 2021

File No. 13-39/5/2020-ENGG-DGS	Date: 01.01.2021
Subject: Extension of Certificates of Competency/Certificate of Proficiency of Seafarers	

- Whereas vide DGS order 26 of 2020 dated 30.09.2020, the Director General of Shipping granted deemed extension of CoPs to ratings till 31.12.2021 or for one-contact, whichever comes first, provided that-
 - no extension has been availed by rating under previous orders / SOPs issued by the Directorate and
 - have joined / shall join ships on/prior to 31.12.2020 and
 - meet the continuous professional competence as per attached Annex I as on the date of their joining.
- Whereas vide DGS Order 33 of 2020 dated 03.11.2020, the Director General of Shipping also granted extension of CoCs/CoPs issued to Master & Officers till 31.12.2021 or for one-contact, whichever comes first, provided that-
 - no extension has been availed by Masters & officers under previous orders / SOPs issued by the Directorate and
 - have joined / shall join ship on/prior to 30 November 2020 and
 - meet continuous professional competence as per Annex I as on the date of their joining.
- Whereas INSA/FOSMA/MASSA in their submission has requested further extension of above provisions of deemed extension for Master, Officers & ratings citing various reasons such as lack of internet connectivity, remote locations for undergoing the online courses and at times they need to connect the seafarers due to unpredictable situations arising due to the currently continuing pandemic posed by Covid-19 and hence requested extension of the period for ratings till 31.12.2021 and for offices till 30.06.2021.
- Noting that as early as in August 2020, the Directorate has facilitated conduct of revalidation courses initially vide DGS Order 20 of 2020 dated 04.08.2020 via Three-Tier

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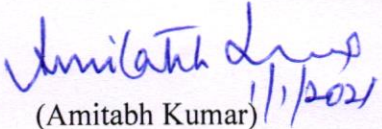
9वीं मंजिल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैंपस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व) मुंबई- 400042

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training mechanism comprising of E-Learning, Virtual Classes/On-Line Video sessions and Exit Exam and lately allowed conduct of all STCW Courses vide DGS Order 40 of 2020 dated 19.12.2020 via Three Tier training mechanism comprising of E-Learning, Virtual Classes/On-Line Video sessions & Practical and Exit Exam.

5. Also considering that the grant of extension to all seafarer who are joining on/before 31.12.2021, which is almost for a period of 1-year without revalidation will create long queues of candidate requiring completion of mandatory courses once the pandemic is over.
6. Further noting that it is only about 5-months since the Directorate facilitated completion of mandatory training through newly devised Three Tier mechanism.
7. Taking all the above into consideration, the Directorate hereby grants deemed extension of CoCs and/or CoPs until 31.12.2021 from date of joining or one contract whichever is earlier for all those seafarers who comply with all of the following:
 - (i) the Seafarer has signed-off from a ship on/after issue of DGS Order 20 of 2020.
 - (ii) the Seafarer has not availed any extension of CoC/CoP under any previously issued Directorate Order/Circular/SoP whether while being on ship or ashore.
 - (iii) the seafarer joins the ship on/before 31.03.2021 and demonstrates continuous professional competence as detailed in attached Annex I on the date of joining.


(Amitabh Kumar) 11/1/2021

Director General of Shipping
& Additional Secretary to the GoI.

ANNEX I

1. Regulation I/11 of the STCW Convention- Revalidation of Certificates.

1.1. Every Master, Officer and Radio Operator holding a Certificate issued or recognized under any Chapter of the Convention other than Chapter VI, who is serving at sea or intends to return to sea after a period ashore, shall, in order to continue to qualify for seagoing service, be required, at intervals not exceeding five years, to:

1.2 Meet the standards of medical fitness prescribed by Regulation I/9; and

1.3 Establish continued professional competence in accordance with section A-1/11 of the STCW Code.

2. Every master, officer and radio operator shall, for continuing seagoing service on board ships for which special training requirements have been internationally agreed upon, successfully complete approved relevant training.

3. Every master and officer shall, for continuing seagoing service on board tankers, meet the requirements in paragraph 1 of this regulation and be required, at intervals not exceeding five years, to establish continued professional competence for tankers in accordance with section, AI/11 paragraph 3 of the STCW Code.

4. Section A-I/11 of the STCW Convention - Professional competence Continued professional competence as required under regulation I/11 shall be established by:

4.1. Approved seagoing service, performing functions appropriate to the certificate held, for a period of at least:

4.1.1. Twelve months in total during the preceding five years, or

4.1.2. Three months in total during the preceding six months immediately prior to revalidating;

4.2. Continued professional competence for tankers, as required under Regulation I/11, shall be established by:

4.2.1. Approved seagoing service, performing the duties appropriate to the tanker certificate or endorsement held, for a period of at least three months in total during the preceding five years; or

4.2.2. Successfully completing an approved relevant training course or courses.