



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

75
आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

File No: 20-11011/7/2020-TRG-DGS (Comp. No.3403)

Date: 20.10.2022

ORDER

1. Whereas, the Directorate had accorded approval to the MTI "M/s. International Maritime Academy, Chennai" (MTI No. 406026), No.41, Jamin, Korattur, Puthuchatram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 124 for conducting following maritime training courses.

Sr. No.	Course Name
1.	B.Sc. Nautical Science
2.	BE / B-Tech Marine Engineering
3.	Basic Safety Training
4.	Diploma in Nautical Science
5.	Security Training for Seafarer with Designated Security Duties
6.	Training for General Purpose Ratings

2. Whereas, the MTI belongs to the Trust M/s International Maritime Academy Trust. The Trustees of the said Trust are Shri. J. Senthil Kumar (S/o Shri K Jayaraman), Smt. M. Hemalatha (W/o Shri J. Senthil Kumar).

3. Whereas, the Directorate issued Show Cause Notice vide letter no. 20-11011/7/2020-TRG-DGS dated 14.09.2021 for the following deficiencies;

3.1 MTI was admitting candidates below minimum eligibility criteria for B.Sc. Nautical Science and Diploma Science courses. The DGS Training Circular 12 of 2018 dated 01.04.2020 mentions in details about the minimum eligibility criteria for admission in approved MTI for approved maritime Pre-Sea training course. The MTI was found to be in non-compliance to the DGS Guidelines.

3.2 Several complaints were received at the Directorate against the Maritime Training Institute (MTI) from candidates stating that after completing the said courses from this MTI they were not eligible for assessment. The situation has arisen because they were not meeting minimum eligibility criteria as per the DGS Training Circular 12 of 2018 dated 01.04.2020 at the time of admission for the Pre-

Sea course by MTI. Students of B.E. (Marine Engineering) have also complained that MTI is not issuing course completion certificate and mark sheet to the final year students. Many of Diploma Nautical Science candidates have complained that MTI is not issuing SSTP certificate.

4. Whereas, the institute furnished its reply to the DG Shipping vide email dated 28.09.2021. The reply given by the institute was examined by the Directorate. Further, the Directorate was in receipt of numerous complaints from student against IMA and the MTI was not abiding DGS Orders and issued Guidelines while admitting candidates for Pre-Sea courses. The Directorate taking cognizance of the above facts issued letter to MMD, Chennai to carry out a comprehensive inspection. MMD, Chennai carried out a comprehensive inspection of the Institute on 30th September 2021.

5. The inspection team, in its report, pointed out 7 major & 11 non major lapses and violations from the part of the institute management, against the applicable DGS guidelines. Several of the observations from the inspection team, particularly relating to admitting in-eligible candidates, inadequacy of faculty conducting Degree programmers without affiliation to any University, irregularities in remittance of fees to Govt., non-conduct of CIP certifications etc. clearly showed that the institute was conducting various DGS approved courses in violation of applicable DGS orders / guidelines, raising doubts on the quality of training being imparted.

6. In view of the deliberate violations of DGS guidelines and the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras by "M/s. International Maritime Academy, Chennai" (MTI No. 406026), which jeopardized the merchant navy careers of innocent students, the undersigned, in exercise of the powers of supervision of maritime training as provided in Rule 75 of the Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training certification and Watch Keeping for Seafarers) Rule, 2014 notified under Section 78, 87, 88, 98, 456, 457 and 458 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as amended, and in terms of para 5.5 of DGS Order No. 7 of 2016 and para 5.5 of DGS Order No. 5 of 2016 for the preceeding reasons spelt out, issued a **Speaking Order of Suspension of Approval of the Institute** vide letter no. 20-11011/7/2020-TRG-DGS dated 02.08.2022 with following directions to M/s. International Maritime Academy, Chennai" (MTI No. 406026):

6.1 The Directorate temporarily suspended the approvals granted to the M/s. International Maritime Academy (IMA), Chennai (MTI No. 406026), for conduct of B.Sc. Nautical Science, Diploma in Nautical Science and Training for General Purpose Rating course and only ongoing batches were allowed to continue till further orders.

6.2 The Directorate will not recognize and allow any candidate from IMA admitted below eligibility criteria set by the DGS Guidelines at time of MMD assessment.

6.3 In the best interest of the prospective candidates, M/s International Maritime Academy (IMA), Chennai was directed to refrain from admitting candidates to any new batches to any of the DGS approved courses forthwith, till such time all the deficiencies reported during the Pre-informed Inspection of the institute dated 30th September 2021 are rectified and verified & confirmed to the satisfaction of the Director General of Shipping.

6.4 In case, if the institute fails to comply with the reported deficiencies within thirty days from the issue date of this order, the Directorate will initiate necessary action as per Section 5.5 of DGS orders No. 07 of 2016 & No.05 of 2016, as the case may be.

6.5 The MTI online profile was blocked so that MTI cannot upload any batch details in the E-Governance system forthwith, till the compliance of above.

7. Whereas, the MTI filed Writ Petition 23153 of 2022 “ In The High Court Of Judicature At Madras” against the Speaking Order issued and no response was received from institute regarding the compliance to the deficiencies as per issued Speaking Order within stipulated time.

8. Whereas, the Directorate has issued letter dated 09.09.2022 and informed MTI that no response has been submitted by MTI and therefore it is construed that MTI is not interested to comply with the major-deficiencies identified during MMD inspection and Guidelines on minimum eligibility criteria. The Directorate before initiating the process of withdrawal of the Institute provided last opportunity to submit compliance and undertaking on minimum eligibility criteria to the Directorate. Further, MTI was granted chance of Personal Hearing before the Competent Authority.

9. Whereas, the MTI requested for Personal Hearing as per above mentioned letter dated 09.09.2022 and same was granted by the Directorate. The Principal of the MTI, Dr. G Hemapriya attended Personal Hearing and submitted undertaking and further informed the Director General of Shipping that MTI will not admit any students in the Degree/Diploma courses below the marks prescribed by the DGS for the forthcoming academic years. MTI will admit the candidates hereafter with minimum 60% in PCM for the degree and diploma courses (DNS, BSc-NS, Marine Engineering) from the academic year 2022-23 onwards. Further, MTI has not admitted any candidates for this academic year 2022-23 for Marine engineering and BSC, DNS till date.

10. Whereas, the Directorate is in receipt of email from MMD that the Counsel for the Petitioner had argued on that ground that as per the Personal hearing they had sent a Mail dated 14.09.2022 giving an Undertaking to the Director General of Shipping. The Learned Counsel had submitted before the Hon'ble Court that as per the Undertaking given by the Petitioner, the Respondent will consider the same and pass a Fresh Orders within 2 weeks. After hearing both the parties, the Learned Judge has now directed the Director General of Shipping to pass a fresh Order after taking into consideration of the Undertaking given by the Petitioner through Mail dated 14.09.2022 and produce the same before the Court. The Learned Judge has now adjourned the matter to 28.10.2022.

11. The Directorate in compliance to Hon'ble High Court Order dated 12.10.2022 has decided the following:

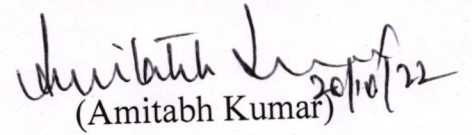
11.1 The Directorate had temporarily suspended the approvals granted to the M/s. International Maritime Academy, Chennai (MTI No. 406026), for conduct of B.Sc. Nautical Science, Diploma in Nautical Science and Training for General Purpose Rating course, which is now decided to be revoked and MTI will be allowed to conduct these courses.

11.2 MTI's online profile which was blocked will be changed to active and MTI can upload the batches to approved courses.

11.3 IMA as per undertaking is not allowed to admit any candidates below eligibility criteria as per Training Circular 12 of 2020 dated 01.04.2020

11.4 IMA is directed to submit compliance report of the deficiencies noted during the inspection to the Principal Officer, MMD, Chennai for verification.

11.5 All the approvals for the courses as allowed above is for a period of 6 months only and the final revocation of suspension shall be done after submission of compliance report by IMA as per directions in para 11.4 and its verification by the Principal Officer, MMD, Chennai and its acceptance by the Directorate.


(Amitabh Kumar)

Director General of Shipping
and Addl. Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

1. The Principal Officer, MMD Chennai
2. The Principal Officer, MMD, Mumbai/Kolkata/ Kochi
3. Shipping Master Office, Mumbai/ Chennai/Kolkata