



भारत सरकार / Government of India
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
समुद्रीय प्रशासन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई
Directorate General of Maritime Administration, Mumbai.

F. No. 23-CDC/2/2026-CREW – DGS (C. No. 38805)

Dated: 23.09.2026

MERCHANT SHIPPING NOTICE NO. 06 OF 2026

Sub.: Implementation of Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026 and promulgation of modalities for submission of Applications for Continuous Discharge Certificates (CDCs). – Reg

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 113 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 and in supersession of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2017, the Central Government has promulgated the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026 vide Notification No. G.S.R. 594(E) dated 08.07.2026.

- The said new Rules mentions the Eligibility Criteria for obtaining Indian Continuous Discharge Certificate vide Rule 4 thereof to be read along with the terms & conditions specified vide DGMA Order No. 12 of 2026 dt 23.05.2026 [F. No. 23-CDC/2/2026-CREW - DGS (38805)] and DGMA Circular No. 45 of 2026 dt 31.07.2026 [F. No. 23-CDC/2/2026-CREW - DGS (38805)].
- The procedure/guidelines for applying online and issuance of CDC are detailed in Annexure-I appended with this notice.
- The CDC application under the M.S. (CDC) Rules 2017 shall be stopped to be accepted by the system w.e.f. 02 Oct 2026
- In accordance with Rule 12 of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026 and schedule thereof, the fees payable for CDC is as mentioned below:

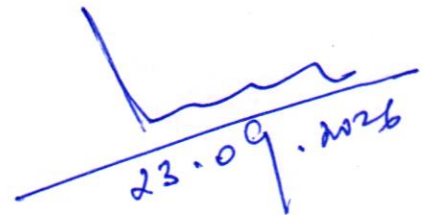
Sr. No.	Particulars	Amount (INR)
01	Application for Fresh / CDC Continuous Discharge Certificate	3000/-
02	Application for Renewal of Continuous Discharge Certificate	3000/-
03	Application for Duplicate Continuous Discharge Certificate	3000/-
04	Application for Replacement or Alteration of Continuous Discharge Certificate	3000/-

- The above fee shall be applicable to the respective CDC application and shall be payable through online CDC e-module / Billdesk at the time of submission of the application.
- In cases where a CDC is lost due to fire on board a vessel or any other marine peril, no fee shall be charged for issuance of the Duplicate CDC, as specifically provided under Rule 8(3) of the said Rules.

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23.09.2026

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8. The revised fee structure shall be applicable with effect from **2 oct 2026**. All applications for issuance of new, renewal, duplicate or replacement/alteration of CDC submitted on or after the said date shall be processed on payment of the applicable fee specified above through online Billedesk.
9. The CDCs issued under these rules shall be valid for a period of ten (10) years from the date of its issuance or renewal.
10. The CDCs issued under these rules shall bear 'BH' Series uniformly from all the three (03) Shipping Master offices (Mumbai / Kolkata / Chennai)
11. Henceforth, manual signature of CDC issuing authority on CDC Booklets / CDC Renewal Stickers shall be replaced with facsimile signature to be digitally printed along with official seal of issuing authority.
12. All the terms and conditions mentioned vide Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate)) Rules, 2026 shall supersede the erstwhile Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate)) Rules, 2017.
13. Basic Eligibility Criteria as per Rule 4 applicable for all categories of candidates mentioned vide DGMA Order No. 12 of 2026 dt 23.05.2026 is mentioned at Annexure 1
14. Format of Letter of Intent is mentioned at Annexure II, Director-General approved cruise line recruitment and placement companies engaging hospitality and passenger-service professionals through them to meet operational requirements are required to submit details regarding issuance of same to concern MTI, Training Branch of the Directorate for undertaking STCW courses and for issuance of INDOS and Shipping Master Office for issuance of CDC on every Monday weekly basis.
15. The CDCs issued under erstwhile M.S. (CDC) Rules 2017 & earlier rules shall continue to remain valid in all respect including their CDC Number and there is no requirement for their replacement to obtain CDC under the new CDC Rules 2026 except as provided under the said new Rules.
16. All concern Shipping Masters, issuing authorities, seafarers and other stakeholders are requested to take note of the above and ensure compliance.
17. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.



(Capt. Bipin Kumar)

Dy. Director General of Maritime Administration (Crew)

Copy to:

1. All stakeholders (Candidates / Shipping Companies / RPS Agencies/ MTIs / Seafarers' Union / Associations etc.) through DGMA website.
2. All other non-members Shipping Companies to any associations.
3. The Shipping Master, Government Shipping Office, Mumbai/Kolkata/Chennai.
4. Mercantile Marine Departments.
5. Hindi Cell for Translation.
6. E-Gov Cell, DGMA, Mumbai.
7. Computer Cell for uploading on DGMA Website

Eligibility / Guidelines to Apply for New / Fresh Continuous Discharge Certificate

I. Basic Eligibility Criteria as per Rule 4 applicable for all categories of candidates mentioned vide DGMA Order No. 12 of 2026 dt 23.05.2026:

- a) The applicant shall be a citizen of India;
- b) The applicant shall possess a valid medical certificate issued in accordance with the applicable rules made under the Act;
- c) The applicant shall possess the following valid certificates from an approved maritime training institute, namely:
 - (i) Personal Survival Techniques
 - (ii) Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting;
 - (iii) Elementary First Aid;
 - (iv) Personal Safety and Social Responsibility; and
 - (v) Ship Security Officer / Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties;
- d) The applicant shall not be less than sixteen years of age;
- e) The applicant shall have passed tenth standard from a Board of School Education established or recognized by the Central Government or any State Government or hold an equivalent qualification from any foreign institution.

II. Subject to fulfilment of any of the criteria laid down vide DGMA Order No. 12 of 2026 with following supporting documents as mentioned below:

1.1 Pre-Sea Training Certificate holders:

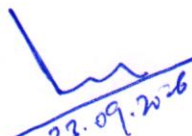
- a) The candidates pursuing any pre-sea course from DGMA Approved MTI having duration of 06 months or less are eligible to apply for CDC basis Course Completion Certificate / Passing Certificate to be uploaded along with their application.
- b) The candidates pursuing any pre-sea course from DGMA Approved MTI having duration of more than 06 months are eligible to apply for CDC during the last 06 months of their course basis course enrollment certificate or course progress report by the concern MTI

1.2 Agniveer Candidates:

- a) Agniveer Discharge Certificate issued from the concern authority to be uploaded.

1.3 Hospitality Sector Candidates (Degree-Diploma & OCCP Basis)

- a) Candidates who have undergone degree/diploma (3 years course) in Catering/ Hospitality sector, offered by any approved universities/institutions along with satisfactory completion of DGS approved Maritime Orientation Course for Catering Personnel (OCCP) Course in terms of DGS Training Circular No. 09 of 2014 dated 03.12.2014.


23.09.2026

1.4 Hospitality Sector Candidates and Passenger service personnel (Recruited to Cruise Vessels)

- a) Letter of Intent from a valid Recruitment and Placement Service (RPS) license holder entity intending to recruit seafarers onboard any cruise vessel under their manning as 'Hospitality' staff or Passenger service staff. Format of Letter of Intent is attached herewith as Annexure II.
- b) The concern RPS Agency to inform the concern Shipping Master as well as Training Branch of Directorate regarding issuance of letter of intent to all such candidates.
- c) In case any seafarer is not provided placement by any RPS Agency, the reasons thereof with adequate justification shall be submitted on record by such agency.
- d) The CDC issued basis such letter of intent shall be restricted to serve onboard cruise vessels only and an endorsement to that effect shall be made on such CDCs.
- e) Completion of DGS approved OCCP course is not mandatory for the hospitality sector candidates recruited for cruise vessels and issued with firm letter of intent.

1.5 Ex-Indian Navy Personnels:

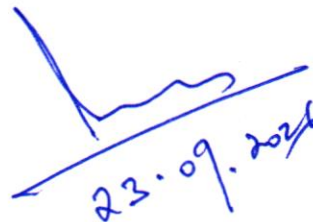
- a) Retired Indian Naval officers or sailors holding a valid discharge certificate or IN-271 and IN-272 certificate or equivalent as applicable.

1.6 Certified Cooks:

- a) Candidates holding a Cook Certificate of Competency (CoC) recognized by the Government of India as may be notified by Directorate from time to time.

1.7 Certificate of Competency (CoC) Holders:

- a) Candidates holding a CoC issued by the Government of India or a CoC recognized by the Government of India as may be notified by Directorate from time to time.



23.09.2026

(RPS AGENCY OFFICIAL LETTER HEAD)

TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Mr / Miss _____ bearer of Passport / INDoS No. _____ has been selected to join onboard our cruise ship, _____, IMO No. _____, Flag: _____ with our principals, _____ to serve as _____ (Rank / Hospitality Staff or Passenger service staff).

2. The candidate shall be placed onboard our managed cruise vessel within ____ months from obtaining all the necessary documents as required by him for the subject vessel.

3. In this regard, following is undertaken by our company:

3.1 This is being issued to facilitate the subject candidate to undergo BST Training and thereafter, to obtain CDC with bona-fide intent to obtain his service onboard cruise vessel under our management.

3.2 In any unforeseen circumstances that the candidate is subsequently deemed unsuitable to serve with us, the intimation thereof shall be served to the concern MTI, DGMA, Training Branch and the concern Shipping Master Office to withhold / revoke the process of Training / Documentation for the candidate.

3.3 We also understand that submission of any false undertaking herein, deems our company liable for action under extant provisions of RPS Rules.

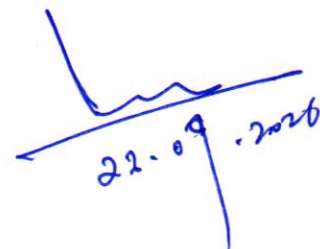
4. For any further clarification / verification in the matter, it is requested to contacted on following mail ID: _____.

(Name of Authorized Signatory)

Designation

Email ID

Official Seal of Company

22.09.2026