



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

File No. 20-11011/32/2021-TRG – DGS

Date: 14.10.2026

Show Cause Notice

Subject: Show Cause Notice for persistent and continuing non-compliance –withdrawal of approval of the Institute- M/s. Southern Academy of Maritime Studies (SAMS), MTI No. 402016 -Reg.

Whereas, M/s. Southern Academy of Maritime Studies (SAMS), MTI No. 402016 (hereinafter "the MTI"), is approved by the Directorate to conduct B.Sc. Nautical Science, B.E. Marine Engineering, Diploma in Nautical Science (DNS), Pre-Sea Training for Diploma Holders, Training for General Purpose (GP) Rating, Basic Safety Training (BST) and Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (STSDSD) and is required to comply with rules and regulation as prescribed by the Directorate.

2. Whereas, on complaints received from candidates and faculty, MMD Chennai conducted a comprehensive inspection of the MTI on 05.08.2021 and 09.08.2021 and recorded 34 deficiencies, of which 19 were major. On that basis, the Directorate, vide order dated 18.10.2021, temporarily suspended the approvals of the MTI. The said order was challenged in W.P. No. 22952 of 2021, wherein the Hon'ble High Court of Madras granted interim stay on 22.10.2021 and, by order dated 14.08.2024, directed MMD Chennai to inspect the institution and the Directorate to reconsider the suspension if satisfied.

3. Whereas, in compliance with the said order, MMD Chennai inspected the MTI on 21.10.2024 and found that 8 of the 19 earlier major deficiencies and 1 of the 15 earlier minor deficiencies remained outstanding, besides 19 new deficiencies. The MTI submitted only partial compliance on 05.11.2024 and 22.01.2025 and did not offer the MTI for verification. Accordingly, MMD Chennai, vide letter dated 30.01.2025, recommended that the BST and STSDSD capacity be restricted to in-house candidates, which was considered by the 47th STCW Compliance Board on 13.03.2025.

4. Whereas, the compliance verification inspection conducted on 25.03.2025 at the MTI's own request, found that critical deficiencies persisted, namely the non-operational swimming pool; the fire pump of the fire-fighting mock-up not working and the fixed DCP and foam systems not

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

9th Floor, Beta Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai - 400042.

फोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-25752029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgma.gov.in

approved by the RO; the faculty load matrix not prepared as per Matrix 1 and Matrix 2A of DGS Order 07 of 2016; poor onboard training placement (only 16 of 80 GP Rating candidates, i.e. 20%, placed within 12 months, against the minimum of 85% required under Section 5.4.7 of Training Manual Vol. I); deficient hostel utilities and hot water; non-availability of instructor's manuals; non-compliant QMS; and inadequate GP Rating workshop equipment.

5. Whereas, notwithstanding the Show Cause Notice dated 27.06.2025, the surprise inspection conducted by MMD Chennai on 04.08.2026, on complaints from GP Rating trainees and as directed by DGMA on 23.07.2026, again recorded deficiencies in welfare arrangements, safety facilities, faculty and load matrix, training equipment, the swimming pool and fire-fighting arrangements, and the principal and the required marine faculty were not available. On that basis, DGMA issued the recent Show Cause Notice dated 02.09.2026.

6. Whereas, your compliance report dated 09.09.2026 was verified by MMD Chennai on 05.10.2026. Of the deficiencies recorded on 04.08.2026, only 9 were rectified, 3 showed improvement and 6 remained outstanding. The deficiencies thus continue even after the recent Show Cause Notice dated 02.09.2026. The non-compliances found continuing on 05.10.2026, with the provisions of the Training Manual and DGS Training Circular No. 31 of 2018 contravened, are set out at Head I of the Schedule of Non-compliances appended to this notice (hereinafter "the Schedule").

7. It is a matter of serious concern that the swimming pool, the fire-fighting mock-up and qualified faculty, which are essential for STCW practical training, have remained deficient continuously from August 2021 to October 2026, across the suspension order dated 18.10.2021, the Show Cause Notice dated 27.06.2025 and the recent Show Cause Notice dated 02.09.2026, and despite inspections and verifications in 2021, 2024, 2025 and 2026. Besides the above, the deficiencies recorded on 21.10.2024 and 25.03.2025 that have not been shown as rectified, including onboard training placement of pre-sea candidates far below the minimum of 85% required under Section 5.4.7 of Training Manual Vol. I, are set out at Head II of the Schedule.

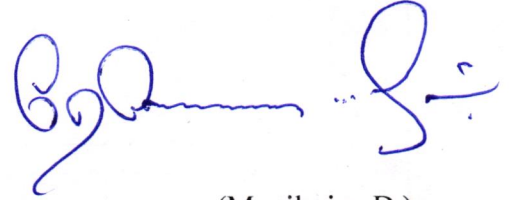
8. These deficiencies fall within the categories of major deficiency under Section 6.4.1 of Training Manual Vol. I and Section 5.4.1 of Training Manual Vol. II (see also Section 6.4.1 of DGS Training Circular No. 31 of 2018), namely failure to complete shipboard training as prescribed by DGS; inadequacy of faculty and violation of faculty norms; serious lapses in the basic minimum infrastructure, Centralized Attendance System and specific lab / workshop equipment; non-adherence to course guidelines; irregularities in attendance of the Principal, faculty and candidates; and serious non-conformities of the Quality System not closed within the time limit. Under Section 6.4.2 of Vol., I and Section 5.4.2 of Vol. II, even minor deficiencies are to be addressed within 15 days, whereas several of the above have remained open for more than

18 months. The MTI is therefore not in a position to impart training in accordance with the STCW Convention and the directions of the Directorate.

9. Whereas, the record of the MTI since 2018, including inspections and verifications in 2018, 2021, 2024, 2025 and 2026, the suspension order dated 18.10.2021 and the Show Cause Notices dated 27.06.2025 and 02.09.2026, shows that successive regulatory measures and opportunities for compliance have not resulted in sustained compliance. The MTI has thereby contravened the directions of the Directorate issued under section 301 of the Act, and is liable to penalty under section 281(2) of the Act.

10. Now, therefore, its Managing Trustee and its Trustees are hereby called upon to **show cause within fifteen (15) days** from the date of receipt of this notice as to why (a) the approval of the Institute in respect of all its courses should not be withdrawn (b) penalty should not be levied under section 281(2) of the Act and (c) the Trust, its Managing Trustee and its Trustees should not be debarred for a period of five (5) years from seeking approval of any maritime training institute or course and from any engagement with the Directorate General of Maritime Administration. If no reply is received within the stipulated period, final orders will be passed on the basis of the records available, without further notice.

This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Mugilrajan D.)
Engineer & Ship Surveyor-cum DDG (Tech.)
Training Branch, DGMA, Mumbai

To,

The Managing Trustee, the Trustees and the Principal,
M/s. Southern Academy of Maritime Studies (SAMS) (MTI No. 402016),
(Sri Vekkaliyamm Educational & Charitable Trust),
Panapakkam, Tamil Nadu.

SCHEDULE OF NON-COMPLIANCES

M/s. Southern Academy of Maritime Studies (SAMS), MTI No. 402016

(Appended to Show Cause Notice dated 14.10.2026)

This Schedule is based on the observations recorded by the MMD Chennai inspecting team on 05.08.2021 and 09.08.2021, 21.10.2024, 25.03.2025, 04.08.2026 and 05.10.2026. "Vol. I" and "Vol. II" refer to Training Manual Vol. I (Pre-Sea) and Vol. II (Post-Sea); "TC 31/2018" refers to DGS Training Circular No. 31 of 2018;

Head I. Deficiencies found continuing on 05.10.2026, after the latest Show Cause Notice dated 02.09.2026

Sl.	Non-compliance found	Direction or requirement breached	Earlier record
1	Swimming pool not as per DGS Training Circulars No. 06 of 2025 and 59 of 2025 and not in operation; renovation work only just started	Vol. I, para 2.14.4 and Vol. II, para 2.14.1, requiring a swimming pool of 50 ft x 30 ft, 3 ft to 12 ft deep, for pre-sea courses and the PST course (TC 31/2018, para 2.14.4)	Unfit Aug 2021; not functional 21.10.2024 and 25.03.2025; continuing 05.10.2026
2	Fire pump of the fire-fighting mock-up not starting and the mock-up not maintained; fixed DCP and foam systems earlier found not RO-approved	Vol. I, para 2.15 and Vol. II, para 2.15, requiring the institute's own fire-fighting mock-up for FPFF; Vol. I, paras 2.5.1 and 2.6.1(2) (TC 31/2018, paras 2.15, 2.5.1, 2.6.1)	Corroded Aug 2021; not per IMO MC 1.20 on 21.10.2024; pump defective 25.03.2025; continuing 05.10.2026
3	No Indian Master Mariner on the faculty although B.Sc. Nautical Science and DNS are conducted with 26 candidates; only a few non-marine faculty available; Principal and marine faculty not available on 04.08.2026	Vol. I, paras 1.11.3, 3.1.3 and 3.1.4, under which courses shall not be conducted without the required qualified faculty, para 3.1.9 on lectures by permanent faculty, and para 3.2.1 (TC 31/2018, paras 1.11.3, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.8)	About 40% of required faculty in Aug 2021; continuing 05.10.2026
4	Faculty load matrix on the website outdated and not as per Matrix 1 and Matrix 2A of DGS Order 07 of 2016	Vol. I and Vol. II, paras 3.5.1 and 3.5.2, requiring the complete faculty load matrix to be uploaded on every change and at least every six months (TC 31/2018, paras 3.5.1, 3.5.2)	Not available 21.10.2024; incorrect 25.03.2025; outdated 05.10.2026
5	Centralized Attendance System not working; CAS records could be generated for only 47 of the 88 candidates on roll	Vol. I, paras 2.17.8, 4.7.1 and 4.7.2 and Vol. II, paras 2.17 and 4.7; DGS Circular 14 of 2020 dated 13.04.2020 (TC 31/2018, paras 4.7.1, 4.7.2)	First recorded 04.08.2026; continuing 05.10.2026

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

9th Floor, Beta Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai - 400042.

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-25752029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgma.gov.in

Sl.	Non-compliance found	Direction or requirement breached	Earlier record
6	Hostel rooms segregated with four beds each and without doors; rectification not started	Vol. I, para 2.17.1 read with para 2.17.2, under which failure to adhere to para 2.17.1 may lead to withdrawal of approval (TC 31/2018, para 2.17.1)	First recorded 04.08.2026; continuing 05.10.2026
7	Running hot water not provided in hostel toilets; toilet doors, handles and fittings damaged or missing	Vol. I, para 2.17.5, requiring running hot water in showers and proper fittings, and para 3.1.14 on conservancy staff (TC 31/2018, para 2.17.5)	Recorded 21.10.2024 and 25.03.2025; continuing 05.10.2026
8	Drinking water tanks not periodically cleaned	Vol. I, para 2.5.4, requiring clean potable water with purification and periodic testing (TC 31/2018, para 2.5.4)	First recorded 04.08.2026; continuing 05.10.2026
9	Kitchen and dining hygiene deficient; insect catcher missing; provisions earlier stored on the floor and food cooked in the open near septic tanks	Vol. I, paras 2.16.2 and 2.16.3, requiring hygienic catering and spaces free of insects (TC 31/2018, paras 2.16.2, 2.16.3)	First recorded 04.08.2026; improved but continuing 05.10.2026

Head II. Deficiencies recorded on 21.10.2024 and 25.03.2025 not shown as rectified

Sl.	Non-compliance found	Direction or requirement breached	Statutory provision violated	Earlier record
10	Poor onboard training placement of pre-sea candidates: only 16 of 80 GP Rating (20%), 2 of 9 Pre-Sea for Diploma Holders (22%), 6 of 13 B.E. Marine Engineering (46%), 6 of 11 B.Sc. Nautical Science (55%) and 24 of 36 DNS (67%) candidates placed within 12 months	Vol. I, Part 5, para 5.4.4 (admission limited to candidates covered by onboard training arrangements) and para 5.4.7, requiring at least 85% of candidates to commence onboard training within 12 months of course completion; DGS Training Circular No. 30 of 2018 (TC 31/2018, Part 5)	STCW Reg. II/1, II/4, III/1 and III/4 (approved seagoing service / onboard training as part of the approved training programme)	Poor in Aug 2021; recorded 21.10.2024 and 25.03.2025
11	Hostel utilities not provided: table, table lamp and mosquito net for each candidate; hostel not maintained in hygienic condition	Vol. I, para 2.17.4 (TC 31/2018, para 2.17.4)	Rule 11(1), Rules, 2014 (quality standards system)	Recorded 21.10.2024; continuing 25.03.2025
12	Services of a doctor not available every day; doctor visiting the campus only 3 to 4 times a month	Vol. I, para 2.7, requiring the services of a doctor every day with record of attendance (TC 31/2018, para 2.7.1)	Rule 11(1), Rules, 2014 (quality standards system)	Recorded 21.10.2024; continuing 25.03.2025

Sl.	Non-compliance found	Direction or requirement breached	Statutory provision violated	Earlier record
13	Instructor's manuals for delivery of course content (B.Sc. NS, DNS, B.E. Marine Engineering, TME, GP Rating) not prepared; only a list of syllabus produced	The respective DGS course guidelines; non-adherence to course guidelines being a major deficiency under Vol. I, para 6.4.1 and Vol. II, para 5.4.1	STCW Reg. I/6 and Code Section A-I/6; Rule 9, Rules, 2014	Recorded 21.10.2024; not done 25.03.2025
14	QMS Manual not in compliance with DGS Circular 23 of 2020 and not approved by the RO	Vol. I and Vol. II, paras 1.11.1 and 1.11.2, requiring an established quality system ensuring compliance with STCW requirements (TC 31/2018, para 1.11)	STCW Reg. I/8 and Code Section A-I/8; Rule 11(1), Rules, 2014	Recorded 21.10.2024; pending 25.03.2025
15	GP Rating workshop equipment not adequate for the approved two batches	DGS Circular 01 of 2018; serious lapses in specific lab / workshop equipment being a major deficiency under Vol. I, para 6.4.1	STCW Reg. I/6 and Code Section A-I/6; Rule 9, Rules, 2014	Recorded 21.10.2024; not adequate 25.03.2025

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

9th Floor, Beta Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai - 400042.

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-25752029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgma.gov.in