85th STCW Compliance Board meeting held on 24.09.2026		
S.No	**Agenda**	**Decision Taken**
1	**APPLICATION FOR IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL APPLICANT: FIVE STAR MARITIME FOUNDATION (Application No. 100273)**	The Board discussed the application of Five Star Maritime Foundation Institute, Pali Campus for In-Principle Approval to establish a Maritime Training Institute. Although MMD Mumbai confirmed that the documents met the required standards, Training Branch raised serious concerns about the directors' links with entities previously facing disciplinary action or debarment by DG Shipping. The Board decided to keep the application pending and issue show-cause notices to the Institute and the concerned directors/entities, giving them an opportunity to explain their position before a final decision is taken. Their replies will be examined and placed before the STCW Compliance Board for further consideration. Related matters involving connected maritime training institutes and entities will be examined separately. **Decision:** The agenda was deferred to the next meeting.
2	**REQUEST FOR PERMISSION OF CONDUCT ONE BATCH OF PRE-SEA COURSES FROM EXISTING PREMISES UNDER THE IN-PRINCIPLE APPROVAL – NAVIGATOR MARITIME ACADEMY (MTI NO.108025)**	DDG Training informed that, in line with the decision of the previous STCW Compliance Board meeting, MMD Kandla had been requested to conduct a physical inspection and submit a gap analysis report on the new training facility of Navigator Maritime Academy. The Board noted that an officer had been nominated for the inspection and decided that the institute's request would be considered after receipt of the inspection report. **Decision:** The agenda was deferred to the next meeting.
3	**INSPECTION FINDINGS AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE ISSUES AT** **1. SHIVALIK MARITIME ACADEMY, DEHRADUN (MTI No.107029)** **2. OCEANIC MARITIME ACADEMY, DEHRADUN (MTI No.106017)**	DDG Training informed that a joint inspection had been carried out by the DDG Trg. and DDG Vigilance. It was decided that the Show Cause Notice to be issued after completion of the review and receipt of the pending inputs. **Decision:** Show Cause Notice to be issued after review.
4	**INSPECTION OF SWIMMING POOL FACILITY AT M/s. ASHA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MARINE TECHNOLOGY (AIIMT), MTI No. 203010, NAVI MUMBAI**	MMD Mumbai informed the Board about the inspection of the swimming pool facility for conducting PST and Refresher PST courses. The inspection confirmed that the facility met all required dimensions, safety and operational standards, and the practical exercises were demonstrated satisfactorily. The Board approved the swimming pool facility as recommended by P.O., MMD Mumbai. The Board also noted that the facility is about 15 km from the institute's academic campus and that students must be informed accordingly, as per the applicable guidelines.

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		Decision: PO MMD Mumbai recommendation has been accepted.
5	**WA NO. 3347 OF 2025 AND C.M.P NOS. 27312 AND 27316 OF 2025 MTI COSMOPOLITAN TECHNOLOGY OF MARITIME BEFORE THE MADRAS HIGH COURT JUDGMENT DATED 20.08.2026**	It was informed the Board that the Hon'ble Court had upheld the Directorate's decision in the Cosmopolitan Maritime Academy matter. The Board noted that unsuccessful candidates were required to seek refunds from the institute and that requests for additional assessment attempts were not in line with the earlier decision. The Board further agreed that affected candidates facing age-related constraints may be considered for appropriate relaxation to enable their admission in subsequent GP Rating batches.
6	**W.P.(C) 8723/2026 FILED BY** **MR. KSHITIJ MALIK IN HON'BLE DELHI HIGH COURT, CHALLENGING THE NON-RECOGNITION OF BOSSE, SIKKIM CERTIFICATES FOR ADMISSION**	DDG Training informed the Board that the hearing is scheduled for the third week of October. The Board decided to wait until the court's decision before taking any further action on the matter.
7	**CASUALTY INCIDENTS AT MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTES** **M/s TOLANI MARITIME INSTITUTE**	DDG Training informed that a Show Cause Notice had been issued to Tolani Maritime Institute regarding the casualty incident. Considering the institute's request and its engagement with MMD Mumbai during preparation of its response, the Board approved an additional extension of 15 days for submission of the reply.
8	**IRREGULAR CONDUCT OF FOREIGN COMPETENCY COURSE BY** **SPEAR MARITIME ACADEMY**	DDG Training informed the Board that an inspection had been carried out regarding the irregular conduct of foreign maritime courses by Spear Maritime Academy. The detailed inspection report from P.O., MMD Mumbai is awaited. It was decided to wait for the inspection report and the institute's written submission before taking a final decision, including on its pending application.
9	**W.P. (MD) No. 20136 of 2026 filed by** **M/S IMMANUEL ARASAR COLLEGE OF MARINE ENGINEERING** **(MTI NO. 406053)**	The Board was informed that Institute has filed a petition challenging the show-cause notices and the DGMA order directing refund of fees for the unauthorized batch conducted by the Institute. The matter is yet to be listed for hearing, and the concerned authorities have been requested to appear before the Court. **Decision:** The agenda was deferred to the next meeting

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10	**INCIDENT OF DEATH CASE OF CADET AT IMU NAVI MUMBAI CAMPUS**	DDG Training informed that a Show Cause Notice had been issued to the Vice Chancellor, Campus Director and management of IMU Navi Mumbai in connection with the death of a candidate at the campus. The Board noted that replies from the concerned authorities were awaited and decided to review the matter upon receipt of the responses.
11	**FOREIGN ADMINISTRATION APPROVED COURSES CONDUCTED BY MTIS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DGS ORDERS**	DDG Training informed the Board that inspections relating to foreign administration-approved courses had been undertaken by the concerned MMDs. The Board noted that a recommendation had been received for AMET University and the NOC would be issued accordingly. In respect of the remaining cases, (MMTI & T. S. Varren) physical verifications by MMD Mumbai were pending as the institutes had sought additional time. It was decided that the requests would be processed and NOCs issued, wherever applicable, after completion of the inspections and receipt of the verification reports.
12	**EXAMINATION OF MARITIME TRAINING INSTITUTE (MTI) REFORMS RECOMMENDED BY THE MTI REFORMS COMMITTEE**	DDG Training informed the Board that the draft circular on reforms recommended by the MTI Reforms Committee had been circulated to all P.O., MMDs and surveyors for comments. The Board noted that comments were being received from stakeholders and decided to finalize and issue the circular after including their comments.
13	**SURAKSHA SARVAPRATHAM - "SAFETY FIRST" - ZERO ACCIDENT AT MTI**	DDG Training informed the Board that, following recent accidents at MTIs, including incidents involving loss of life, steps were being taken to improve safety under the ‘Suraksha Sarvapratham’ initiative. It was also informed that NABET had started pilot inspections of selected institutes to test the proposed assessment system.
14	**The Surprise Vigilance Inspection Report on Maritime Training Trust**	No update on this

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15	**CONSIDERATION OF CRUISE SECTOR REQUIREMENTS UNDER DGS ORDER NO. 12 OF 2026: OPEN CDC FRAMEWORK AND AGNIVEER TRANSITION PATHWAY** **1. Representation from M/S Rohi Global Services on implementation of DGS Order No. 12 of 2026 regarding STCW course admission and CDC issuance** **2. TRANSITION LINE FOR THE CRUISE SEGMENT FOR THE AGNIVEERS**	DDG Training informed the Board regarding representations received on the implementation of DGS Order No. 12 of 2026 relating to the Open CDC framework and the cruise sector. The Board deliberated on concerns raised by stakeholders regarding the requirement of STCW certification for attending cruise line interviews and the challenges arising from the existing CDC issuance process. It was suggested that this issue be examined further in consultation with the Crew Branch, Nautical Wing and other concerned stakeholders. **Decision:** The agenda was deferred to the next meeting.
16	**CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSAL FOR MARITIME HOSPITALITY AND CULINARY TRAINING PROGRAMME LINKED TO CRUISE SHIP EMPLOYMENT**	DDG Training informed the Board about a maritime hospitality and culinary training programme proposed by AMET University in collaboration with V. Ships and Oceanic Hospitality Training Centre to support cruise ship employment. The Board noted that the proposed four-month programme is not a DGMA-approved course and is intended to provide hospitality and culinary skills training prior to enrolment in the approved OCCP course. It was further noted that the institute has applied for OCCP course approval, which would be considered based on the inspection and recommendations of P.O., MMD Chennai.
17	**CONFIRMATION OF PUBLICATION OF RESULTS**	DDG Training informed the Board that all examination results had been published within the prescribed timelines.
18	**SWIMMING POOL INSPECTION AT** **MTI INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ACADEMY (IMA), CHENNAI,**	The Board noted MMD Chennai's observations regarding the diving pool at International Maritime Academy. The institute agreed to construct a swimming and diving pool as per the required specifications and requested additional time to complete it. The Board directed MMD Chennai to monitor the work until completion and considered the matter closed for the time being.

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19	**SURPRISE INSPECTION-COMPLAINT AGAINST** **SOUTHERN ACADEMY OF MARITIME STUDIES (SAMS) CHENNAI** **MTI No. 402016)**	The Board noted the findings of MMD Chennai regarding repeated deficiencies and non-compliances observed during inspections of the institute, including inadequacies in faculty, attendance monitoring, infrastructure, hygiene, safety systems, and institutional management. Considering the recurring nature of the deficiencies and the recommendations of MMD Chennai, the Board agreed to issue show-cause notice to the institute. The institute shall be required to explain the repeated non-compliances, failing which further action, including withdrawal of approval, may be considered. The ongoing batch may be allowed to continue under close monitoring by MMD Chennai.
20	**TOWARDS MISSION 20% – REVIEW OF ENTRY ELIGIBILITY NORMS (AGE, EYESIGHT, HEIGHT) AND WATCHKEEPING SEA SERVICE**	The Board discussed the proposals received from the industry regarding the review of entry eligibility requirements under Mission 20%, including relaxation of the age limit for GP Rating, eyesight requirements for B.Sc. Nautical Science and DNS courses, minimum height requirements, and the training and sea service requirements for engine and deck ratings. The Board observed that the proposals required detailed examination and supporting justification. It was decided to discuss the proposals further with stakeholders and compare the training and certification requirements with those of other major seafarer-supplying countries. The Board also agreed to consider forming a committee comprising the Chief Examiners and Nautical Advisor to review the training and sea service requirements and suggest suitable changes, if necessary. **Decision:** The agenda was deferred to the next meeting.
21	**REQUEST TO RECONSIDER MANDATORY 25% RESERVATION OF GP RATING SEATS FOR ITI CANDIDATES –** **MARITIME ACADEMIA ASSOCIATION INDIA (MAAI)**	The Board considered the representation received from the Maritime Academy Association of India seeking reconsideration of the 25% reservation of GP Rating seats for ITI and diploma candidates, as some institutes were facing difficulty in filling these seats. The Board noted that the provision had been introduced recently to encourage participation of ITI and diploma holders in the maritime sector and to promote skill development. After deliberations, the Board decided that there shall be no change in the existing requirement of 25% reservation and that its impact may be reviewed after sufficient implementation experience has been gained.