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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING,
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e-Newsletter of the DGS, GoI
(A quarterly e-newsletter of the Directorate General of Shipping)

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| Patron | Shri Amitabh Kumar, IRS, DG Shipping & Additional Secretary to the GoI | <p><i>Editorial...</i></p> <p>India is known for its maritime progress. With the vision on development of tonnage, flagging, the Maritime Administration is committed for promotion of tonnage so as to increase cargo carrying capacity and employment opportunities for Indian seafarers and make India a AtmaNirbhar Bharat in the shipping sector through implementation of various attractive policies which also includes revised policy on Right of First Refusal, Shipbuilding Finance Assistance Scheme, Subsidy support for Indian shipping companies etc. Indian shipping tonnage is now 1,29,67,440 GT with 1490 ships, whereas the same was 1,92,000 GT with 59 ships as on August, 1947.</p> <p>The Director General of Shipping, in his continued efforts, towards benefit of seafarers as recently taken potent decision to increase the age limit for aspirants of Diploma in Marine Engineering (2 Years) from 22 to 28 years. The eligible seafaring aspirants now have better opportunity.</p> <p>The e-newsletter disseminates maritime information. Please do give us feedback as we believe in improving the quality of our services.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">...GL Singh</p> |
| Advisory Board | <p>1. Shri Kumar Sanjay Bariar, IP&TAFS, Addl. DG Shipping</p> <p>2. Shri S. Barik, Chief Surveyor</p> <p>3. Capt. K.P. Jayakumar, Nautical Advisor (I/C) DGS.</p> <p>4. Shri Lalu Natarajan, Dy. CSS</p> | |
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**Director General of Shipping
&
Additional Secretary to the
Govt. of India Speaks...**

*The year gone by has been unprecedented in more ways than one. COVID-19 threatened to paralyse our life, forced ourselves inside our homes, closed our **boarders** and threatened our livelihoods. The existing rules of the trade, international conventions, processes and procedures were not sufficiently geared to handle the twin challenges of COVID-19 virus and national and international lock-downs. We were first of the block to frame new rules and processes in the form of SoPs for ship to shore interaction, interaction with Ports, Pilots, Immigration, Public Health Authorities and Customs. We were also first in the block to develop SoPs and create infrastructures to facilitate crew change at our Ports and anchorages, as also to allow sign-on/ sign-off for Indian and foreign seafarers using our Vande bharat mission flights, bubble flights and Charter flights. It was these proactive measures that helped us sign-on & sign-off nearly 27,000 seafarers between 23rd March, 2020 and 31st December 2020, a **fact**, unparalleled anywhere in the world.*

This was appearing to the entire country as if Covid-19 is vanishing from the country. But the second wave of covid-19 spread to entire nation more severely, halting almost all activities in the entire country. The challenges arisen once again to shipping industry to reprioritize its immediate and midterm strategies. We once again went into lockdown which had a major and severe impact on the psyche of seafarers. A creative solution was required to deal with unexpected challenges arose before entire shipping industries in general and India in particular.

The Shipping industry is accountable for transporting 90% of world trade being it fuels, foods, cars and other mundane essentials. The Directorate amended many procedural validity of RPSL, audit and certificates to cope up with the situation and to deal with fresh challenges arose out of given situation. A concrete step to modernise MTIs across 05 key areas viz. Teaching, Administration, Training, Pedagogy and Assessments were taken to strengthen the faculties.

The entire Directorate staff and officers worked tirelessly during the challenging time of pandemic and kept this critical industry running to its potential.

**AMITABH KUMAR, IRS
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING & ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO THE GOI**

NMDC- DAY OF THE SEAFARR – 2021

'Day of the Seafarer-2021' was celebrated virtually on 25th June 2021 under the guidance of Shri Amitabh Kumar, IRS, Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India and Chairman of the National Maritime Day Celebration (Central) Committee. The seafarer day recognizes and remembers the great efforts made by the seafarers to the civil society and their contribution to the world economy and appreciating the risks responsibilities they bear while on board.

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers offered his greetings to seafarers in his video message. The Minister informed that Advanced Seafarer Wellness Centres will be provided at all the ports. Hon'ble Minister said that the Maritime Training Institutes in India shall be prepared to impart the best training to the seafarers considering the new challenges in the shipping sector.

Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Chief Guest, greeted to all the seafarers and their families on this day and appreciated the tremendous contribution made by maritime community in keeping the global supply chain intact during the challenging times. He expressed that development of new skill sets in the shipping industry shall be encouraged in the youngsters to create skilled manpower.

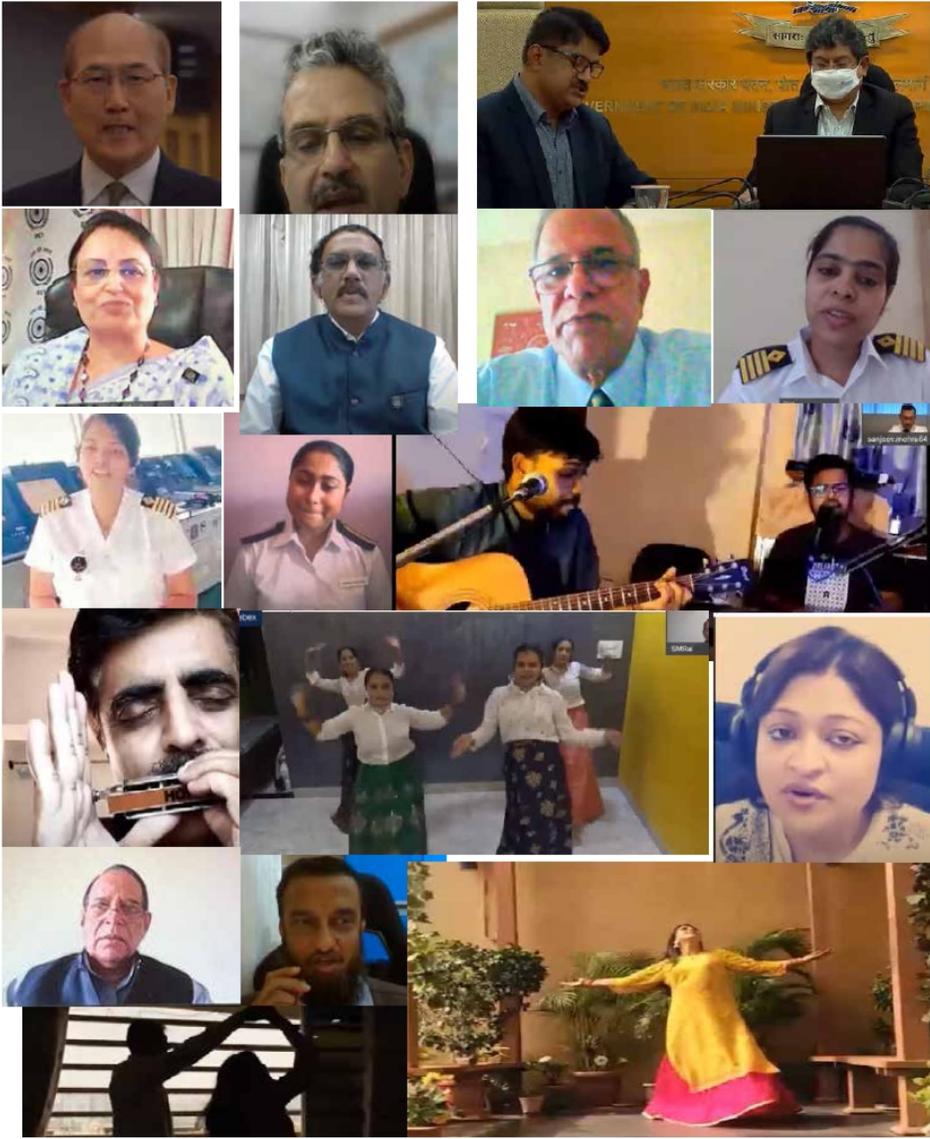
Shri Amitabh Kumar, IRS, Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India and Chairman of MNDC (Central) about various steps taken by the Government for the benefits of seafarers and their families. He informed that efforts will be made for courses having emphasis on the new technology. He expressed that there is a need of increased participation of the women in maritime sector for enhancing the productivity, efficiency and discipline.

A video message of Mr. Kitack Lim, Hon'ble Secretary General, International Maritime Organization (IMO) was played wherein he expressed that Seafarers continue to deliver for all of us and now, let's ensure that we deliver for them.

While speaking in the occasion, Shri Atul Ubale, Chairman, National Maritime Day Celebrations (Organizing) Committee welcomed all dignitaries in the program and explained background of celebration of this Day.

'M.T. Swarna Krishan' being the 1st Indian Flag Vessel of Shipping Corporation of India with all women officers onboard was awarded in this function and the crew members shared their experience of the voyage on this historic vessel in India. The meritorious seafarers were awarded for their excellent academic

achievements in the year 2020. The seafarers and their family members presented lovely cultural performances.



Dr. Raut PandurangKondiram, IRS, Deputy Director General of Shipping & Member Secretary, NMDC(Central) Committee presented the vote of thanks.

CREW

CREW BRANCH TO UPLOAD SIGN OFF DETAILS WHERE LICENCE OF RPS SUSPENDED/ WITHDRAWN



The DGS, vide its DGS Circular no. 18 of 2021 dated 09.06.2021, has decided to prevent the RPS from login, in the DGS E-gov system whenever its license is suspended/withdrawn. As such the online privileges of DGS e-governance system of such RPSL shall be made completely inactive, including signing off of crew. In such cases, the RPSL shall forward the details of seafarers already recruited and placed by them, to Crew Branch of DGS for uploading such details after scrutiny.

VALIDITY OF RECRUITMENT & PLACEMENT OF SEAFARERS LICENSE AND AUDIT OF RPSL EXTENDED

The Directorate General of Shipping, vide DGS Order No. 20 of 2021 dated 11.05.2021, has extended validity of the RPSL expiring between 1st April, 2021 and 31st July, 2021 (both days inclusive) up to 30th September, 2021 for the purpose of undertaking annual/ renewal audit of RPSL.

VALIITY OF CONTINUOUS DISCHARGE CERTIFICATES (CDCs) EXTENDED



With spread of second wave of COVID 19 and due to difficulties faced by seafarers for renewal of CDCs, the Directorate General of Shipping, vide DGS Order No. 19 of 2021 dated 06.05.2021, has extended validity of those CDCs, whose expiry is falling in the period from

01.07.2021 to 31.03.2022 (both days inclusive) for a further period of 06 months.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES/ PROTOCOLS (SOP) FOR CONTROLLED CREW CHANGE – RESUMPTION OF E-PASS FACILITY



In view of nationwide resurgence of COVID cases wherein several states have re-imposed movement restriction to contain the spread of virus, the Government of Maharashtra vide 'Break the Chain' orders dated 13.04.2021 and 21.04.2021 have also put movement restrictions. Considering this, the DGS, vide

DGS Order No. 15 of 2021 dated 28.04.2021, has brought back the system for issuance of e-pass to facilitate inter-state and intra-state movement of seafarers who have been declared 'Key Workers' vide DGS Crew Circular No. 37 of 2020 dated 22.12.2020.

MANAGEMENT OF E-PASS FACILITY

To facilitate inter-state and intra-state movement of seafarers who have been declared as 'Key Workers' the DGS, vide DGS Circular No. 11 of 2021 dated 30.04.21, has appointed the following officers as Nodal officer/ Link officer for managing the e-pass facility to smoothly implement the issue of e-pass:

| NODAL OFFICER | LINK OFFICER |
|---|---|
| SHRI MUKUL DUTTA, SHIPPING MASTER, Tel.no. 022-22631222, 022-22611632, Mob. No. 09833607825, Email ID: sm-mum-ship@gov.in | SHRI D. N. KHEMCHANDANI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING,(CREW), MOB. NO. 09822622156, Email ID : Deepak.khemu-dgs@gov.in |

TRAINING

REFRESHER TRAINING IN PSCRB (COURSE ID:6212) AND REFRESHER TRAINING IN AFF (COURSE ID: 6312)

The Directorate General of Shipping has decided to withdraw the Combined Refresher Courses for PST&PSCRB with course id:6214 and



FPPF&AFF with course id:6313 as mentioned in the DGS Order No. 40 of 2020 dated 18.12.2020. Henceforth, the Refresher Training of PSCRB with course id 6212 will include the competencies of refresher course of PST&PSCRB; si

ilarly, the Refresher Training of AFF with course id 6312 will include the competencies of refresher course of FPPF&AFF. DGS Order no. 19 of 2021 dated 17.06.2021 provides the details.

AGE LIMIT EXTENDED FOR DIPLOMA IN MARINE ENGINEERING (2 YEARS)

The Director General of Shipping, vide DGS Circular No. 17 of 2021 dated 04.06.2021, has decided to increase the maximum age limit for admission to Diploma in Marine Engineering (2 Years) from 22 years to 28 years. For details of the Minimum eligibility criteria for admissions to the said course can be perused vide DGS

**AGE LIMIT EXTENDED FOR DIPLOMA
IN MARINE ENGINEERING**

Training Circular No. 12 of 2020 dated 01.04.2020 and its amendments.

COURSE COMPLETION CERTIFICATE/ CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY



THREE TIERS FOR DIGITIZED CERTIFICATES

The Directorate has now developed the other two-tiers (E-Learning and Exit Exam) for various 11 courses listed in Annexure to DGS Order 40 of 2020, which were earlier completed only on one/two-tier and digitized certificates were being issued and the list of such courses is attached as Annexure to the DGS Order no. 25 of 2021 dated 29.05.21. All such students going to enrol for these courses via batch uploaded on/after 14th June 2021 shall be required to complete all three-tiers for getting the Course Completion Certificate/Certificate of Proficiency.

FACULTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (FIN)

Now, the e-Governance of the Directorate has developed a utility for automatic generation of FIN for Principal, faculty and Instructor. This facility of FIN generation is for those faculties who are not in possession of FIN number. The detail procedures for generation of FIN is elaborated in Annexure of DGS Circular No. 16 of 2021 dated 20.05.2021.

NON-LEVY OF PENALTY FOR CORRECTION IN THE SEAFARER DATA

Taking cognizance of the Pandemic situation, the Directorate General of Shipping, vide DGS Order No. 22 of 2021 dated 11.05.2021, has further extended the period from 10.05.2021 to 30.11.2021, relaxing the provision of fine of Rs. 3000/- for corrections to be made with attached scan copy of Passport, in the seafarer profile.



ONLINE COMMON ENTRANCE TEST (CET) AND COMMON COUNSELING

In view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic wave which has again caused similar disruptions in the education system across the country leading to unprecedented uncertainties, the Directorate General of Shipping, vide DGS Circular No. 14 of 2021 dated 13.05.21, has decided the following relaxation to DGS Training Circular No. 12 of 2020 dated 01.04.2020:

1. The "Online Common Entrance Test (CET) and Common Counselling" shall not be applicable for admission for the academic year 2021 - 22;
2. The Maritime Training Institutes may follow their own admission process and counselling methodology for the academic year 2021 - 22, while ensuring that other requirements of Training circular are strictly followed;
3. It shall not be mandatory for the candidates seeking lateral entry for admission in second year of the four-year Marine Engineering Degree course (BE/ B-Tech Marine Engineering) to qualify in the online Common Entrance Test" (CET) for the academic year 2021-22.

SUBMISSION OF BATCH DETAILS FOR STCW

The Directorate General of Shipping has decided that all MTI shall ensure total duration in days for Part 'A' and Part B' of the Course should be in accordance with the table in the Annexure attached to DGS Order. No. 18 of 2021 dated 04.05.2021. Batch details i.e. batch start date and batch end date are to be filled up for duration of courses accordingly.

CONDUCT OF MARITIME TRAINING COURSE.

The Directorate General of Shipping has issued DGS Order No. 17 of 2021 dated



01.05.2021 with respect to conduct of maritime training course with annexures detailing completion of practical training required for Part 'B' of the courses certificates for Ref. FPF, Ref. AFF, Ref. MFA, Ref. Medicare from any MTI approved for conduct of these refresher courses outside

restricted zones and conducting practical's, issuance of Part 'B' of the said Digital

Certificate, generation of Part 'A' digital certificates etc.

MAJOR WORK/EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN

- Modernization of training institutes across 5 key areas: Teaching, Administration, Training, pedagogy and assessment. Strengthen faculty network across Maritime education and training institutes;
- Efforts to establish dedicated cruise training academies in partnership with Global cruise lines to enhance availability of competent talent for cruise ships.

NAUTICAL

PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY ON VESSELS- MARITIME ADVISORY

The DGS has issued NT Wing Piracy - DGS Circular No. 12 of 2021 dated 02.05.21 regarding Piracy and Armed Robbery on Vessels furnishing graph statistics collated



from the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) on the reported and attempted attacks by pirates and armed robbers for the period between 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020. It has been observed that the piracy hotspot is focused in the West African region, the Malacca Straits, South China

Sea, the West African region, the Gulf of Guinea as well as the Singapore Straits etc. wherein hijacking, kidnapping, killing and other inhuman activities are being done. To tackle of these situations, it is evitable to adopt procedures in the Best Management Practices to deter piracy and enhance maritime security. The DGS has advised all, RPSL, CSO's and Masters of vessels to be extra cautious and follow the practices & take necessary precautionary measures as specified in the guidelines and publications mentioned in the aforesaid Circular.

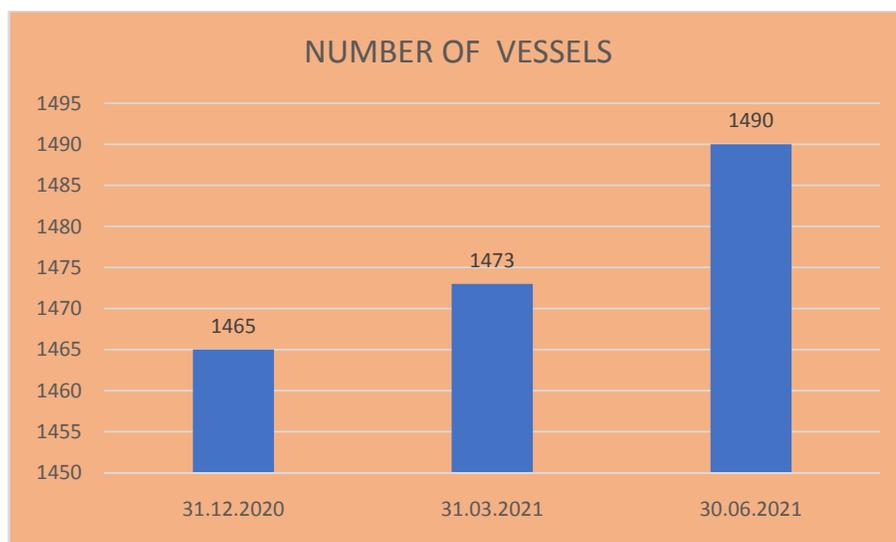
VALIDITY OF SHIP SANITATION CERTIFICATE EXTENDED TILL 30.11.2021

In order to facilitate the operations of Indian ships on the coast of India during the COVID - 19 Pandemic, the validity of Ship Sanitation Certificate for all Indian registered vessels operating on the coast of India has been extended, vide DGS Order no. 21 of 2021 dated 11.05.2021, for a further period up to 30.11.2021 subject to the condition that Master needs to ensure that the ship remains free of infection and contamination including vectors and reservoirs of transmission of diseases. All records of disinfection and sanitization including inspections carried out are required to be maintained on board for verification.

SHIPPING DEVELOPMENT

INDIAN SHIPS

The Indian ships including Indian controlled ships is given in the graphs hereunder:



- The increasing trend of number of vessels has been maintained;

- India has one of the largest merchant shipping fleets among the developing countries;
- Presently India ranks 18th;
- Average age of the fleet is 17.3 years.

ENGINEERING

EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY AND CERTIFICATE OF PROFICIENCY

In view of the sudden surge in number of COVID-19 cases, due to its second wave, in all parts of India and corresponding travel ban and local restrictions, it was difficult on the part of seafarers to revalidate their COC/COP. Accordingly, in consideration of the problems of the seafarers and urgency that the seafarers are required to man the ships to continue transportation of goods/people and that they need to be in possession of valid COC/COP, the Directorate General of Shipping has extended all Seafarers' COC/COP till 31st December 2021 or one contract, whichever is later and irrespective of whether a seafarer has availed extension under any previous Order/SOP or is ashore or on board the ship at the time of issuance of the DGS Order no. 16 of 2021 dated 28.04.2021 subject to certain terms & conditions as laid down in the said Order.

**DG SHIPPING EXTENDS VALIDITY OF COC/ COP
TILL 31ST DECEMBER, 2021**

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE & ENGINEERING

EXTENSION OF STATUTORY ANNUAL/ INTERMEDIATE/ RENEWAL SURVEYS OR INTERIM/ INITIAL/ INTERMEDIATE/ RENEWAL AUDITS/ INSPECTIONS

Taking into cognizance of COVID-19 pandemic all over the world and its impacts due to subsequent lockdowns imposed such as non-availability of RO Surveyors, repair docks, non-availability of OEM, spares etc., and in order to allow uninterrupted operation of ships, the Directorate developed elaborate procedures and issued DGS Order no. 23 of

2021 dated 14.05.2021 regarding conduct of Surveys/ inspections/ Audits/ Inspections/ remote surveys etc., towards extension of certificates or issuance of Short Term Statutory Certificates to ships.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE

SHIPBUILDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY

The Government of India has approved the Financial Assistance Policy for Indian Shipyards on 9th December 2015 for grant of financial assistance to Indian Shipyards.

The Directorate is assisting in the implementing of the 'Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy 2016-2026' which is rolled out by Ministry of Shipping, as per the guideline issued vide file no. SY-16023/6/2015-SBR dated 27.10.2017, as amended in October, 2017 and further amended in 28.02.2019.

The Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy and the guidelines shall be applicable for shipbuilding contracts signed during the dates, April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2026, including the said dates. The said policy as well as the guidelines is applicable to all the Indian shipyards.

Financial assistance can be claimed for export and domestic orders.

This online portal has been set up by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and waterways, Govt. of India, for facilitating the submission of applications by Indian shipyards for this Financial Assistance Scheme. Shipyards may use this portal for registration, submission of applications for in-principle-approval, uploading of necessary documents etc.

Statistics of the applications on the Portal is as under:

- 1. Total number of shipyards registered on the portal: 21**
- 2. Application for in-principle approval:**

| Application for In-principle approval | Applications(vessels) | Contract Value (in Cr) |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total received | 88(150) | 2170.85 |
| Approved | 82(136) | 1833.51 |

| | | |
|-------------|-------|--------|
| In-Progress | 0(0) | 00 |
| Rejected | 6(14) | 337.34 |

3. Application for Release of Financial Assistance;

| Application for Fund Request | Applications(vessels) | Contract Value (in Cr) |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Total received | 54(58) | 823.94 |
| Approved | 38(42) | 644.09 |
| In-Progress | 3(3) | 80.88 |
| Rejected | 13(13) | 98.97 |



MERCANTILE MARINE DEPARTMENT, KOLKATA

Mercantile Marine Department, Kolkata conducted about 08 inspections/ surveys etc. It further conducted 02 nautical examinations where 239 candidates appeared. The number of GMDSS endorsement certificates issued during the quarter was 322 (314 online and 08 manual). 354 DCEs were issued. Similarly, in the Engineering Grade, 14 MEO examinations were conducted wherein 1108 candidates appeared. The office organized Official Language Implementation Committee meeting on 30.06.2021.