

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SHIPPING		
Authorized by	EAC BRANCH	EACQM : 0751
Dy.NA / Dy.CS with the Govt. of India	NT / ENG CIRCULAR NO. 03	ISSUE NO. 01
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Subject: Certification of ratings forming part of a Navigational / Engine- room watch (under the provisions of Regulation II / 4 or III/4 respectively)

1. The Directorate has received representations from the Seafarer Unions stating that seamen, who have acquired Indian Continuous Discharge Certificate cum Seafarers' Identity Document (CDCs) on the basis of compassionate grounds or service experience under the provisions of applicable DGS orders /circulars, issued from time to time, are facing difficulties in issuance of subject watch keeping certificate.
2. Reference is invited to NT/ENG Circular No.08 of 2009 (dated:12.06.2009), wherein, mainly difficulties such as basic qualifications (10th std. pass) and interchangeability between deck and engine department were resolved.
3. Whilst the NT/ENG Circular No.08 of 2009 stated that there is no basic objection towards issuance of subject watch keeping certificates to such candidates, the methodology of recognizing / acceptance of sea going service performed was not described.
4. The intent of this circular is to prescribe methodology of recognition / acceptance of seagoing service as follows –
 - 4.1 : Six (6) months on normal trading ships of ≥ 500 GT or ≥ 750 KW Main Propulsion Machinery, with Watch-keeping experience certificate, Training Record book and verification letter/endorsement from a RPSL company for Deck or Engine department ratings as applicable.

However, in case sea-going service has been on a vessel in lower area of operations (coastal/harbour etc.) and/or size < 500 GT, then as applicable under provisions of META Manual Vol I for such vessels , reduced rate of sea-going service (i.e. 2/3 or ½) shall apply.

4.2 : Additional six (6) months to 4.1 above, if approved training is not documented in Training Record Book.

4.3 : If an existing seafarer, who has obtained Indian CDC on basis of experience, wishes and fulfills other requirements (which are non verifiable due to his/her sea going service being on vessels, through non RPSL agents or without Indian CDC entries) may have option of his assessment being done at MMD and thereafter, to undergo examination conducted by Board of Examination for Seafarers Trust (BEST). However, such candidates will be allowed maximum three (3) attempts for Examination.

5. This circular partially modifies, to the extent applicable, NT/ENG circular No. 08 of 2009/dated:12.06.2009 and Crew Branch Circular No. 09 of 2007 / dated: 21.09.2007, in case of ratings watchkeeping (Nautical & Engine-room) certificates.

This issues with the approval of the Chief Examiners of Master & Mates and Engineers.



(Capt. S.K. Shukla)
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