DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA		
	TRAINING BRANCH	**IS/ISO Clause No. 7.1**
Ref.: QMS EACQP-07-1 Page 1 of 2	**Subject:- Ban on new approvals and increase in capacity of Pre-sea Courses**	**File No. TR/CIR/6(7)/2012**
Approved by Director General of Shipping	**Circular No. :- Training Circular No.4 of 2012**	**Date: 18th June, 2012**

1. After the opening of the maritime training to private sector in 1996-97, there has been mammoth growth in number of maritime training institutes conducting pre-sea courses, and as on date more than 85 institutes are approved for conducting various pre-sea training courses of both the discipline i.e., Nautical and Engineering.

2. A recent review of the approved intake of pre-sea courses against the training berths availability undertaken by the Directorate has revealed that the intake capacity created for pre-sea courses significantly exceeds the training berths available. The large and rapidly growing backlog of trainee officers who have completed their pre sea courses, but are unable to get the training berths on board ships - a prerequisite for their Certificates of Competency in the entry grade, is a matter of serious concern.

3. The Directorate has already initiated action by imposing a restriction on new approvals/ increase in capacity of the one year DNS course in 2011. Further, new approvals of GP and CCMC courses are also under ban since May, 2003.

4. This matter was discussed in the 26th Collegium meeting held on 26.3.2012 in detail wherein the representatives of the Government, Indian Maritime University and the Shipping Industry, were present. All the members agreed that due to bottlenecks of shortage of training berths vis-à-vis the annual output of pre-sea trainees from training institutes, there is an oversupply of cadets who are yet to complete their on- board ship training. The members therefore unanimously agreed that fresh intake / increase in capacity should be stopped immediately, and the capacity should be frozen at the present level, and reduced, if feasible.

5. In view of the above, the Director General of Shipping hereby imposes a ban on increase in capacity by restricting new approvals /increase in intake in all Pre-sea courses leading to entry level Competency either at the Second Mate level or at the level of MEO Class IV, whether Foreign Going (FG) or Near Coastal Voyage (NCV) . Provided however, an exemption could be made where a State Government wishes to run such a course.

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6. The said ban will come into immediate effect and be valid for a period of 2 years from the date of issue of this circular and will be reviewed every year. The pending proposals for which the letter of Intent is already issued, or inspection orders issued, will be processed further and disposed off, on merit. The applications once rejected will not be entertained till such time the above ban is in force.

7. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping & Ex-Officio Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India in accordance with the powers conferred under Rule 47 of Merchant Shipping (Standard of Training Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers) Rules, 1998.

(Mahua Sarkar)
Dy. Director General of Shipping

To,
1. All Maritime Training Institutes
2. Vice Chancellor, Indian Maritime University, East Coast Road, Uthandi, Chennai-600119.
3. All Academic Councils
4. All Mercantile Marine Departments
5. The Shipping Master, Mumbai /Kolkata /Chennai
6. The Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Mumbai /Chennai /Kolkata
7. INSA/ FOSMA/MASSA
8. INDOS Cell, Nav Bhavan Building, Mumbai -1
9. Engineering Branch
10. NT Branch
11. Management Representative [QMS], EAC Branch, DGS
12. Crews Branch
13. Computer Cells
14. Hindi Cell
15. Guard File
16. Sr. PS to DG[S] for information