

	<u>DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, GOVT.OF INDIA, MUMBAI</u>	IS/ISO Clause No.7.1
Ref.:QMS - 7.0 Page 1	Subject: Empanelment of external inspectors to inspect the maritime training institutes	No.TR/Misc/9(24)/2018
	Training Circular No. 20 of 2018	Date : 02.07.2018

1. Maritime education and training in India is administrated by the Director General of Shipping, Government of India, in accordance with the Merchant Shipping (STCW) Rules, 2014. Rule 75 ibid authorizes the Director General of Shipping, Government of India, to supervise all training and assessment of seafarers for their certification, under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, as amended, to ensure that such training is structured in accordance with the STCW Convention, as amended, and is conducted, monitored, evaluated and supported by qualified persons in accordance with said Convention.
2. Maritime Administrations are, under Regulation I/6 (Training and Assessment) of the STCW Convention, 1978, as amended, required to ensure that the training and assessment of seafarers, under the Convention, is administered, supervised and monitored in accordance with the provisions of Regulation I/6 supra.
3. The Maritime Training Institutes (MTI) were subjected to annual scheduled inspection by the Northern Academic Council, Western Academic Council, Eastern Academic Council, and Southern Academic Council before the Comprehensive Inspection Programme (CIP) regime was introduced by the Directorate. The Principal Officer of the Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) was nominated as the Chairman of the academic council.

4. The Directorate General of Shipping, Government of India developed the Comprehensive Inspection Programme (CIP), by integrating and upgrading the existing annual scheduled inspection processes, while introducing an effective grading mechanism for the maritime training institutes. These CIP inspections are carried out by the Recognized Organizations (RO) or the Mercantile Marine Department. The verification of compliance of the maritime training institute with the provisions of STCW Convention was included in CIP inspection. Thus the CIP inspection replaced the annual scheduled inspection of the maritime training institutes undertaken by the academic councils.
5. The CIP inspection was introduced for pre-sea maritime training institutes and post-sea maritime institutes conducting competency courses. The maritime training institutes which conducted the basic STCW modular courses, post-sea modular courses and simulator courses did not come in the purview of the CIP inspections. These maritime training institutes are thus not subjected to CIP and not subjected to annual scheduled inspection by the academic councils.
6. The lifting of ban on opening of new maritime training institutes saw an unprecedented growth in number of maritime training institutes desiring to seek approvals for conducting the basic STCW modular courses, post-sea modular courses and simulator courses. A large number of the maritime training institutes are therefore required to be inspected in pursuant to para 1 and 2 above.
7. In view of the above, the Directorate intends to empanel external inspectors to inspect the maritime training institutes and issues the following directions.
 - 7.1. The Directorate shall publish an advertisement inviting applications from interested professionals who desire to be empanelled as external inspector to inspect the maritime training institutes. The inspections may be scheduled inspections, CIP inspections, inspections for approval of courses and surprise inspections or unscheduled inspections.
 - 7.2. The interested professionals should meet the following requirements.
 - 7.2.1. Should not be more than 72 years old.