



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

नौवहन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

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**NOTICE TO ENGINEERING CANDIDATES**

As you all are aware, the Government of India has imposed the lock down from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020 and have subsequently extended until 17<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (some states have extended this lock down period till 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020) to prevent the spread of Corona virus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Since then the Government of India has issued various guidelines to be followed by all Ministries / State Governments / Departments / Organisations / Citizens to control the epidemic. Accordingly, DGS has been facilitating the maritime industry from time to time by way of providing clarification / answers to their queries/ questions on matters pertaining to the conduct of certificate of competency examinations amongst various other issues. DGS has also extended the validity of COC, COE and COP which are expiring by 1<sup>st</sup> October 2020 for a period of six months from the date of expiry (vide DGS Order no 6 of 2020 and its Addendum No. 1 issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020).

As a result of the lock down

1. Result of MEO Examinations held for the month of February 2020 could not be published due to non-completion of the processes.
2. March 2020 MEO examinations (written and oral) could not be completed due to lock down and was suspended with effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020.

Now, the aim of the DGS is to expedite the completion of the left-over processes in the declaration of the result of the MEO examinations held on February 2020 soon after the lockdown period ends. Thereafter, the next focus would be to complete the suspended March 2020 written and oral examinations at all the examination centres at the earliest opportunity giving a notice period of, at least, one week to travel to the exam centres.

Due to pending completion of the February / March results and examinations, candidates are hereby informed to note that the scheduled MEO written examination for the month of June 2020, as per the annual time table, stands cancelled to accommodate completion of February / March examination processes. Attempt will be made to conduct the scheduled examinations on regular basis from the month of July 2020 including the conduct of postponed March 2020 MEO written and oral examinations subject to return of normalcy in public services.

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It is informed that the booking for the month of April 2020 MEO examination was not completed fully as the process of booking was discontinued due to lockdown. Because of this non-completion of the examination booking process, the April month examination could not be completed and also cannot be conducted in subsequent months as the regular scheduled examinations of that particular month need to be held. Many candidates applied for April month examination has requested for postponement / refund of their examination fees because of joining ships. As it is not possible to postpone the April month examinations to any other month or to postpone the candidates to any other month, it has been decided to refund the examination fees paid. There is no need for claiming refund separately. The refund of fees will be automatically processed after the lock down and will be credited to the candidates account.

The DGS recognises the importance and urgency in conduct of examinations and declaration of results in a time bound manner and also understands the agony of candidates who are unable to appear for the scheduled examinations in the month of April and June 2020. However, the non-conduct of examinations and delay in declaration of results is beyond the control of the DGS. Further, cooperation from all stake holders is solicited for the smooth conduct of MEO examinations from the month of July 2020 subject to prevailing of normalcy. It may be noted that the DGS would make all possible attempts and take efforts not to adversely affect the examination system much and also understanding the current situation will strive to address grievances of candidates and streamline the examination system soonest.

DGS has received requests for conduct of oral examinations in online mode. In this connection, please be informed that as of now, the examination centres are not equipped to conduct the same. Also, the policy and procedures for conduct of oral examinations in online platforms are yet to be put into place. However, DGS has seized of this pandemic situation and is in the process of creating a system for conduct of online oral examination to clear the backlog if normalcy does not return before July 2020.



(सतिश कामथ / Satish Kamath)

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