



भारतसरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
पोतपरिवहनमंत्रालय /MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

नौवहनमहानिदेशालय, मुंबई
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING, MUMBAI

F. No. 25-13012/4/2020-NT-DGS-Part(3)

Date – 04.11.2020

Merchant Shipping Notice No. 13 of 2020

**Sub.: Clarification regarding refresher course for Medical First Aid
and Medical Care at intervals of 5 years – reg.**

1. The Directorate has received several requests to clarify whether a candidate in possession of 'Medical First Aid' Certificate and/or 'Medical Care' Certificate issued under the provisions of Chapter VI/I & VI/4 of STCW Convention is required to attend refresher course for the said courses at intervals of five years.
2. The STCW Convention does not specify any requirement for undergoing the said courses (i.e. 'Medical First Aid' course and 'Medical Care' course) or attend any refresher course regarding the same at intervals of 5 Years.
3. The Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006 at Guideline B4.1.1.3. (Provision of medical care) indicates that *seafarer with the approved medical first-aid training required by STCW, or seafarers with approved training in medical care required by STCW and such other seafarers as may be required by the competent authority should undergo, at approximately five-year intervals, refresher courses to enable them to maintain and increase their knowledge and skills and to keep up-to-date with new developments*
4. Para (1) of Article VI of the Maritime Labour Convention specifies that provisions of Part B of the Code are **NOT MANDATORY**. Hence, the provisions at Part B of the Code only needs due consideration while the provisions of the Maritime Labour Convention is implemented.
5. Considering the foregoing, it is clarified that **THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT** for a candidate in possession of 'Medical First Aid' Certificate and/or 'Medical Care' Certificate to mandatorily attend the said course(s) at intervals of 5 years for revalidation of their COC.
6. Candidates may however attend the course in 'Medical First Aid' and /or Medical Care course **AT THEIR OPTION** at approximately 5-year intervals to maintain and increase their knowledge and skills and to keep up-to-date with new developments. Alternatively, candidates may complete the e-learning module pertaining to 'Medical First Aid' and/or 'Medical Care' available in the DG Shipping website and pass the applicable online examination. Candidate may also obtain practical experience at any hospital, or similar establishment, whenever possible.
7. Copy of the certificate after passing the exit examination from the D G Shipping website along with the experience document from hospital (if applicable) may be kept along with the original 'Medical First Aid' Certificate and/or 'Medical Care' Certificate (as appropriate).
8. This is issued with approval of the Director General of Shipping and Additional Secretary to the Government of India.

(Capt. G.P. Shenoy)
Nautical Surveyor-cum DDG [Tech]