

DRAFT
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the _____ 2026

G.S.R. xx.— In exercise of the powers conferred by **58 (1) (c), 113 (1), 113 (2) (c), 113 (2) (ze)** of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025), and in supersession of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate-cum-Seafarers Identity Document) Rules, 2017, except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Central Government hereby makes the following rules, namely: –

1) Short title, commencement and application. —

- a) These rules may be called the **Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026**.
- b) They shall come into **force on the date of their publication** in the Official Gazette.
- c) They shall apply to citizens of India, who fulfil the eligibility conditions specified under rule 3 of these rules.

2) Definitions. —

- a) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires -
 - i) "Act" means the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025 (24 of 2025) ;
 - ii) "**Approved Training Institute**" means as defined under sub-rule 8 of rule 4 of the **Merchant Shipping (Standards of Training, Certification and Watch-keeping for Seafarers) Rules, 2026**;
 - iii) "**CDC**" means **Continuous Discharge Certificate** issued under these rules;
 - iv) "**CDC e-module**" means an online platform having a webpage within the official website of the Director-General of Maritime Administration for the purpose of issuance of continuous discharge certificate under these rules;
 - v) "**DGS**" means office of the Director-General of Maritime Administration;
 - vi) "Form" means a form appended to these rules;
 - vii) "Issuing Authority" means the Shipping Master as may be nominated by the Director-General.

- b) Words and expressions used in these rules and not defined but defined in the Act shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them.

3) Eligibility for obtaining a continuous discharge certificate. —

- a) The applicant shall be a citizen of India.
- b) The applicant shall be medically fit and possess a valid certificate in the form prescribed under **Annexure IV and V of the Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2026**, to the effect that he is medically fit to be employed on board vessels.
- c) **The applicant for a fresh continuous discharge certificate or renewal of continuous discharge certificate must submit the following certificates, along with the refresher training, wherever applicable, from an Approved Training Institute, namely: -**
 - i) Personal Survival Techniques (PST) or Proficiency in survival craft and rescue boards (PSCRB).

- ii) Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (FPFF) or Advance Fire Fighting (AFF).
 - iii) Elementary First Aid (EFA) or Medical First Aid (MFA) or Medical Care (MC).
 - iv) Personal Safety and Social Responsibility (PSSR)
 - v) Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (STSDSD) or Ship Security Officer (SSO).
- d) The applicant shall not be less than **sixteen (16) years of age**;
 - e) The applicant must have passed the minimum Tenth Standard **from a board of school education recognised by the Central or State government in India or hold an équivalent qualification**.
- 4) **Application for the continuous discharge certificate.** — A citizen of India who fulfils the eligibility conditions as specified in rule 3 shall apply online to the Issuing Authority through the CDC e-module to obtain a continuous discharge certificate through **Form-I** along with a fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for issuance of a fresh continuous discharge certificate.
- 5) **Fee.**—
- a) **A non-refundable fee for obtaining a continuous discharge certificate or its renewal shall be as per Schedule I appended to these rules, payable to the Issuing Authority through e-payment gateway on CDC e-module, until any further amendments made to the existing rules.**

Provided that in case of loss of a certificate due to fire on board the vessel or due to any other marine peril, no such fee shall be charged.

- 6) **Issuance of a continuous discharge certificate.**—
- a) The Issuing Authority shall, after the descriptive particulars of the applicant have been entered and the photograph affixed to the continuous discharge certificate, affix his signature and official seal and issue a physical (non-electronic) continuous discharge certificate to the applicant, who fulfils all the eligibility conditions provided under rule 3.
 - b) A continuous discharge certificate issued under these rules shall be in **Form-II** and shall be serially numbered.
 - c) **After collection and verification of all requisite documents, the Issuing Authority shall print and issue the continuous discharge certificate. It shall be dispatched to the address provided by the applicant in their application through expeditious means. In urgent cases, the Issuing Authority may deliver a continuous discharge certificate to the applicant in person.**
 - d) **If a person applies for obtaining continuous discharge certificate, with the false or false documents, his application shall be rejected forthwith. Further, he will be debarred from applying for continuous discharge certificate for a period of maximum three (3) years subject to due process of inquiry and after being given a fair opportunity to be heard.**
 - e) **If the continuous discharge certificate is returned undelivered to the office of the Issuing Authority, the applicant may collect the same in person from the office of the Issuing Authority with proper identification / documents submission.**
 - f) **If the applicant does not receive or does not collect the continuous discharge certificate within a period of one (1) year from the date of issuance, the issued continuous discharge certificate shall be cancelled by the Issuing Authority with proper remark.**

g) **In case of rejection of application, the reasons for rejection of the application shall be intimated to the applicant.**

7) **Register of the continuous discharge certificate. —**

a) The Issuing Authority shall maintain a record of the continuous discharge certificate issued to the seafarers.

b) **These records may be maintained in electronic form pursuant to section 315 of the Act.**

8) **Period of Validity.—**

a) A continuous discharge certificate issued under these rules shall be valid for a period of ten (10) years, subject to renewal any time after expiry or within one (1) year prior to the date of expiry.

b) If the period of validity of continuous discharge certificate expires during the voyage, it shall continue to be valid until the end of such voyage.

9) **Renewal. —**

a) **A continuous discharge certificate may be renewed any time after expiry or within one (1) year prior to the date of expiry on a request from the holder for a further period up to ten years at a time.**

b) **The holder of a continuous discharge certificate shall apply for renewal through an application in Form-III and pay the fee as per Schedule I appended to these rules, provided such continuous discharge certificate has not already been cancelled, withdrawn or suspended under rule 10.**

10) **Issuance of Duplicate continuous discharge certificate.—**

a) Where a continuous discharge certificate is lost in India and a proper complaint has been made with the Police, such person may apply to the concerned Issuing Authority in **Form-III** along with a copy of the police complaint and fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for issuance of a duplicate copy of continuous discharge certificate;

b) Where a continuous discharge certificate is lost at high seas or on-board vessel, the applicant will be required to make an official logbook entry on-board vessel. The Applicant may apply to the concerned Issuing Authority in **Form-III** along with such enquiry report and logbook entries, and fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for the issuance of a duplicate copy of continuous discharge certificate.

In case of extraordinary circumstances, which are beyond the control of the concerned seafarer or master of the vessel, the logbook entry or other documents are not available, then the Issuing Authority may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, issue a duplicate copy of continuous discharge certificate based on the documentary evidence submitted by the flag State or by the company operating the vessel, the fee for which shall be paid as per Schedule I appended to these rules for the issuance of a duplicate copy of continuous discharge certificate.

Provided that in case of loss of a certificate due to fire on board a vessel or due to any other marine peril, no such fee shall be charged.

11) **Issuance of replacement continuous discharge certificate.—**

- a) Where a continuous discharge certificate of a person issued under these rules, is destroyed, defaced or mutilated or the pages of the continuous discharge certificate are exhausted, such person shall apply to the Issuing Authority in **Form-III** along with a fee as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules for issuance of a replacement copy of the continuous discharge certificate;
- b) **Any request for alteration or modification of any particulars in the existing continuous discharge certificate shall be allowed to be made by the Issuing Authority on production of a valid passport and any other necessary documents;**
- c) **For any application of replacement of continuous discharge certificate, the applicant shall submit the existing continuous discharge certificate prior to the issuance of the replacement continuous discharge certificate.**
- d) **The fees for application of replacement shall be as per **Schedule I** appended to these rules.**

12) Cancellation, withdrawal or suspension of a continuous discharge certificate.—

- a) **After due process of enquiry and the seafarer having been found guilty,** the Director-General may direct the Issuing Authority that the continuous discharge certificate of such seafarer be cancelled or withdrawn or suspended, whichever is applicable, for such period as may be specified in the order, as prescribed under sections 48(6), 62(5), 98(3) and 100(2) of the Act.
- b) The Director-General may suspend or cancel any continuous discharge certificate granted under this Act to any seafarer for any specified period as prescribed under section 99 of the Act. A person whose continuous discharge certificate is cancelled shall be debarred for applying and obtaining continuous discharge certificate for such period as may be specified in the order.
- c) Before cancellation, withdrawal or suspension of the continuous discharge certificate, as the case may be, the continuous discharge certificate holder shall be intimated in writing and given an opportunity to represent his case before the Issuing Authority.
- d) The Director-General or the Issuing Authority, as the case may be, shall intimate the continuous discharge certificate holder in writing the reasons for cancellation, withdrawal or suspension, as applicable. A copy of the order of such cancellation or suspension or debarment as the case may be, shall be endorsed to all other Issuing Authorities in India and the Director-General.
- e) If a continuous discharge certificate holder wishes to discontinue the sea service and requests for cancellation of his continuous discharge certificate, the Issuing Authority shall cancel the same.
- f) **On cancellation of a continuous discharge certificate, the SID will be cancelled.**

13) Record of cancelled, withdrawn or suspended continuous discharge certificate.—

The Shipping Master shall maintain a record of continuous discharge certificates that have been withdrawn, cancelled or suspended under **rule 10**.

14) Surrender/Cancellation of continuous discharge certificate. —

- a) **In case of reported death of a seafarer, the continuous discharge certificate shall be cancelled by the concerned Issuing Authority.**
- b) **In case of permanent disablement, the seafarer shall surrender their continuous discharge certificate to the Issuing Authority immediately after the settlement of the compensation.**

15) Appeal.—

- a) Any applicant aggrieved by any order made under these rules by the Shipping Master, may, within a period of **sixty (60) days** of the receipt of such order, prefer an appeal to the jurisdictional Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department. In such a case, the Principal Officer, shall, after hearing such a person, may pass an order within **thirty (30) days** of the appeal.
- b) Any person aggrieved by any order made under these rules by the jurisdictional Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, may, within a period of **sixty (60) days** of the receipt of such order, prefer a second appeal to the Director-General who after hearing such person, may pass an order within **thirty (30) days** of such appeal.
- c) **Every appeal made under this rule shall be accompanied by a copy of the order appealed against.**
- d) **The appellate authority may confirm, modify or reverse the order appealed against.**
- e) No appeal shall be admitted, if it is preferred after the expiry of the period prescribed under **sub-rule (a) or (b).**

Provided that an appeal may be admitted after the expiry of period **up to a maximum period of one (1) year from date of issue of the order**, if the appellate authority satisfies that the appellant had sufficient cause for not preferring the appeal within the prescribed period.

Schedule I- Fees**(See rule 4, 5, 13 and 14)**

Sr. No	Particulars	Amount in Indian rupees
1	Application for fresh continuous discharge certificate	3000
2	Application for renewal of continuous discharge certificate	3000
3	Application for duplicate continuous discharge certificate	3000
4	Application for replacement continuous discharge certificate	3000
5	Application for duplicate continuous discharge certificate lost due to fire on-board a vessel or due to any other marine peril	0

FORM-I**[See Rule 4]****Application Form for Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC)**

1. Name of the Candidate in full
2. **Name of Father/Legal Guardian**
3. **Name of Mother**
4. **Name of Spouse**
5. Sex
6. Date of birth
7. Place of birth
8. Nationality
9. INDOS No.
10. INDOS issue date
11. Height (in cms.)
12. Colour of eyes
13. Identification marks (if any)
14. Valid passport No.
15. Date of issue
16. Place of issue
17. Permanent address
18. E-mail
19. Tel. No. /Mobile No.
20. **Name of Point-of-Contact**
21. **Relationship with the applicant**
22. **Address of Point-of-Contact**
23. **Tel. No./Mobile No. of Point-of-Contact**
24. **Email ID of Point-of-Contact**
25. STCW course details- Name of the course, Certificate No., Date of issue, Name of the institute
26. Medical fitness certificate by the DGS approved medical examiner- Name of the doctor, DGS approval No. for doctor, Place of issue of medical fitness certificate, Date of issue of medical fitness certificate.
27. Details of fee-
 1. Mode of payment: E-payment
 2. Amount:

Declaration

1. I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed/distorted.
2. I also affirm and declare that I have not been previously issued with a continuous discharge certificate, and I have not submitted an application for continuous discharge certificate to any other Shipping Master in India.
3. I am aware that, if at any time, I am found to have concealed/distorted any material information and the Shipping Master has reasons to believe that I have obtained the continuous discharge certificate by presenting false or erroneous information, my continuous discharge certificate will be cancelled/suspended forthwith as per the provisions contained in **Rule 10** of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026, as amended.

Place:

.....

Signature of the Applicant:

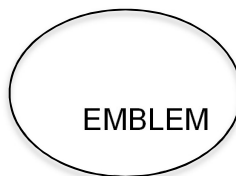
Date:
.....

Name of the Applicant:

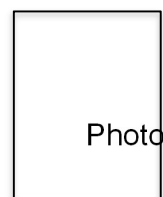
FORM-II

[See sub-rule (b) of rule 6]

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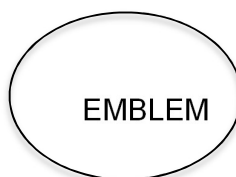


CONTINUOUS DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



Name of Seafarer in full
CDC No.
Shipping Master Office
Date of issue
Date of expiry
Date of birth
Nationality
Sex
Height (in cms.)
Colour of eyes
INDoS No.
Identification mark
Seafarer's signature

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

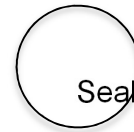


This Continuous Discharge Certificate is issued under the Merchant Shipping
(Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules 2026, as amended.

Signature of Issuing Authority

Name

Designation



Details of certificates

Name of the Certificate	Number	Date and Name of the Institute

Details of Voyages

Sr. No.	Name of Ship, Official No., International Maritime Organisation (IMO) No., Port of Registry, Kw, GT.	Date and place of Engagement	Date and place of Discharge	Rank of Seafarer	Description of Voyages Foreign Going/Near Coastal Voyage Indian Coastal	Signature of Master with seal
(1)						
(2)						
(3)						
(4)						

(5)						
(6)						
(7)						
(8)						
(9)						
(10)						
(11)						
(12)						
(13)						
(14)						
(15)						
(16)						
(17)						
(18)						
(19)						
(20)						
(21)						
(22)						
(23)						
(24)						

Space for Renewal Sticker

Space for official Use

PERMANENT ADDRESS OF SEAFARER

Tel. No. /Mobile No. _____

E-mail _____

POINT OF CONTACT OF SEAFARER

Name _____

Relationship _____

Address _____

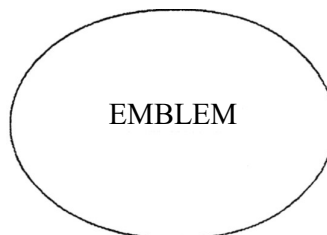
Tel No. /Mobile No. _____

E-mail ID _____

FORM-III

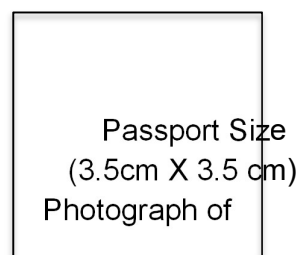
[See rules 13 and 14]

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APPLICATION FORM FOR **RENEWAL OR DUPLICATE OR REPLACEMENT** OF
CONTINUOUS DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE

seafarers



Write the category of continuous discharge certificate — amongst the following to which apply:

- a) RENEWAL OF continuous discharge certificate (For CDC Renewal Sticker **whose validity is expired**);
- b) DUPLICATE OF continuous discharge certificate (For the case of loss of CDC);
- c) **REPLACEMENT OF continuous discharge certificate (For CDC which are torn/mutilated /defaced /pages exhausted)**

1. Name of the Candidate (as entered in CDC):

Details of CDC: CDC No.

Shipping Master Office:

Date of issue:

INDOS No. _____ Date: _____

2. Police Complaint No.: _____ **Dated:**

Name of Police Station: _____ District: _____

State: _____

(Only for duplicate CDC in case of loss of original CDC)

3. Address to receive CDC by POST:

House No. _____

Street _____

Village/Post Office/Tehsil _____

District _____

State _____

Pin code _____

Phone No. with STD Code _____

E-mail ID _____

Mobile No. _____

Nearest Police Station _____

4. Name, relationship & address of Point-of-contact:

Name of Point-of-contact _____

Relationship with seafarer _____

House No. _____

Street _____

Village/Post office/Tehsil _____

District _____

State _____ Pin Code _____

Phone No. with STD Code _____

Mobile No. _____

Nearest Police Station _____

5. Details of safety and security courses:

- Personal Survival Techniques (PST) or Proficiency in survival craft and rescue Boards (PSCRB),
- Fire Prevention and Fire Fighting (FPFF), or Advance Fire Fighting (AFF),
- Elementary First Aid (EFA) or Medical First Aid (FIFA) or Medical Care (MC),
- Personal Safety and Social Responsibilities (PSSR),

- Security Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (STSDSD) or Ship Security Officer

Name of Institute: _____
P.S.T./ P.S.C.R.B. Cert. No. _____ Date of
issue _____

Name of Institute: _____
FPFF/AFF Cert. No. _____ Date of
issue _____

Name of the Institute: _____
EFA/MEA/MC Cert. No.: _____ Date of
issue _____

Name of the Institute: _____
PSSR Cert. No.: _____ Date of issue

Name of Institute: _____
STSDSD/SSO Certificate No. _____ Date
of issue _____

6. Medical fitness certificate by the DGS approved medical examiner:

Name of the doctor: _____
DGS approval No. for doctor: _____
Place of issue of medical fitness certificate: _____

Date of issue of medical fitness certificate:

7. Details of fee:

Mode of payment: e-payment
Amount

8. Declaration:

- I hereby declare that all the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and nothing has been concealed/ distorted, and
- I hereby submit that I am the holder of CDC No. _____ issued from the Office of _____ Shipping Master, and

I hereby submit that I have never been debarred front the concerned Issuing Authority Office and I am aware that, if at any time, I am found to have concealed distorted any material information and the Shipping Master has reasons to believe that I have obtained the continuous discharge certificate by presenting false or erroneous information, my continuous discharge certificate will be cancelled/suspended forthwith as per the provisions contained in Rule 9 of the Merchant Shipping (Continuous Discharge Certificate) Rules, 2026, as amended.

Place: _____
applicant: _____

Signature of the

Date: _____

Name of the Applicant:

SPECIMEN SIGNATURE OF THE APPLICANT (Only in case of
Duplicate/Replacement continuous discharge certificate)
(Signatures are to be confined to each of the boxes)

1	2	3

List of enclosures:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

