



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

समुद्रीय प्रशासन महानिदेशालय, मुंबई

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MARITIME ADMINISTRATION, MUMBAI



F.No.20-11011/21/2020-TRG-DGS(C.No.6239)

Date: 7th Sept.2026

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Subject: Show Cause Notice regarding examination of the role of the Principal, Tolani Maritime Institute, in connection with the fatal accident dated 05.04.2026.

Whereas, M/s. Tolani Maritime Institute (MTI No. 201005) located at Talegaon Chakan Road, Induri Village, Maval Taluka, Pune, Maharashtra- 410507, has been approved by the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai for conduct of the following maritime courses:

Sr.No.	Name of Course	Students Per Batch	Batch Per Year
1	B.Sc Nautical Science	40	2
2	B.Sc Nautical Science	40	1
3	BE / B-Tech Marine Engineering	40	6
4	Basic Safety Training	24	48
5	Basic Training for Ships using Fuels covered within IGF code	24	24
6	Diploma In Nautical Science	40	3
7	Diploma In Nautical Science	40	1
8	Electro Technical Officers	40	3
9	Extra Chief Engineer Part A	24	1
10	Extra Chief Engineer Part B	24	1
11	High Voltage Safety and Switch Gear at Operational level	12	48
12	MEO Class IV	40	12
13	Security Trng. for Seafarer with Designated Security Duties	24	96

2. **WHEREAS**, MTI 'Tolani Maritime Institute' (MTI No.201005) is an institute approved/recognised by the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS) and is required to comply with the applicable statutory, regulatory and approval requirements, including ...2/-

9वीं मंजिल, बीटा बिल्डिंग, आई थिंक टेक्नो कैंपस, कांजुर गाँव रोड, कांजुरमार्ग (पूर्व), मुंबई - 400042

9th Floor, Beta Building, I-Think Techno Campus, Kanjur Village Road, Kanjurmarg (E), Mumbai - 400042.

फ़ोन/Tel No.: +91-22-2575 2040/1/2/3 फ़ैक्स/Fax.: +91-22-25752029/35 ई-मेल/Email: dgship-dgs@nic.in वेबसाइट/Website: www.dgma.gov.in

the provisions of DGS Order No. 07 of 2016, applicable DGS Circulars, the Quality Standards System requirements and the conditions governing its approval;

3. **WHEREAS**, Para 1.5.3.4 of DGS Order No. 07 of 2016 prescribes requirements relating to playground/recreational infrastructure, Para 1.17 provides for an appropriate quality system, and Para 2.19 requires a vehicle with a driver to be available at the cost of the institute on a round-the-clock basis for attending to medical emergencies;

4. **WHEREAS**, DGS Circular No. 23 of 2020 requires an effective Quality Standards System, including appropriate monitoring, internal audits, identification of deficiencies, corrective action and, where applicable, root-cause analysis and follow-up;

5. **WHEREAS**, Dr. Sanjeet Kanungo was functioning as Principal of the MTI 'Tolani Maritime Institute' during the relevant period; however, any individual responsibility on his part is required to be examined with reference to the functions, responsibilities and authority actually assigned to him;

6. **WHEREAS**, on 05.04.2026 at approximately 0735 hrs, **Cadet Vishal Verma**, a student of the 2024 B. Tech Marine Engineering batch of Tolani Maritime Institute, was struck by a collapsing basketball pole and sustained severe head injuries;

7. **WHEREAS**, it has been reported that the Institute ambulance did not arrive at the site and that the injured cadet was thereafter shifted to MIMER Hospital in a private vehicle, where he was declared dead at approximately 0951 hrs;

8. **WHEREAS**, the Directorate received an email dated 07.04.2026 from the Principal of Tolani Maritime Institute informing the Directorate about the accident and the investigation being undertaken in the matter;

9. **WHEREAS**, the preliminary inquiry conducted by MMD, Mumbai, indicates that in 2023 holes/corrosion had been observed in the basketball pole sections at Court-A, at a location similar to that at which the Court-B pole subsequently fractured, and the affected sections of Court-A were thereafter replaced;

...3/-

10. **WHEREAS**, in respect of Court-B and Court-C, the material presently available indicates that surface treatment/painting had been undertaken, while no documentary evidence of a structural assessment, integrity check or engineering evaluation of the poles has been identified in the preliminary inquiry records;

11. **WHEREAS**, the failed Court-B pole was found to have corrosion, thinning and loss of structural material, with the fracture attributed in the preliminary inquiry to corrosion/wastage; further, no documentary evidence of a comprehensive assessment of the remaining basketball poles or comparable sports/recreational infrastructure following the deterioration identified in 2023 has been identified in the records examined;

...3/-

12. **WHEREAS**, the above circumstances raise a prima facie issue regarding the adequacy of the Institute's arrangements for identification, reporting, technical assessment, corrective action and follow-up in relation to infrastructure safety, including the functioning of its Quality Standards System and safety oversight mechanisms;

13. **WHEREAS**, the reported non-availability/non-arrival of the Institute ambulance at the time of the emergency also raises a prima facie issue regarding compliance with the requirements contained in Para 2.19 of DGS Order No. 07 of 2016;

14. **WHEREAS**, the above circumstances concern, in the first instance, the systems, arrangements and functioning of the Institute and do not, by themselves, establish personal responsibility on the part of the Notice; any individual responsibility shall be examined with reference to the specific functions and authority assigned to him, the relevant information or circumstances brought to his notice, the opportunity available to him to act, and any specific action or failure to act for which he may properly be held responsible. The occurrence of the accident or the **resultant death of the cadet** shall not, by itself, establish such individual responsibility;

15. **NOW, THEREFORE**, the Principal of the MTI is hereby called upon to show cause as to why appropriate regulatory and/or administrative action, as may be permissible under the applicable statutory, regulatory or duly delegated powers available to the Directorate, should not be taken against you in respect of the matters set out herein.

16. **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ascertain whether, after the deterioration/corrosion of basketball pole sections was identified at Court-A in 2023, and in the event that such information was brought to your notice or otherwise came within the scope of your assigned responsibilities, you took, directed or ensured that appropriate technical/engineering assessment of the Court-B and Court-C basketball poles was carried out and, based on the outcome of such assessment, that necessary repair, replacement or other corrective measures were taken before permitting their continued use;

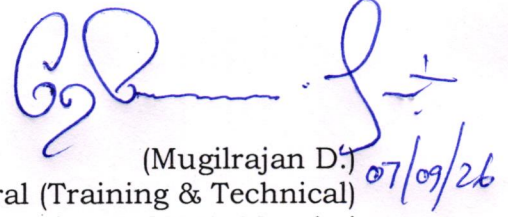
17. **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ascertain whether you issued, approved, reviewed, ratified or otherwise participated in any decision relating to the repair, replacement, surface treatment, painting or continued use of the Court-B and Court-C basketball poles and, if so, the circumstances and records relating thereto;

18. **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ascertain whether concerns relating to the basketball poles were appropriately recorded, assessed and addressed through the Institute's Quality Standards System, including internal audit, identification of deficiency/non-conformity, corrective action, root-cause analysis and follow-up, and what role, if any, you had in that process;

19. **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ascertain whether the condition of the basketball poles or similar infrastructure concerns were placed before the Safety Committee or other designated safety mechanism, the recommendations, if any, made thereon, and the action taken pursuant thereto;
20. **WHEREAS**, it is necessary to ascertain whether, before 05.04.2026, any deficiency concerning the availability, readiness or operation of the Institute ambulance had been brought to your notice and, if so, the action taken by you within your assigned authority;
21. **WHEREAS**, if any of the functions referred to above had been assigned or delegated to another officer, department, committee, contractor or agency, you may furnish the details of such assignment or delegation, including its nature, extent, reporting arrangements and documentary basis;
22. **WHEREAS**, you may place on record any other relevant facts or documents in support of your defence which you consider material to the matters raised in this Notice;
23. **NOW, THEREFORE**, the Principal of the MTI is directed to submit your written explanation/reply within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of receipt of this Show Cause Notice, together with the documents and records upon which you seek to rely;
24. **WHEREAS**, a copy of the preliminary inquiry report of MMD, Mumbai, is enclosed. If you dispute any factual observation therein, you may identify the specific observation disputed and furnish the supporting material or explanation;
25. **WHEREAS**, the material relied upon for the purpose of this Notice shall be supplied along with the Notice and, where any relevant record is voluminous or cannot conveniently be reproduced, shall be made available for inspection and/or obtaining copies in accordance with the applicable procedure;
26. **WHEREAS**, you may request a personal hearing along with your written reply, if you consider such hearing necessary for presenting your defence;
27. **WHEREAS**, in the event that no reply is received within the stipulated period, the matter may be considered on the basis of the material available on record, subject to the applicable statutory and regulatory procedure;
28. **WHEREAS**, the observations and issues contained in this Notice are prima facie in nature and do not constitute a final finding of personal misconduct, negligence or liability against you. Any final action, if considered warranted, shall be taken only after consideration of your reply, the material on record, your defence, the responsibilities actually assigned to you, any personal hearing afforded, and the specific statutory, regulatory and duly delegated powers available to the Directorate;

29. **WHEREAS**, nothing in this Notice shall be construed as attributing personal responsibility to you merely by reason of your designation as Principal or by reason of any institutional deficiency. Any separate regulatory action against the Institute or any other person/entity, if warranted, shall be considered independently on the basis of the evidence and applicable statutory and regulatory provisions.

This is Issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Mugilrajan D.) 07/09/26

Deputy Director General (Training & Technical)
Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA), Mumbai

To

The Principal, Tolani Maritime Institute. MTI No. 201005
Talegaon-Chakan Road, Induri Village,
Maval Taluka, Pune, Maharashtra - 410507
Email: principal@tmi.tolani.edu
Mobile: 9011084737

[Kind Attn: Dr. Sanjeet Kanungo, Principal of MTI]

Copy to:

1. The Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Mumbai.
2. The Director, Tolani Maritime Institute (for information).
3. E-Governance Branch