



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

File No. 20-11011/33/2021-TRG – DGS

Date: 14/10/2026

SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Subject: Show Cause Notice for non-compliance with the refund directions issued by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration in respect of the unsuccessful candidates of the January 2025 GP Rating batch and non-updation of Course Completion Certificates of the successful candidates-Reg.

Whereas, M/s. Cosmopolitan Technology of Maritime (MTI No. 402008) (hereinafter "the MTI") is a Maritime Training Institute approved by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA) to conduct, inter alia, the General-Purpose Rating (GP Rating) Course. For the January 2025 GP Rating batch, the sanctioned intake of the MTI was 80 candidates. The MTI admitted an additional 80 candidates over and above the sanctioned intake, in contravention of the DGS Speaking Order dated 28.08.2024. Further, the MTI did not comply with the DGS Speaking Order dated 07.07.2025, which directed the MTI to re-register the excess candidates in the newly approved batches with the fees already collected set off, to refund within 10 days any amount collected in excess of the prescribed fee, and, in the alternative, to refund the fees collected from candidates admitted beyond the approved intake.

2. The Hon'ble High Court of Madras, by judgment dated 20.08.2026 in W.A. No. 3347 of 2025, while strongly deprecating the conduct of the MTI in admitting the 80 students beyond the permitted intake capacity, directed publication of their results and an independent evaluation of those candidates.

3. In compliance with the said judgment, the DGMA issued the Speaking Order dated 10.09.2026 directing the publication of the withheld BEST Examination results and prescribing and independent evaluation for candidates who had successfully cleared the said examination. wherein the MTI was directed to refund the applicable fees and charges, including tuition fee, hostel fee (wherever applicable) and other course-related fees/charges, to every candidate finally declared unsuccessful, within 07 (seven) working days from the date of issue of the final candidate-wise results. Within the same period, the MTI was required to submit to the DGMA, through this office, documentary proof of refund along with a candidate-wise statement. The said Order expressly states that failure to effect refund within the stipulated period, or failure to furnish proof, shall constitute non-compliance and shall invite appropriate regulatory action.

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

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4. Accordingly, the independent evaluation was conducted on 16.09.2026 at AMET University, Chennai, in compliance with the Honorable High Court judgement, , with nominated officers of this office as Observers. Thereafter, the DGMA issued the final Order dated 17.09.2026 under reference (iii), listing in Annexure-II thirty-six (36) candidates who were unsuccessful, namely 24 candidates who failed the BEST Exit Examination, 8 candidates assessed as "Not Satisfactory" in the independent evaluation, and 4 candidates who remained absent.

5. By Paragraphs 14, 15, 16 and 19 of the Order dated 17.09.2026, the MTI was directed to refund the applicable fees and charges to all 36 candidates in Annexure-II within 7 working days from the date of that Order, to furnish candidate-wise details of the refunds with documentary proof to the Directorate, to maintain auditable records, and to comply forthwith while extending all necessary cooperation to this office. The period of 7 working days expired on or about 28.09.2026.

6. This office has since received multiple complaints from the candidates, who have, inter alia, stated that no refund has been made by the MTI despite the expiry of the stipulated period; their emails and telephone calls to the MTI have gone unanswered, and the MTI has declined to respond; further complainants have stated that representatives of the MTI have refused to refund the fees ; and, having lost nearly two academic years, the candidates are facing serious financial hardship and are unable to seek admission elsewhere. In addition, candidates listed in Annexure-I of the Order dated 17.09.2026, who were declared successful in both the BEST Exit Examination and the independent evaluation, have complained that the details of their GP Rating Course Completion Certificate are not reflected in their seafarer profile (Master Checker) on the DGMA e-Governance portal, owing to which they are unable to proceed with further applications or have their sea service computed.

7. As on the date of this Notice, no candidate-wise statement of refund or documentary proof of refund in respect of any Annexure-II candidate (DGMA Order 17.09.2026) has been received by this office from the MTI. Further, no order of any court staying the operation of the Orders dated 10.09.2026 or 17.09.2026 has been brought to the notice of this office.

8. The directions contained in the Orders dated 10.09.2026 and 17.09.2026 are directions issued by the Director-General to a maritime training institute, which the MTI is bound to comply with, and fall within Section 301 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025. Prima facie, the MTI has:

- (a) failed to refund the applicable fees and charges to the candidates listed in Annexure-II within the stipulated period, in violation of Paragraphs Q, R and S of the Order dated 10.09.2026 and Paragraphs 14 and 15 of the Order dated 17.09.2026;
- (b) failed to furnish the candidate-wise refund statement and documentary proof, in violation of Paragraph T of the Order dated 10.09.2026 and Paragraph 15 of the Order dated 17.09.2026;
- (c) failed to comply forthwith and extend cooperation to this office, in violation of Paragraph 19 of the Order dated 17.09.2026; and

- (d) failed to respond to the grievances of the affected candidates, and denied to refund, which indicates a deliberate disregard of the directions of the Directorate issued in pursuance of the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court.
- (e) failed to issue of the Course Completion Certificates to the successful candidates listed in Annexure-I and to update the same in the DGMA e-Governance system, thereby causing further prejudice to those candidates.

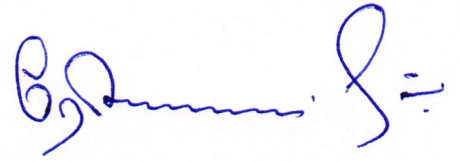
9. Such non-compliance renders the MTI liable to action under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, including:

- (a) suspension or withdrawal of the approval granted to the MTI under Section 47(4), after giving the MTI an opportunity of being heard;
- (b) penalty which may extend to five lakh rupees under Section 281(2) read with Serial No. 86 of the Table thereunder, for failure to comply with directions given under Section 301; and
- (c) such other regulatory measures as the DGMA may deem fit, without prejudice to any other action permissible under law.

10. Now, therefore, the MTI is hereby called upon to show cause, within 07 (seven) days from the date of receipt of this Notice, as to why action as stated in Paragraph 9 above should not be recommended to / initiated by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration against the MTI for non-compliance with the Orders dated 10.09.2026 and 17.09.2026.

11. This Notice is issued without prejudice to any other action that may be taken under the Merchant Shipping Act, 2025, the rules and orders made thereunder, or any other law for the time being in force.

This is issued with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Mugilrajan D.)

Engineer & Ship Surveyor-cum DDG (Tech.)
Training Branch, DGMA, Mumbai

To

The Director

M/s. Cosmopolitan Technology of Maritime (MTI No. 402008),
Sriperumbudur Taluk,
Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu – 602 002.