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

NOTICE

File No.: 25-17/1/2024-NT - DGS **Date:18.11.2026**

Subject: Constitution of Standing Technical Medical Advisory Committee for providing expert medical advice on cases referred by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration – reg.

Whereas, under the Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2026, medical examinations of seafarers are required to be conducted in accordance with the prescribed medical and physical fitness standards;

2. And whereas, certain medical cases involving complex clinical conditions, diagnostic findings, borderline fitness assessments, conflicting medical opinions and other specialised medical issues may require expert evaluation and specialist advice;

3. And whereas, the Administration may require independent technical medical advice for consideration of such cases and other medical matters referred to it;

4. Now, therefore, in furtherance of the powers and functions of the Administration under Rule 33 of the Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2026, the Director-General of Maritime Administration hereby constitutes a Standing Technical Medical Advisory Committee to provide expert technical and specialist medical advice on matters referred by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration.

Composition of the Committee

The Standing Technical Medical Advisory Committee shall comprise the following members:

Sr. No.	Designation/Expertise
1.	Dr. Sharwari Govind Bagde (samarthmarineclinic@gmail.com)
2.	Dr. Jacob Mathew (drmathew@seabirdhf.com)
3.	Dr. Vijay Belani (dr.belani@bsmc.in)
4.	Dr. Dharmendra Chouhan (dr.dharmendra.chouhan@gmail.com
5.	Dr. Diwakar Tiwari (drdiwakar.tiwari@gmail.com)
6.	Dr. Rajanish R. Mishra (rajanishmishra2007@gmail.com)
7.	Dr. Bharat More (bharat_more7@yahoo.com)
8.	Dr. Anil Mehndiratta (anilmehndiratta@rediffmail.com)
9.	Dr. Abhinay Rai (raiabhinay@gmail.com)

5. The Committee may co-opt additional specialists or invite experts from relevant medical disciplines, institutions or organisations, wherever necessary, for examination of specific cases or matters.

6. The Committee shall:

(a) Examine medical examination reports, diagnostic investigations and other relevant medical records referred by the Directorate and provide expert technical medical advice.

(b) Provide specialist opinions in complex, borderline or medically sensitive cases, including cases involving conflicting medical opinions, differing diagnostic findings or discrepancies in medical assessments.

(c) Advise the Directorate on medical fitness standards, interpretation of applicable medical guidelines and requirements under the Merchant Shipping (Medical Examination) Rules, 2026, including relevant Appendices and international medical standards.

(d) Provide specialist advice on medical conditions, treatment, prognosis, functional capacity and associated risks relevant to the safe performance of duties by seafarers.

(e) Recommend improvements in medical assessment procedures, diagnostic protocols and technical guidelines and examine any other medical or technical matter referred by the Directorate.

7. Cases and matters shall be referred to the Committee by the Directorate through the designated officer/Medical Division, along with relevant medical records and supporting documents. The Committee may seek additional medical records, investigation reports or specialist opinions, wherever required, and shall submit its recommendations to the Directorate for consideration and further necessary action.

8. The Committee shall function as an advisory body, and its opinions and recommendations shall be technical in nature and non-binding on the Administration. The final decision in any matter, including statutory determinations and regulatory action, shall remain with the competent authority under the applicable provisions of the Act and Rules.

9. All medical records, reports and personal information placed before the Committee shall be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of examining the matters referred to it, in accordance with applicable laws and rules.

10. This Order shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force until further orders. The composition of the Committee may be modified by the Directorate as and when considered necessary.

11. This is issued with the approval of the competent authority.

(Capt. Nitin Mukesh) 18.11.26
Dy. Nautical Advisor-cum-Senior DDG (Tech.)
Directorate General of Maritime Administration