

Government of India  
Ministry of Communications  
Department of Telecommunications  
Wireless Planning & Co-ordination Wing

6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sanchar Bhawan,  
20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

Office Memorandum

No. P-14036/01/2018-COP

Dated:17/8/2023

Subject: Guidelines for conduct of Global Maritime Distress and Safety System-Restricted Operator's Certificate (GMDSS-ROC) examination

In continuation to Ministry of Communications Gazette notification no. GSR 1088(E) dated 05.11.2018, attached herewith are the guidelines for conduct of Global Maritime Distress and Safety System - Restricted Operator's Certificate (GMDSS-ROC) examination as **Annexure** to this OM.

2. Calendar for conduct of the above examination will be circulated to the concerned institutes after receipt of duly filled in **Enclosure-I** to the annexed guidelines.

Enclosure: As above

To,

All approved GMDSS Institutes.

Copy to,

1. Director General of Shipping
2. Director, WMO/ JWAs of RLOs/ EICs, DDs of RHQs
3. Sr DWA (IT & SACFA)- for uploading at DOT website.



(Sachin Kumar)

Assistant Wireless Adviser  
to the Government of India  
Ph: 011-23036181

(सचिन कुमार)  
(SACHIN KUMAR)  
असिस्टेंट वायरलेस एडवाइजर  
असिस्टेंट वायरलेस एडवाइजर  
डिप्ट. ऑफ टेलीकॉम, गव. ऑफ इंडिया  
20, अशोक रोड, नई दिल्ली

Government of India  
Ministry of Communications  
Department of Telecommunications  
Wireless Planning & Co-ordination Wing

6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Sanchar Bhawan,  
20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001

No. P-14036/01/2018-COP

Dated:17/08/2023

**Guidelines for conduct of Global Maritime Distress and Safety System-Restricted Operator's Certificate (GMDSS-ROC) examination**

In accordance with the Gazette notification no. GSR 1088 (E) dated 05.11.2018, issued as amendment to GMDSS GOC Rules 1997, it has been decided to issue the following guidelines for the conduct of training, examination and certification of GMDSS ROC (Restricted Operator Certificate).

2. These guidelines cover various aspects such as recognition of training institutes, pattern of examination, composition of examiners, syllabus etc. for GMDSS-ROC as detailed below:

**3. Eligibility to conduct GMDSS ROC training course/ Examination**

3.1 All approved GMDSS Training Institutes are eligible to conduct GMDSS ROC course training. The batch strength of ROC course will be same as that approved for GMDSS GOC course in respect of that institute. Institutes shall ensure that conduct of training for ROC course shall in no way adversely affect the standards of training for either of the two courses.

Note: If an institute has been approved to impart training to a batch strength of 12 candidates for GMDSS GOC, that institute is permitted to train another batch strength of 12 candidates for GMDSS ROC.

3.2 All approved GMDSS Training Institutes may provide their willingness to conduct GMDSS ROC course in the proforma provided as **Enclosure-I**.

3.3 All approved GMDSS Examination Centers may provide their willingness to conduct GMDSS ROC examination in the proforma provided as **Enclosure-I**.

3.4 Duly signed Enclosure-I should reach Sr. DWA (COP) WPC Wing at [umang.srivastava@nic.in](mailto:umang.srivastava@nic.in) with copy to [sachin.kumar46@nic.in](mailto:sachin.kumar46@nic.in) within three (03) months of the issue of this OM.

3.5 Any new Institute willing to conduct training for GMDSS ROC course may apply for the same to this Ministry as per existing guidelines issued vide OM no. P-14036/01/2009-COP dated 21.04.2010 (**Enclosure-II**).

#### 4. Course details: -

4.1 **Objective:** A trainee successfully completing this course and passing the prescribed examination should be able to operate efficiently the GMDSS equipment required to be fitted in the vessels/trawlers etc. sailing in sea area A1, and to have primary responsibility to radio communications during distress, urgency, safety and routine incidents on such vessels/ships.

4.2 **Syllabus** will comprise of the following:

- i. Principles of Maritime Communications (Including basic radio theory, identification of radio stations)
- ii. GMDSS SOLAS
- iii. GMDSS Communications System
- iv. Other GMDSS equipment
- v. Maritime Safety Information (MSI)
- vi. Distress Alerting
- vii. Urgency and Safety
- viii. Miscellaneous

##### 4.2.1 Course distribution:

S.No.	Course Item	Theory (in hours)	Practical (in hours)
1	Introduction	1	-
2	ROC Phraseology	3	-
3	Principles of Maritime Communications (Including basic radio theory, identification of radio stations)	2	-

4	GMDSS SOLAS	4	-
5	GMDSS Communications System	3	10
6	Other GMDSS equipment	1	2
7	Maritime Safety Information (MSI)	1	2
8	Distress Alerting	1	1
9	Urgency and Safety	3	3
10	Miscellaneous	1	2
11	Total (40 hours)	20	20

**Note:** (1) The course material taught for GMDSS GOC on the above topics can be used, but has to be moderated for a level notch below in view of the limited applicability for GMDSS ROC operators in the GMDSS sea area A1.

(2) Training – 40 Hours of training to be completed in five days.

4.2.2 The practical components for training: Practical training should be conducted with the real equipment and/or simulator for the following:

1. VHF DSC - Distress and Safety Alerting
2. VHF Radio Telephony - Distress, Safety and Routine calling between Vessels and Ship to Shore communication
3. EPIRB (Cospas-Sarsat)
4. SART
5. VHF Portable Life Boat Radio
6. GPS - brief introduction
7. NAVTEX
8. Automatic Identification System (AIS) - brief introduction

4.2.3 Training may be imparted for Log keeping. However, Log keeping is not included in the examination.

**5. Pattern/Method of Examination** - Examination consists of following two parts: -

**5.1 Written Examination** – Written Examination would be for 50 marks on topics mentioned in para 9.1. It will comprise of 25 multiple choice questions and fill in the blanks of 2 marks each. There will be no negative marking for wrong answer. Time allowed for examination is 1 hour.

**5.2 Practical Examination:** Practical Examination would be for 50 marks. The practical and oral examination would be on topics mentioned in para 9.2 conducted on simulator and/or actual equipment. Assessment of the candidates for practical examination will be done as per the following table:

Examiner	Topics		
WPC Wing Examiner-in Charge (30 marks)	VHF RT & Portable Radio	NAVTEX	AIS & GPS
DG Shipping Examiner (20 marks)	EPIRB	SART	VHF DSC

5.2.1 Candidate has to score total 50 marks overall for passing the examination. However, candidate has to necessarily appear in the written as well as practical examination.

**6. Composition of Examiners and declaration of result:** Two Examiners i.e. One Examiner-in Charge from WPC Wing and one Examiner from DG Shipping would be responsible for conduct of examination and declaration of result at examination centre.

6.1 Provisional Certificate with validity of six months, in respect of successful candidates in the ROC examination, would be issued on the spot similar to Provisional GMDSS GOC certificate.

6.2 Regular Certificate: as per the option exercised by the applicant

- i. Fee Rs 5,000/- for 20 years validity or
- ii. Fee Rs 10,000/- for lifetime validity

from the date of issue of the certificate

Explanation - For the purposes of this rule, the expression "life time" means till the licence holder attains the age of eighty years. Provided that after attaining the age of sixty-five years, the licence holder shall intimate the licensor about the use of the licence for every five years.

**7. Frequency of exam:** The schedule of examination for a calendar year will be released and uploaded at the website of this Ministry.

**8. Re-sit in the exam:** A candidate appeared in an ROC examination and declared unsuccessful, shall be permitted for re-sit for a maximum of two times during one year from the date of end of training, without any further pre-training from an institute. Same exam fee will be charged for re-sit also. However, the re-sit candidates need to submit application for the purpose.

**9. Guidelines for Examination:**

**9.1 Theoretical Examination**

- i. Basic knowledge of the GMDSS
- ii. Types of communication in the maritime mobile service
- iii. Types of station in the maritime mobile service
- iv. Elementary knowledge of radio frequencies and frequency bands
- v. Frequencies allocated to the maritime mobile service
- vi. Maintaining the functionality of a ship station

**9.2 Practical Examination**

To conduct GMDSS distress-, urgency-, safety- and routine radio traffic in English language by means of case examples

- i. Detailed practical knowledge and ability to use radio equipment
- ii. Detailed practical knowledge of distress, urgency, safety and routine communication procedures in radiotelephony
  1. Distress communication
    - o Alert, call and message (including DSC, EPIRB and SART)
    - o Distress traffic with ship stations, coast stations and aircraft stations
    - o Cessation of distress traffic
    - o Withdrawing of a false distress alert
  2. Urgent communication
    - o Announcement, call and message
    - o Urgency traffic with ship stations, coast stations and aircraft stations
    - o Cessation urgency traffic
  3. Safety communication
    - o Announcement, call and message

- o Safety traffic with ship stations, coast stations and aircraft stations
  - o Cessation safety traffic
4. Routine communication
- o Ship station to Ship station
  - o Ship to Coast station

iii. Ability to use list of coast station

**10. Other conditions**

- i. The approved GMDSS training institutes shall prepare and circulate handouts amongst the course participants as per the above syllabus before commencement of the course.
- ii. The examinations will be conducted in English language.
- iii. Proforma for applying for ROC examination is enclosed at Enclosure III. Examination Fee for ROC examination is Rs. 500/- per application.

Enclosure: As above



(Sachin Kumar)  
Assistant Wireless Adviser  
to the Government of India  
Phone: 011-23036181

To,  
All approved GMDSS Institutes..

(सचिन कुमार)  
(SACHIN KUMAR)  
असिस्टन्ट वायरेस एडवाइजर  
Assistant Wireless Adviser  
गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया, नए दिल्ली  
Deptt. of Telecom, Govt. of India  
and (MCA 20) New Delhi

Copy to,

1. Director General of Shipping
2. Director, WMO/ JWAs of RLOs/ EICs, DDs of RHQs
3. Sr DWA (IT & SACFA)- for uploading at DOT website.

References:

1. ITU Radio Regulations
2. IMO Model Course 1.26 GMDSS Restricted Operator Certificate

**Enclosure-I**

Proforma for providing details and willingness to conduct GMDSS ROC training course and examination

[on Institute letter head]

S.No.	Item	Description	Remarks/reply by Institute (Yes/No)
1	Name of the approved Institute along with requisite approval from MoC	Approved for Training (Batch size)	
		Approved for Examination	
2	Willingness to conduct ROC training course		Yes/No
3	Willingness to conduct ROC examination		Yes/No

I hereby undertake that I am authorized signatory of the institute and I ensure that conduct of training for ROC course shall in no way adversely affect the standards of training for either of the two courses i.e. GMDSS GOC and GMDSS ROC.

Signature.....

Name of Authorized Signatory.....

Contact No.....

Email:.....

**Enclosure-II**

Existing Guidelines issued vide OM no. P-14036/01/2009-COP dated 21.04.2010 for approval of GMDSS GOC training institutes and examination centers.



Proforma application for GMDSS ROC examination

**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Communications**  
**Wireless Planning & Coordination Wing**  
**Department of Telecommunications**  
**New Delhi**

PHOTOGRAPH

**FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION FOR AWARD OF  
 GLOBAL MARITIME DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM  
 RESTRICTED OPERATOR'S CERTIFICATE (GMDSS ROC)**

1. Name of Applicant (in Block letters) : \_\_\_\_\_
2. Father's Name : \_\_\_\_\_
3. Full Postal Address for communication : \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ PIN \_\_\_\_\_
4. Marks of Identification : \_\_\_\_\_
5. Date of Birth (Attach an attested copy of Passport \_\_\_\_\_  
 School Leaving Certificate or Matriculation Certificate)
6. a. Are you a citizen of India by Birth / or by Domicile:  
 b. If not, to which country you belong (attach attested copy of Passport):
7. Whether copy of requisite Qualification Certificate attached:  
 (i) 10th certificate: No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
**OR**  
 (ii) Equivalent: Certificate No. and Issuing Authority \_\_\_\_\_ Date of expiry: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Eligibility:** passed 10th standard (Secondary School Certificate Examination) or an equivalent examination conducted by a recognised Board or University in India

or holds a valid certificate issued by statutory bodies of maritime or fisheries of State or Central Government shall be eligible for admission for category of certificate

or holds a valid certificate of competency or its equivalent issued or recognized by the Directorate General of Shipping under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958);

or holds a valid certificate of proficiency or an equivalent issued by the Ministry of Communications (Wireless Planning and Co-ordination Wing) under the provisions of the Indian Wireless Telegraphy (Commercial Radio Operator's Certificate of Proficiency and licence to operate Wireless Telegraphy) Rules, 1954

8. **Bharatkosh Receipt No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Rs.** 500.00  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**DECLARATION**

I hereby solemnly declare that the foregoing facts are true and correct and nothing is false therein and nothing material has been concealed there from. I also agree that in case any information given by me herein before is found false at later date, the certificate and license to operate, if granted, will be cancelled.

I also certify that I shall maintain Secrecy of correspondence as required under the Rules.

**Place:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of the applicant**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
[.....]

**Name (in Block letters)**

1. Certified that the particulars furnished by the candidate above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. Certified that the candidate above is undergoing / has undergone the prescribed training from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3.

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GMDSS Course Coordinator**

PHOTOGRAPH

**ATTENDANCE SHEET CUM RESULT SHEET**

GMDSS ROC LICENCE NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF ISSUE : \_\_\_\_\_

1. NAME: (a) in Hindi : \_\_\_\_\_

(b) in English : \_\_\_\_\_

2. FATHER'S NAME (In English): \_\_\_\_\_

3. DATE OF BIRTH : \_\_\_\_\_

4. PLACE OF BIRTH : \_\_\_\_\_

5. NATIONALITY : \_\_\_\_\_

6 (a) HEIGHT (In cms) \_\_\_\_\_ (b) COLOUR OF EYES \_\_\_\_\_

(c) COLOUR OF HAIR \_\_\_\_\_ (d) COMPLEXION \_\_\_\_\_

7. MARKS OF IDENTIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

8. QUALIFICATION:

(a) 10th: (i) Certificate No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) Marks Sheet No: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

(b) IN CASE OF Equivalent: Certificate No. and Issuing authority \_\_\_\_\_ valid till: \_\_\_\_\_

9. PERMANENT ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ (WITH PIN CODE)

10. CONTACT TEL. NO. and E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

CENTRE:

ROLL NO. : - \_\_\_\_\_

Examiner	Signature of Candidate	Date	Marks	Signature of the Examiner
Written				
Practical DG Examiner				
Practical Examination in-charge				

Prov. ROC. Lic. No. ----- Issued on: -----

----

**DECLARATION**

I hereby solemnly declare that the foregoing facts are true and correct and nothing is false therein and nothing has been concealed therefrom. I also agree that in case any information given by me herein before is found false at a later date, the certificate and licence to operate, if granted, will be cancelled.

I also certify that I shall maintain secrecy of correspondence as required under the Rules.

Place:

**Signature of the Applicant**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Name**

**(In Block Letters)**

1. Certified that the particulars furnished by the candidate Shri/Ms \_\_\_\_\_ above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. Certified that the candidate above is undergoing / has undergone the prescribed training at this institute from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Place:

GMDSS Course Coordinator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Stamp of the Institute

3. **Certified that the candidate above has undergone the prescribed training**

Place:

Stamp of the Institute