

রেজিস্টার্ড নং ডি এ-১

বাংলাদেশ



গেজেট

অতিরিক্ত সংখ্যা  
কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রকাশিত

বৃহস্পতিবার, সেপ্টেম্বর ৪, ২০২৫

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
**Ministry of Shipping**  
**Shipping Section**  
**Notification**

Dated : 13 Vadro 1432/28 August 2025

**No. 18.00.0000.017.22.015.24-456—Bangladesh Marine Academy International Scholarship for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) from Africa, Caribbean, Pacific, and LDCs of Africa Policy-2025.**

**1. Title**

Ocean-going ships around the world are governed by the International laws and regulations formulated by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Most of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) from the Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific regions, and Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of Africa, are members of IMO and these countries extend strong support for Bangladesh.

All these states are lagging behind in different economic indicators. Moreover, they are suffering severely from the adverse effects of climate change. For overcoming these adversities, other countries around the world pay serious attention to the voice of SIDS and LDCs. Bangladesh is not an exception. One of the major foreign policies of Bangladesh is to take into account the needs of friendly countries.

Bangladesh has always played a vocal and active role in multilateral and regional diplomacy in favour of SIDS and LDCs. Bangladesh, a country of maritime excellence, now wants to offer scholarships to cadets of SIDS for the purpose of enhancing South-South cooperation. As a result, the 'Bangladesh Marine Academy International Scholarship for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) from Africa, Caribbean Pacific, and African LDCs Policy-2025' is formulated.

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## 2. Purpose

To train the candidates of SIDS from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific (hereinafter referred to as 'SIDS') and African LDCs (hereinafter referred to as 'LDCs') by utilising the capacity of Bangladesh Marine Academies in order to produce skilled Deck Officers and Marine Engineers, and thereby strengthen friendly relations with these countries.

## 3. Definitions

Unless otherwise stated in the subject matter of context. in this policy:

- (a) Department of Shipping-means the Department of Shipping established under the Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983 (Ordinance No. XXVI of 1983), as amended;
- (b) Director General-means the Director General of the Department of Shipping;
- (c) Marine Academy-means any Marine Academy approved by the Government;
- (d) Government-means the Ministry of Shipping;
- (e) Cadet-means a student undergoing study in a Marine Academy aiming to be an officer on board ship;
- (f) IMO- means the International Maritime Organization;
- (g) STCW-means the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watch keeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended;
- (h) SIDS-means the Small Island Developing States declared by the United Nations from Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific which are members of IMO;
- (i) LDCs-means the Least Developed Countries of Africa declared by the United Nations and members of IMO;
- (j) CDC-means the Continuous Discharge Certificate.

## 4. Qualification

- (a) Educational Qualification of Applicants:

Must have passed SSC (Science group) or equivalent tenth grade/O' Level with minimum GPA 3.5 on a scale of 5.0; and HSC or equivalent twelfth grade/A' Level with minimum GPA 3.5 on a scale of 5.0 (Mathematics and Physics must be separately achieved).

Must have a minimum IELTS score of 5.5 as evidence of the ability to complete the educational programme in English.

- (b) Physical Qualification:

1. Age- Maximum 22 years;

Height- Male: 5'4" (162.5 cm), Female: 5'2" (157.5 cm);

Weight- As per WHO BMI chart (BMI minimum 17, maximum 25).

2. Must be able to: run 400 meters; complete 10 push-ups; climb a 3-meter rope; swim at least 60 meters.

3. Must be free from colour blindness. Eyesight must be 6/6 naked eye for nautical cadets, and 6/12 naked eye but correctable to 6/6 for engineering cadets.

(c) Other Qualifications and documents :

Educational certificates, IELTS certificate, and medical fitness certificate from a government hospital or registered doctor of the applicant's home country.

Tests required: Chest X-ray, Urine (Sugar/Albumin), Blood (VDRL), HIV, COVID-19 vaccination, Dope Test, Hearing Test, Chronic Disease Clearance, Eye Test, Physical Fitness Certificate.

Certificates must be attested by competent authority of the respective country (Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Ministry of Education).

### **5. Selection Procedure**

- (a) The Ministry of Shipping will initiate activities for the scholarship six months prior to the academic year. A total of 10 (ten) scholarships will be awarded to Government Marine Academies.
- (b) Bangladesh will award 5 scholarship in Marine Engineering and 5 in Nautical Studies.
- (c) One candidate will be selected from each country; if fewer than 10 countries apply, more than one candidate may be selected from a country. Preference will be given to women and to SIDS/LDCs without cadet training facilities.
- (d) Applicants must be recommended by the Foreign and Education Ministries of SIDS/LDC IMO member states.

### **6. Admission Process**

- (a) With Ministry of Shipping approval, Government Marine Academies will complete admission of 10 selected candidates.
- (b) A circular will be issued and sent to SIDS/LDC IMO member states through Bangladesh missions.
- (c) Department of Shipping will prepare an application form.
- (d) Each country will nominate one principal and one alternate candidate.
- (e) Applications must be submitted online via the Department of Shipping's template.
- (f) Final selection will be published on the Ministry and Department's websites.

### **7. Financial Benefits under the Scholarship**

- (a) Tuition fees, examination fees, accommodation, meals, course-related travel, clothing, and study materials.

- (b) Economy-class airfare to Bangladesh before study and return after completion.
- (c) Medical facilities equivalent to those for Bangladeshi cadets.
- (d) USD 50 (Taka equivalent) per month as pocket allowance.

#### **8. Expenses Not Covered**

- (a) Visa fees;
- (b) Medical tests in the home country;
- (c) Travel from home to airport;
- (d) Domestic travel in Bangladesh unrelated to the course;
- (e) Chronic illness, major surgery, and dental treatment costs;
- (f) Additional tuition/exam fees if the course is not completed within stipulated time.

#### **9. Indemnity**

The Bangladesh Government or any of its authorities will not be responsible for any accident or incident during the study period. All candidates must sign an indemnity bond before commencement.

#### **10. Certificate on Completion of Study**

- Pre-Sea Certificate will be award after successful completion of the 2-year pre-sea course.
- Department of Shipping will issue the CDC.
- Cadets may pursue an Honours course at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University at their own expense.
- The Government will have no responsibility for employment placement.

#### **11. Scholarship Expenses**

Met from the revenue sector of the respective Academy.

#### **12. Effectiveness**

Effective from 1 September 2025 until formally revoked.

By order of the President

**Mohammed Yousuf**  
Senior Secretary.