



**Global Maritime Education & Training Association
GlobalMET Limited**

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8th GlobalMET in India Conference

“A Rewarding Career at Sea and Beyond ... a Challenge for MET”

**Shipping Corporation of India Maritime Training Institute, Powai, Mumbai
15 March 2008**

Summary Report

This well organised and highly interactive conference, attended by some 140 participants from Mumbai and other maritime centres in India, addressed the many challenges arising from the growing shortage of skilled seagoing manpower.

Notable features of the conference were:

- the honouring of six Living MET Legends, first introduced in the 7th conference in 2007, by the presentation of Lifetime Dedication Awards. Mr. D. T. Joseph, Chief Guest and former Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, Roadways and Highways, gave away the awards, to the following;
 - Prof/Capt P S Vanchiswar, Professor Emeritus, World Maritime University
 - Dr. K V. Hariharan, Maritime Academician and Historian
 - Mr. M. V. Kini, ex Head of Marine Radio Department, St. Xaviers Technical Institute.
 - Capt. V. N. Kansra, ex Nautical officer on T. S. Dufferin and Capt. Superintendent, T. S. Rajendra.
 - Mr. R. Prasad, Lecturer and Research Fellow at the World Maritime University.
 - Capt. P. Kumar, Nautical faculty at LBS College and T. S. Rajendra.
- the announcement of the establishment of the India Chapter of GlobalMET, formed to facilitate collaboration by GlobalMET member institutions in India in dealing with common issues, while benefiting from linkage into the global scene through their membership of the GlobalMET network;

- presentation of the GlobalMET Membership Certificate to Capt Pawan Kapoor, Chairman and Managing Director of ISF Maritime Services Pvt Ltd., the latest member of GlobalMET.

Following the Invocation, Inauguration and Opening Address on recent progress of GlobalMET, by Executive Secretary Rod Short, the Keynote Address was delivered by Mr. Kailash Gupta, Director (Personnel and Administration), Shipping Corporation of India.

Session I, Chaired by Mr Ajoy Chatterjee, Chief Surveyor to the Government of India, featured:

- Capt A J Achuthan, who delivered a paper prepared by Capt N Hiranandani of Chevron Marketing Services on “Ideal Strategies for Attracting New Recruits to the Professions”;
- Prof Tony Fernandez, Mediator, Mentor, Learning Facilitator and Average Adjuster, speaking on “Empowering Trainers to be Dedicated Mentors”.

Session II, chaired by Mr George J Hoyt, Chief Executive, NewsLink Services and Member of the GlobalMET Advisory Council, featured:

- Capt S Bhardwaj, Vice Chancellor, AMET University, who addressed “Innovation in Maritime Education - the Need to Enhance the Scope”;
- Capt Y Sharma, who delivered a paper prepared by Capt D Tewari, CEO, MSC India on “Ship to Shore - the Role of MET in the Transition”;
- Ms Poonam Kakodkar, Faculty at Applied Research International, who delivered a paper prepared by Mrs Jyotsna Tewari, Senior Clinical Psychologist, Applied Research International on “Psychological and Psychometric Profiling - Addressing Human Behavioural Issues”.

Session III, chaired by Capt M M Saggi, Nautical Adviser to the Government of India, featured three discussion groups, followed by presentation by rapporteurs and a panel discussion of the outcomes from the groups, viz:

- “How to make seafaring more attractive”

- involve existing seafarers, especially young officers and parents of seafarers, in marketing the career
 - secondary school student awareness should be raised prior to 10th standard
 - loans should be readily available, with co-lateral provided by maritime employers
 - focus more on people who need employment
 - government METs to offer scholarships and berths
 - take the selection process to the interior and involve seafarers in the screening.
- “If one could completely rewrite STCW, what should be the modern method of training seafarers of the future”:
 - more competency and course based with more definition of task based training and more association between skills and shipboard tasks
 - bring ratings into provisions and enhance value of sea service
 - more specification of core competencies and pre-sea training
 - clearer differentiation between technical and inter-personal skills
 - consideration given to post 2012 eg e-learning, virtual classrooms, simpler overall system with focus on operational manning training requirements
 - rewrite model course 3.12 to be suitable for onboard assessment
 - recognise that on many ships there is no time to train on board.
- “What shore based prospects await a seafarer wanting to make the crucial transition and how can MET help to facilitate”
 - determine suitability by identifying seafarer’s strengths and weaknesses and conducting a functional assessment with respect to shore-based employment
 - initiate a core competency development programs by universities - MET, TOTA, MBA, Chartering, Insurance, HR
 - validate current MET programs with respect to shore-based employment
 - on-line facilitation for CoC holders to enter university. Establishing equivalency of Masters COC as Graduation.

The conference concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks to the organising committee, together with the sponsors, the speakers, session chairs, the delegates and the award winners and to the management of the Shipping Corporation of India’s Maritime Training Institute for the much appreciated venue and hospitality.

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