One Voice, 
One Platform for 
Maritime Education & Training

Global MET was formed to Promote, 
Develop and Support, in spirit of Co 
Operation, common interest of its 
members in all matters concerning 
the development and quality of 
Marine education and training. Global 
MET India Chapter was formally 
ninaugurated on 15th March at a well 
attended conference titled “A 
Rewarding Career at Sea and 
Beyond...A Challenge for M.E.T.”

Organized at MTI Training Centre in 
Mumbai, conference saw 
participation from Member 
Institutions from Mumbai, Delhi, 
Pune, Chennai, Kolkata and other 
parts of country and also from Sri 
Lanka, Singapore and Malaysia.

Inaugurating the Conference, Mr 
Rod short, Executive Secretary, 
GlobalMET said, “Apart from 
Traditional Competency & STCW 
Training, Maritime Education is 
paced for an era of growth and 
diversification with tremendous 
possibilities emerging in allied sector 
and also in delivery of Distance 
Education.”

Mr DT Joseph, Former Secretary, 
Ministry of shipping, echoed the 
sentiments and said” Vision of 
Maritime Education in India has to be 
broadened to include requirement in 
Port and Offshore sector.”

Capt S Bhardwaj, Vice Chancellor, 
AMET University presented his 
papers on Topic “Innovation in 
Maritime Education: Need to 
Enhance the scope.” He said,”
Without tremendous growth in 
various sectors of shipping, there is 
ned for qualified and skilled 
manpower in Shipbuilding, Ports and 
terminals, Supply Chain and 
Logistics, offshore etc. ..This is our 
Domain and mantle falls on us to 
provide value added courses for 
these sectors as well.”

Mr AWJ (Tony) Fernandez delivered a 
high energy, sermonlike, 
spellbounding talk on “Empowering 
Trainers To Be dedicated mentors”, 
some of the Phrases quoted by Mr 
Fernandez were”, Follow Effective 
action with quiet reflection. From 
the quite reflection will come 
more effective action.”

“A facilitator supports and empowers 
others to collaborate and learn. And 
mentor is one who offers knowledge, 
insight, perspective or wisdom that is 
especially useful to the other 
person.”

And saving the best for the last, he said 
“Maritime educationists and 
trainers should practice SMILE: 
Selflessness, 
Monitoring, 
Innovation, Listening 
and Empathy.”

Mr George Hoyt, 
President, News Link & Director Sea 
Gull, who has Turned his vision of 
Making Learning Fun into a reality 
with innovative blended learning 
curriculum through daily Shipboard 
Newspaper and Interactive 
Computer based tutorials said”, I am 
very passionate about Maritime 
education and empowerment. I am 
happy to note that our Newspaper 
subscription is being billed under 
safety and Training by Lot of 
shipmasters.” He seemed very 
impressed by proactive suggestions 
and sense of urgency among the 
delegates at doing something 
worthwhile to improve the profile of 
Maritime training in India and attract 
more people out to sea and provide 
seafarers with a Life long career path. 
The Conference was also laced with 
Inaugurating of India Chapter with 
Capt KN Deboo as its Secretary and 
Presentation of Life Time Dedication 
Awards “Honouring Living Legends.” 
(see separate news report)
Honouring Living Legends

At the conference aimed at devising strategies to attract young people to sea, it was a real emotional moment to see octogenarians and some even touching 90 walking tall acknowledging the applause of all gathered.

The conference was GlobalMET Conference in Mumbai in March 2008 where 7 Maritime educationists of India were given acknowledgement and reward for their yeoman service to marine Education in India. Global MET presented its second edition of “Life Time Dedication Awards Honoring Living Legends.” At a ceremony organize in MTI, Powai.

At a time when Training Institutes are also facing skilled teachers shortage, this recognition of services do provide a fillip to Educationists to mentor their wards to ever-growing heights.

Capt MC Yadav, Director, FOSMA, announced the wards that were presented by Mr. DT Joseph.

The Living Legends and Their Profile

Prof MV Kini : 89 Years : Marine Radio and Telecommunication

Prof MV Kini was in charge of Xaviers Technical Institute’s radio Officers Course from 1943 onwards where he continued even after his retirement. In 1987, Marine Radio department of Xaviers was named after KV Kini for the superb services rendered by him. He has authored a book “Traffic Communication for radio Officers.”

Recalling One Chance meeting with Pandit JL Nehru who remembered radio Officers of the ships (when travelling, messages of his family and wife illness were delivered by Radio Officers), Pt Nehru had said “India’s Hopes of self reliance in Technology sector rests on the shoulder of Young men like You.”

That Young Man Mr Kini, now 89, thanked the audience and organizers in a very emotional speech on receiving Living Legend Award.

Capt Vishwa Nath Kansra : Ex Capt Superintendent, TS Rajendra

Forever the dependable Prince Charles of Maritime Training in India, Capt VN Kansra has a teaching career spanning 4 decades and had the distinction of teaching on Training Ship Naulakshi, Dufferin, Rajendra, Chankaya and FOSMA centre in New Delhi after retirement.

Affectionate and suave Capt Kansra was present at the function with his wife who has remained solid pillar of support to him during all those years.

Professor / Dr./ Capt PS Vanchiswar : Founder professor World Maritime University

Capt PS Vanchiswar is a rare combination of Seafarers, Academician, Technocrat and Administrator. He has highest qualification in Marine field as a extra Master’s Degree and Doctorate Degree in maritime Administration.

He was Nautical Advisor to Govt of India, Chairman of Committee in STCW 1978 and was awarded professor Emeritus of WMU Malmo.

He was member of steering committee for setting up a Indian register of shipping and on the advisory committee of Indian maritime University.

Mr KV Hariharan : Academician and Historian

All of 80 years of age, Mr Hariharan still displays his passion and gusto for writing and teaching. Founder Member of narotam Morarjee Institute ans has written 9 books and various research papers. Many of his books has been included as text books in the curriculum of Management Institutes and Logistics Courses. He is an institution in himself in field of Multimodal Transport system and law and has also written a Book “tory of Scindia” that traces the history of Indian Shipping from 19th century to 1969.

Capt P Kumar, LBS, TS Rajendra

Capt P Kumar has been a solid pillar in Maritime Education at lal Bahadur Shastri College, LBS COMSAR, from last four decades. He is well liked for his knowledge, commitment and ever so mentoring attitude. He is the 4th luminary of LBS College and mainstay of this august institution. He is presently co ordinating Extra Masters Course at LBS.

Mr Rajendra Prasad, MERI

A Graduate of MERI in 1967, he dis MSc in Maritime Education and Training from WMU, Malmo. He is currently a Lecturer and research fellow at WMU and on steering committee of International Maritime Lecturer’s Association and has played an active part in formulating New Training schemes for Marine Engineers conforming to STCW 1995.