



**Government of India**

**Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Dept. of Fisheries**

**Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET)**

**Fine Arts Avenue, Kochi (Kerala) – 682016**

# **PROSPECTUS - 2026**

**for**

**VESSEL NAVIGATOR COURSE (VNC)**

**&**

**MARINE FITTER COURSE (MFC)**

**Under Craftsman Training Scheme by DGT, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, New Delhi.**

# **CIFNET**

Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET), erstwhile Central Institute of Fisheries Operatives (CIFO), was established in 1963 at Kochi to meet the trained manpower needs of ocean going fishing vessels and that of fishing industry, by the Govt. of India. Subsequently two units of CIFNET were established, at Chennai and Visakhapatnam in 1968 and 1981 respectively, for meeting the additional requirement of manpower necessitated by the expansion of marine fishing industry with large number of fishing vessels in their fleet. The name was later upgraded consistent with its functions as ‘Central Institute of Fisheries Nautical & Engineering Training’ (CIFNET). CIFNET is the only national institute of its kind in the country to meet the training requirements of technical and certified personnel such as Skippers, Mates, Engineers, and Engine Drivers of ocean-going fishing vessels as stipulated in the Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act. 1987. CIFNET is also responsible for developing the required technical manpower for supporting shore establishments.

## **The key objectives of the Institute are:**

- To create technical manpower for the operation of Ocean going fishing vessels
- To create trained manpower to manage fishery establishments
- To provide training for technical teachers of Maritime States and Union Territories for manning their fishermen training centres
- To assist developing nations in the South-east Asia, Middle-east and African regions to create technical manpower for development of Marine Fisheries sector
- To provide technical consultancy service in all its related matters with special reference to technical manpower requirements.

## **FACILITIES**

### **Infrastructure**

The Institute has well developed permanent infrastructure facilities at its three centres which houses the class rooms, laboratories, workshop, and Nautical-Chart practice hall, Simulator (ERS&N) centre, Craft & Gear practical, Library, Hostel, Recreation and other amenities.

CIFNET at its Headquarter at Kochi and its Units at Chennai & Visakhapatnam have well equipped facilities for imparting training and other related activities of the Institute.

### **Training Vessels**

A detailed study of Nautical and Fishing Sciences is the core objective of the programme which requires sea exposure. For providing adequate sea training as per the curriculum, the institute has three ocean-going fishery training vessels based one at each centre. The overall length of the vessels ranges from 28 to 34 metres with Horse Power ranging from 600 to 750 BHP.

### **Departments**

Each one of our Institutes at the above centres has the following Departments:-

#### **Department of Fisheries Technology**

The Department has ultra modern infrastructure for fishing gear repairs, fabrication and training. The Department imparts theoretical and practical classes on Fishing gear materials and design, Fishing technique, Fishery Biology, Deck Equipments etc. Fabrication, repairs and maintenance of fishing gears required for the training vessels of the Institute is also undertaken by this department. This Department is also equipped with a fishing gear and fishery biology laboratory.

## **Department of Nautical Science**

The Department of Nautical Science has well equipped facilities at all the three centres of CIFNET for imparting theoretical as well as practical training in Seamanship, Navigation, Marine Meteorology and Oceanography. It has excellent visual aids for onshore training. The Department is also equipped with Navigation Simulator, navigational & safety equipments and has a spacious navigation hall for conducting chart practical and passage planning.

## **Department of Marine Engineering**

Division comprises of various disciplines of engineering such as Marine Engines, Marine Auxiliaries, Electrical, Electronics, Computer Application, Fishing Craft Technology, Refrigeration and Hydraulics. Well established Workshop and Laboratories on the above disciplines are available with the institute to impart a systematic practical training to the students during their course of study.

## **Marine Engineering Workshop**

A well-equipped workshop is available for maintenance and repairs of the training vessels of the Institute. It also provides practical training with the special emphasis on machining, welding, smithy, fitting, carpentry and IC engine refitting.

## **Training Section**

The Training Section oversees and manages all training operations of the Institute. It handles candidate selection through entrance assessments and interviews, designs and updates curricula, and plans and delivers a wide range of training programmes. The Section also offers career guidance and placement support to trainees upon completion of their programmes.

## **Library**

The Institute library is adequately equipped with technical-scientific books and reputed journals on Nautical Science, Marine Engineering, Fishing Craft Technology, Fishing Gear Technology, Workshop Technology, Electrical Technology, Electronics, Computer Science, Fishery Biology, Fish handling, Marine Meteorology, Oceanography, Refrigeration, Hydraulics etc. at its three centres.

## **COURSES OFFERED**

### **Regular Courses & Ancillary courses**

The Institute has been conducting two trade courses viz. Vessel Navigator & Marine Fitter Course of 2 years duration, which is formulated under Craftsman Training scheme of NCVT, New Delhi since 2006. These two trades are started with the view of producing practical Trades man in the Marine Sector and manpower for the Deck side and Engine side of the fishing vessel. The successful candidates, after obtaining requisite sea service will become competent to appear the respective competency examinations conducted by the Mercantile Marine Department, Director General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India.

In addition, the Institute is also conducting ancillary courses viz. Shore Mechanic Course (12 months), Advanced Diploma in Fishing Gear Technology (12 months) and Fishery Teacher Training Course (6 months) for the benefit of personnel who are managing the shore establishments of the Fisheries Organisations.

### **Statutory Courses**

A Number of preparatory courses such as Elementary Fishing Technology Course, Advanced Fishing Technology Course and Radar Observers Course, are mandatory for obtaining the competency certificates issued by MMD, D.G. Shipping. CIFNET is the sole agency in India approved by the DG Shipping for the conduct of Elementary Fishing Technology and Advanced Fishing Technology courses.

### **Refresher Courses for examination**

Preparatory coaching classes are essential for the candidates appearing for Competency examinations to update their knowledge. CIFNET organises refresher training courses for Mate Fishing Vessel Examination, Engine Driver Fishing Vessel Examination, Skipper Gr. II Examination, Engineer Fishing Vessel Examination to enable the candidates to face the examination with confidence and courage.

### **Training for foreign nationals**

The Institute also arranges Special training programmes for Foreign Nationals from countries like Nigeria, Zambia, Tanzania, Ghana, PDR Yemen,

Myanmar, Laos, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Maldives, Philippines, Oman etc. under various schemes like FAO Fellowship, CFTC, SCAAP, ESCAP, ITEC, Colombo Plan etc. Thus over the years the Institute came out as a nodal Institution in the South-east Asia for training the personnel of the fishing fleet and offering Special training in Nautical, Fisheries and Engineering disciplines.

### Short term Training programmes

The Institute's facilities in the field of Nautical, Fisheries and Engineering Technology are utilised for tailor-made short term courses for the specific requirement of the participants as categorised here under.

- Skill Development and extension/Outreach training programmes for Fishermen under PMMSY scheme across the country
- Tailor made programmes conducted for sister organisations
- Refresher courses for serving officials of fishery organisations
- Orientation courses for new entrants of fishery and financial institutions
- Refresher courses for college faculties
- Short term courses for Graduate/ Post Graduate students of Fishery colleges, B.Tech Students of engineering colleges.

The Technical expertise, training and infrastructure facilities of CIFNET are being utilised to the optimum level by conducting various short term training programmes for the student's fraternity during last few years. The ITI / ITC, Graduates, Post Graduates students and students of the Engineering Colleges had the opportunity to attend these specially designed sandwich programmes and were able to absorb gainful practical knowledge and many courses designed for fishermen/fishery youth under PMMSY scheme.

#### • For Under Graduates/Post Graduate students of Fishery colleges

- Fisheries Technology
- Fishery Biology
- Refrigeration & Equipment Engineering
- Fishing Vessel Engineering
- Seamanship & Navigation
- Oceanography & Meteorology

#### • For M.Tech. / B.Tech Students

- Marine Diesel Engine and associated system
- Marine Engineering
- Marine Refrigeration

- Marine Electro Technology
- Power Generation and Distribution onboard ships
- Marine Electronic equipments and Power supplies

### Vessel Navigator Course (VNC) and Marine Fitter Course (MFC)

The Vessel Navigator and Marine Fitter courses are two new trade courses started by NCVET under Craftsman Training Scheme by DGT, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, New Delhi. These two courses are started with a view of producing practical tradesman in the Marine sector and manpower for the deck side and engine side of the fishing vessels. These courses are of two years duration.

CIFNET has been approved by DGT, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, for starting of the trades. These courses were started for the first time in India in CIFNET the courses are of residential nature.

On successful completion of the above courses they will be gaining Academic and practical experience in the specialized subjects like Navigation, Marine Engineering so that they will be able to get wider opening at the shore establishments, fishing vessels, marine crafts etc.

VESSEL NAVIGATOR COURSE	
Theory	Practical & Viva voce
1. General English	<p><b>Practical</b></p> <p>12. Chart Work 13. Fishing Gear</p> <p><b>Viva Voce</b></p> <p>14. Seamanship and Navigation 15. Fishing Gear Technology 16. Onboard Training-Navigational aspects and Fisheries</p> <p><b>Report</b></p> <p>17. Report (TAR Book) on Onboard Training- Navigational Aspects and Fisheries</p>
2. Applied Mathematics	
3. Fishing Gear Material, Accessories and Design	
4. Seamanship, Safety and Watch Keeping	
5. Elementary Marine Engineering	
6. Employability Skills	
7. Naval Architecture & Ship Construction	
8. Fishing Technique	
9. Marine Fisheries, Fish Processing & Fish Finding Equipments	
10. Practical Navigation	
11. Marine Meteorology & Basic Principles of Oceanography	

## MARINE FITTER COURSE

Theory	Practical & Viva voce
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. General English</li> <li>2. Applied Mathematics</li> <li>3. Marine Engines</li> <li>4. Workshop Technology</li> <li>5. Engineering Drawing</li> <li>6. Marine Electrical Technology</li> <li>7. Basic Electronics &amp; Instrumentation</li> <li>8. Employability Skills</li> <li>9. General Engineering Knowledge</li> <li>10. Naval Architecture and Ship Construction</li> <li>11. Machine Drawing</li> <li>12. Hydraulics and Deck Machineries</li> <li>13. Fishing Technology</li> <li>14. Seamanship and Navigation</li> <li>15. Heat Engines and Refrigeration</li> </ol>	<p><b>Practical &amp; Viva Voce</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16. Workshop Practical</li> <li>17. Workshop Practical and Viva Voce</li> <li>18. Onboard Practical on all Engg. System Operation &amp; Maintenance</li> </ol> <p><b>Report</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19. Onboard Training – Operation, Trouble-shooting &amp; Maintenance of Marine Engines, Auxiliaries and Other Machineries &amp; Equipments</li> </ol>

### Mode of study

**Theory:** - The theory papers are handled by well experienced faculties of the Institute who have proven practical track records in their field of study. The classes are handled with modern teaching aids like Multi-media, Internet, Overhead projectors, live models etc.

**Practical:** - The curriculum gives special emphasis on practical aspects in nautical science, Fishery Biology, Fishing Craft Technology, Fishing Gear etc. Practical exposures are given to the students in the well established laboratories.

**On-board training:** - The on-board practical training is an opportunity to students to get acquainted with the operation and maintenance of the vessel which is the unique nature of this course.

### Fees Refund Rules

- If a student withdraws before the commencement of the course, the entire fee collected will be refunded after deducting a processing charge of ₹1,000.
- If a student withdraws after admission and the vacated seat is filled by another candidate before the last date of admission, the fee will be refunded after deducting ₹1,000 as processing charges along with proportionate fees for the period of study.

- If the vacated seat is not filled, the institution shall refund all refundable deposits (if any) and return the original documents submitted by the student.

### Method of Evaluation

- Observation of progress record : • I & II Internal examinations.
- Examinations : • All India Trade Test Examinations will be conducted by the NCVET.
- Certificate to be awarded : After the successful completion of the course Certificate will be awarded by NCVET
- Minimum Attendance : In accordance with the norms prescribed by NCVET.
- Remission Certificate : Only after Successful completion of Post Institutional Training sponsored by CIFNET

### Career profile

After successful completion of the two years trade courses, the candidates will be able to choose their career on board fishing vessel or shore establishments dealing with Fishing gear manufacturing, Maintenance and shore Workshops. Also on acquiring sea service in various stages they will be eligible to rise up to the level Mate/Skipper and Chief Engineer in their cadre onboard deep sea fishing vessel.

### No. of Seats

Course	No. of seats			Total	Remarks
	Kochi	Chennai	Vizag		
Vessel Navigator	16+4*	16+4*	16+4*	48+12*=60	Gen-22, EWS-4, OBC-12, SC- 7, ST-3
Marine Fitter	16+4*	16+4*	16+4*	48+12*=60	Gen-22, EWS-4, OBC-12, SC- 7, ST-3

Note: 1. The candidates who do not pass in at least one subject/paper of the I year examination held at the end of first year, will not be eligible to get the stipend during second year till completion of training.

2. \* Four seats in each course at every centre are reserved for candidates sponsored by the State Government/UT. In the absence of sponsored candidates, these seats will be filled on merit from among

the CET qualified candidates, without stipend. In the case of sponsored trainees, the sponsoring agency shall bear all applicable fees and provide the stipend for the trainee.

**Mode of selection:** Admission based on Common Entrance Test (CET) & Academic Merit and through sponsorship.

**Eligibility Criteria**

**Entry Qualification :** Pass in 10<sup>th</sup> Standard or equivalent examination with 40% marks in Maths and Science separately for VNC and MFC. Copy of mark list of 10th Std. or equivalent examination should be enclosed with application even if candidate possesses higher qualification. The candidates who are appearing 10<sup>th</sup> examination during March-June 2026 are also eligible to apply.

**Age limit :** 15 to 20 years as on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2026. Upper age limit relaxable to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates by 5 years. Copy of Age/Date of birth certificate is to be enclosed with the application. SC/ST candidates who claim relaxation of age should submit along with the application, copy of community certificate from Revenue Authorities specifying that they belong to Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe, failing which age relaxation will not be granted.

**Physical Fitness :** Candidates should be physically fit for strenuous work on board fishing vessels.

**Vision :** In the case of Vessel Navigator Course, the candidates should pass the prescribed eye test conducted by Approved Doctors of DG Shipping, before admission.

**Stipend :** Rs.1500/- per month (for stipendary candidates only) on submission of Surety amount of Rs.15,000/- through Security Deposit (FD) at the time admission.

**Medium of instruction :** English

**Uniform :** Uniform for theoretical and practical classes are compulsory. All trainees are directed to purchase the uniforms after joining the institute to avoid colour shade differences.

**Hostel Facilities**

The course is fully residential and so all the students will be provided Hostel facility within the campus.

**Fee structure**

SI. No	Details	Amount Rs.	Remarks
1.	Tuition fee	3,000	Annually( @ Rs.250/- per month)
2.	Sports fee	600	Annually
3.	Magazine fee	250	
4.	Computer & internet facility	500	
5.	Swimming Fee	1,500	
6.	Lab Fee	350	
7.	Council fee	25	At the time of admission
8.	Hostel Rent	4,800	@ Rs.400/- per month
9.	Caution Deposit	2,500	At the time of admission
10.	Hostel Mess Deposit	4,000	At the time of admission
11.	Vessel Mess Deposit	2,800	At the time of admission
12.	Study tour Deposit	2,500	At the time of admission
<b>Total</b>		<b>22,825</b>	

1. Mess Dues will be payable on monthly basis.
2. Examination fee is payable before appearing Trade examinations as per DGT norms.
3. Fee for the second year has to be paid at the beginning of the year.
4. If the fees are not paid within the stipulated dates, the trainees have to remit the fees with fines / super fines as the case may be.

**How to apply**

The application and prospectus can be downloaded from CIFNET website [www.cifnet.gov.in](http://www.cifnet.gov.in) and applied with necessary documents like SSLC / 10<sup>th</sup> Standard Examination, Age, Experience (if any) and Community Certificate (in the case of SC/ST/OBC(Non-Creamy Layer)/Gen-EWS Candidates)/DD and one self-addressed (Unstamped) envelopes of size 11 x 22 cm. Should reach the **Director, Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET), Fine Arts Avenue, Foreshore Road, Kochi-682016** on or before the last date mentioned in the Advertisement. Applications which

are received late/incomplete, without age certificate, SSLC Mark List, Community Certificate (for SC/ST/ OBC-NCL/Gen-EWS only) with original Demand Draft will not be considered.

**Guidelines for filling up the Application form**

1. Illegible/wrong/filling with over writing, incomplete filling up will lead to Rejection of the application for which the applicant alone shall be responsible.
2. Information provided in the forms will be treated as final and no request for correction, alteration, addition etc. will be entertained.
3. Fill up only in English using the Capital letters
4. Write only one character in one box

Downloaded application duly filled may be sent with application fee of Rs.350/- (for General/OBC-NCL) & Rs. 175/- (for SC/ ST candidates) through Demand Draft drawn in favour of ‘Pay and Accounts Officer, Kochi’ payable at Ernakulam.

*Filled in applications shall be sent to:* **The Director,  
CIFNET, Govt of India  
Fine Arts Avenue,  
Foreshore Road  
Kochi – 682 016  
Kerala**

Antiragging Help Line National:-18001805522

Admission Helpline : 0484-2351610, exn:235

Note:-After admission all the students are directed to visit website [www.antiragging.in](http://www.antiragging.in) and update their details of anti-ragging undertaking.

Government of .....  
(Name & Address of the authority issuing the certificate)

**INCOME & ASSEST CERTIFICATE TO BE PRODUCED BY ECONOMICALLY WEAKER SECTIONS**

Certificate No .....

Date.....

VALID FOR THE YEAR.....

This is to certify that Shri./Smt./Kumari \_\_\_\_\_ son/daughter/wife of \_\_\_\_\_ permanent resident of \_\_\_\_\_, Village/Street \_\_\_\_\_ Post Office \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_ in the State/ Union Territory \_\_\_\_\_ Pin Code \_\_\_\_\_ whose photograph is attested below belongs to Economically Weaker Sections, since the gross annual income\* of his/her family\*\* is below Rs. 8 lakh (Rupees Eight Lakh only) for the financial year \_\_\_\_\_. His/her family does not own or possess any of the following assets\*\*\*

- I. 5 acres of agriculture land above;
- II. Residential flat of 1000 sq. ft. and above;
- III. Residential plot of 100 sq. yards and above in notified municipalities;
- IV. Residential plot of 200 sq. yards and above in areas other than the notified municipalities.

2. Shri./Smt./Kumari \_\_\_\_\_ belongs to the \_\_\_\_\_ caste which is not recognized as a Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Classes (Central List)

Recent Passport size attested photograph of the applicant

Signature with seal of Office \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Note 1: Income covered all sources i.e, salary, agriculture, business, profession, etc.  
\*\*Note 2: The term “Family” for this purpose include the person, who seeks benefit of reservation, his/her parents and siblings below the age of 18 years and also his/her spouse and children below the age of 18 years  
Note 3: The property held by a “Family” in different location of different places/cities have been clubbed while applying the land or property holding test to determine EWS status.

**OBC-NCL Certificate Format**

FORM OF CERTIFICATE TO BE PRODUCED BY OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES (NCL) APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (CEIs), UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

This is to certify that Shri/Smt./Kum\* \_\_\_\_\_ Son/ Daughter\* of Shri/Smt.\* \_\_\_\_\_ of Village/Town\* \_\_\_\_\_ District/Division\* \_\_\_\_\_ in the State/Union Territory \_\_\_\_\_ belongs to the community that is recognized as a backward class under Government of India\*\*, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment's Resolution No. dated \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\*

Shri/Smt./Kum. \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_ his/her family ordinarily reside(s) in the \_\_\_\_\_ District/Division of the \_\_\_\_\_ State/Union Territory. This is also to certify that he/she does NOT belong to the persons/sections (Creamy Layer) mentioned in Column 3 of the Schedule to the Government of India, Department of Personnel & Training O.M. No. 36012/22/93- Estt. (SCT) dated 08/09/93 which is modified vide OM No. 36033/3/2004 Estt.(Res.) dated 09/03/2004, further modified vide OM No. 36033/3/2004-Estt. (Res.) dated 14/10/2008, again further modified vide OM No.36036/2/2013-Estt (Res) dtd. 30/05/2014.

District Magistrate /  
Deputy Commissioner /  
Any other Competent  
Authority

Dated:  
Seal

\* Please delete the word(s) which are not applicable.

\*\* As listed in the Annexure (for FORM-OBC-NCL)

\*\*\* The authority issuing the certificate needs to mention the details of Resolution of Government of India, in which the caste of the candidate is mentioned as OBC.

## NOTE:

- a) The term 'Ordinarily resides' used here will have the same meaning as in Section 20 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.
- b) The authorities competent to issue Caste Certificates are indicated below:
  - I. District Magistrate/ Additional Magistrate/ Collector/ Deputy Commissioner/ Additional Deputy Commissioner/ Deputy Collector/ Ist Class Stipendiary Magistrate/ Sub-Divisional magistrate/ Taluka Magistrate/ Executive Magistrate/ Extra Assistant Commissioner (not below the rank of Ist Class Stipendiary Magistrate).
  - II. Chief Presidency Magistrate / Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate / Presidency Magistrate
  - III. Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar and
  - IV. Sub-Divisional Officer of the area where the candidate and/or his family resides

**CIFNET ADDRESSES FOR COMMUNICATION****HQ - KOCHI**

*Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET),  
Fine Arts Avenue, Kochi – 682 016, India.  
Ph: 0484-2351610, 2351493, 2351790.  
Fax: 0484-2370879 E-Mail: cifnet@nic.in,  
cifnethq@yahoo.com Website: www.cifnet.gov.in*

**UNIT - CHENNAI**

*Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET), No. 59  
S.N. Street, Royapuram, Chennai – 600 013.  
Ph: 044-25952691, 25952692 Fax: 044-25951785.*

**UNIT - VISAKHAPATNAM**

*Central Institute of Fisheries, Nautical & Engineering Training (CIFNET),  
Post Bo No.191, Beach Road,  
Visakhapatnam – 530 001.  
Ph: 0891-2563894 Fax: 0891-2566787.*