



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

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## R. L. Institute of Nautical Sciences (RLINS), Madurai takes steps to accelerate the development of competence among Pre Sea Engine/ ETO Cadets- By RLINS Team

It is said that the ships cannot run solely based on academic knowledge or the certificates of competency. For ships to operate smoothly, the sea staff need to be Hands-on with the required academic and theoretical foundations.

The Maritime Training Institutes (MTI) cater to the academic qualification of the seafarers and also expose them practically to the operating environment. They have the workshops, ship in-campus etc etc. to achieve these goals.

The pressure of the syllabus and the time constraints seldom give the MTIs the comfort and luxury to motivate the students to put on the thinking cap.

They might not have the luxury of time to ascertain if their fundamentals are sound. This can be judged only when the seafarer is exposed to the APPLICATION of academic knowledge to the onboard environment.

This can be enhanced only when he is forced to APPLY the concepts learnt to troubleshoot in a shipboard scenario.

Quite a few companies have realised the importance of this aspect and they regularly put their sailing seafarers through these types of value-added programmes.

**We are very happy to know that the Institute of Marine Engineers Chennai, has taken this initiative and come up with a programme to inculcate the ability to think practically and enhance this skillset of the pre-sea cadets in various Training Institutes.**

As a small step towards achieving this goal, they have availed of the services of a senior Marine Engineer

**Mr Ramesh Subramanian** who has been conducting Hydraulic workshops and training the Senior officers of management ranks of various shipping companies. He has travelled extensively to different parts of the globe and conducted programmes for seafarers of various nationalities and enhance their competency skill set in the domain of Hydraulics.

**We at RL Institute believe in upskilling our cadets and take the job of contributing to the Indian maritime industry very seriously.**

**We took a step and invited Mr Ramesh, from**

**the Institute of Marine Engineers Chennai, to our institute and conduct the orientation programme on hydraulics for our cadets.**

According to Mr Ramesh, Hydraulics and the knowledge of Deck equipment is a domain which has not been adequately addressed at the Pre Sea level and even competency levels.

His experience whilst conducting these programmes for various shipping companies for Senior Engineers, Managers, and senior Deck Officers on Loss Prevention techniques reinforced his belief that there is a huge gap in the knowledge levels of various officers on this equipment.

leading to Huge losses in the maritime industry. A simple example is an anchor not coming up or a cargo Crane not working and the resultant downtime.

He strongly believes that the root cause is neglect of these topics at pre-sea levels and then the neglect progressively continues to the competency exams and certification levels.



He believes that this can be addressed only if the correction starts at the level of pre-sea cadets. We at RL Institute were fully in agreement with his view and we believed that we should avail of this opportunity provided by the Institute of Marine Engineers Chennai.

**We were overwhelmed to note that the cadets were delighted to participate in the programme enthusiastically and they found great value in the programme.**

**Some of them also felt that it was an eye-opener for them on HOW to reorient the thought process to be an effective Marine Engineer on board ships apart from the enhancement of basic Knowledge of Hydraulics and Deck equipment.**

The Cadets felt that it gave them a preview into the process of assimilating theoretical knowledge



Mr Ramesh Subramanian

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and converting it into a USABLE application-oriented skill set.

WE profusely Thank the Institute of Marine Engineers Chennai for taking this initiative for the industry and will be eagerly looking forward to more

such programmes from industry experts and senior maritime personnel.

We also thank Mr Ramesh for his efforts and time. The beautiful animations and crisp presentations were very much enjoyed and appreciated by our cadets.

His videos for students of all ranks are available free on his YouTube channel Chief Engineers Tea Time Talk. For further query, contact Mr Ramesh at: [ramesh.rmetc@gmail.com](mailto:ramesh.rmetc@gmail.com)



Orientation Program on Hydraulic by Mr Ramesh Subramanian

## NEWS IN BRIEF

(To Read Full News Please go to [www.sagarsandesh.in](http://www.sagarsandesh.in))

### Maize to be procured by govt at MSP to meet biofuel requirements

The Indian government has approved a plan to purchase maize at federally fixed minimum support prices (MSP) and increase its production to meet the country's growing demand for biofuels.

Maize, also known as corn, is crucial for ethanol production, which is blended with petrol, and serves as a significant component in poultry feed.

This strategic move aims to enhance farmers' income and support the government's initiative to achieve a 20% blending of petrol with ethanol by 2025-26. The food secretary, Sanjeev Chopra, emphasized that this plan becomes especially crucial amid expected reductions in sugar supplies this year.

The government intends to sell the procured maize to distilleries involved in ethanol production. Procurement, in this context, refers to the government's acquisition of food commodities at MSP, a predetermined minimum price to prevent farmers from distress sales. The minimum rate for maize in the upcoming fiscal year is set at ₹2,090 per quintal.

Biofuels, including ethanol, are derived from sources like sugarcane and grains such as rice and maize. Currently, about 25% of India's ethanol comes from cane juice, 50% from molasses, .....



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