

भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय / MINISTRY OF SHIPPING नीवहन महानिदेशालय / DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING "बिटा बिल्डिंग", 9 वीं मंजिल /"BETA BUILDING", 9th FLOOR

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D.G. Shipping Circular No. 1 of 2015

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Dated : 05.11.15

Sub.: In shore operational limits for vessels registered under the IV

Act to facilitate coastal trade - reg.

The Directorate General of Shipping [DGS], Govt. of India, vide this office D.G. Shipping Order No. 19 of 2013 [F.No.49-NT(2)/2004-PT] dated 16.09.13 had clarified the I.V. [inland vessel] limits for facilitation of coastal trade operations. The said Order was based on the directions of the Maritime States Development Council (MSDC) and the Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India's letter No. SS-16011/1/2011-SL-MG dated 04.09.13.

- 2. Consequent to further deliberations with the representatives of the maritime States & Union Territories in the proceedings of the 16th meeting of the MSDC held on 24.08.15 at Goa, under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Shipping, Govt. of India, to facilitate the seamless movement of maritime / merchant shipping traffic in the Indian coastal waters, the MSDC has accepted the proposal for the declaration of an in-shore maritime traffic corridor / zone of upto 5 nautical miles [nm] from the base line for merchant vessels registered under the IV Act, 1917, as amended, during fair weather periods as outlined herein-under:
- 2.1. In the Arabian Sea from 01st September to 31st May.
- 2.2. In the Bay of Bengal from 01st December to 30th April.

3. Pursuant to the said decision [Reference no. para 7 of the action take report of the 15th meeting of the MSDC, under the minutes of the said 16th meeting of the MSDC], the Directorate General of Shipping, Govt. of India, hereby issues the following guidances, on the subject;

Deepak Sherty, i.e.s. नोवहन महानिदेशक Director General of Shipping, भारत सरकार Govt, of India, मुंबई Mumbai,

- 3.1. An in-shore traffic corriodor / zone of upto 5 nautical miles from the base line, as declared by the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, in its Gazette Notification No.S.O.1197(E) dated 11.05.09, shall be considered for the operation of inland vessels during the said fair weather periods, provided the vessels registered under the I.V. Act shall comply with the model I.V. Rules prepared by the Inland Waterways Authority of India [IWAI] and have the requisite certification approved by the Classification Society / Recognised Organization concerned. Such vessels shall also operate within the said zone with personnel duly certified under the model IV Rules as prepared by the IWAI.
- 3.2. It shall be the responsibility of the Registrars of these vessels and the designated Authority of the Maritime State / Union Territory concerned to ensure compliance of the aforesaid decisions.
- 3.3. Incrementally, in accordance with the decision also taken in the 16th meeting of the MSDC [Reference para no. 3 of its agenda minutes] innocent passage shall be granted by the neighbouring maritime State(s) /Union Territory (ies) for inland vessels to transit in their inland waters irrespective of their registry.
- 3.4. In addition, for the purpose of safety of navigation & development of inland vessels movement, the maritime States / Union Territories adjacent to the inland waterways shall mutually or singularly develop / dredge / mark such waterways to achieve the said objective(s).
- 3.5. The maritime States / Union Territories shall adopt the said model rules prepared by the IWAI for the safety of IV vessels and certification of the personnel sailing on such vessels registered under the said IV Act prior to the grant of approval for such vessels to operate within the said inshore traffic corridor / zone.
- 3.6. Noting the fact that the said inshore traffic corridor / zone is beyond the I.V. limit, the vessels operating in the inshore traffic corridor / zone shall meet any other requirement(s) as may be prescribed by the DGS, GoI, from time to time.

This order is issued in the public interest.

[Deepak Shetty]

Director General of Shipping & Additional Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Additional Secretary Addition

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