

M.S. Notice 21 of 2002

No. Dy.CSS/A&N Matter/2002

Dated:Sept 18, 2002

Sub: Consolidated requirements for Inland Vessels intending to undertake Operations beyond IV Limits in A&N Group of Islands

This Directorate has issued several instructions in respect of additional safety requirements for inland vessels undertaking operations on a regular basis with cargo beyond inland water limits in A&N Group of Islands from time to time. It has now been decided to consolidate all instructions issued so far in one Merchant Shipping Notice. Hence this Notice is issued in supersession of all such instructions issued on the subject till date. The following instructions shall be followed with immediate effect by the Mercantile Marine Departments at Port Blair and Kolkata while processing such cases:

For Inland Vessels intending to go a short distance beyond inland water limits such as ship to shore operations in settled weather conditions only:

1. The vessel shall be classed with Indian Register of Shipping and assigned restricted Load Line for this purpose.
2. One approved inflatable life raft or reversible/rigid raft for all persons onboard with SOLAS 'B' pack
3. SOLAS approved life jackets for all persons onboard
4. 4 Nos. buoys, 2 with self igniting lights
5. 2 Nos. parachute signals
6. 1 VHF of suitable range with back up battery
7. 1 holding tank of sufficient capacity for oily bilges from engine room
8. Bilge pumping capacity of the cargo hold is to be increased by 50% over IV Rule requirements.
9. FFA to be in accordance with Class Rules for inland vessels
10. Manning of the vessel can be as per IV Act.
11. The owner should obtain a mobile station licence from Ministry of Communication.

For Inland Vessels intending to operate between nearby ports with sailing time not exceeding five hours in settled weather conditions only

1. The vessel shall be brought under M.S. Act registry
2. The vessel shall be classed with IRS and assigned restricted Load Line for the intended operation.

3. One approved inflatable life raft or reversible/rigid for all the persons onboard with SOLAS 'B' pack
4. SOLAS approved life jackets for all persons onboard
5. 4 Nos. lifebuoys, 2 with self igniting lights
6. 4 Nos. parachute signals
7. 2 Nos. 45 litres capacity portable foam extinguishers in addition to FFA for IV vessels under Class Rules
8. Lights and Sound signals shall be provided as per Collision Regulations
9. For vessels above 500 GRT two separate rest rooms for Officers and Ratings, separate toilets (one each) one mess room and one galley/pantry
10. Bilge pumping capacity of the cargo hold is to be increased by 50% over IV Rule requirements
11. 1 holding tank of sufficient capacity for oily bilges from engine room
12. One electric generator of sufficient capacity to provide power for accommodation spaces, galley and navigation lights
13. For manning, in addition to crew required under IV Act, one Navigational Watch Keeping Officer (NWKO). (NCV Cadre manning to be provided in due course). One of the crew members should be a GMDSS (GOC) Certificate Holder as per Wireless Telegraphy Act of Ministry of Communication.
14. 1 VHF of suitable range with back up battery (DSC facility VHF or MF/HF).
15. MF/HF SSB Receiver
16. In place of 15, the vessel may have SATCOM 'C'
17. The owner should obtain a mobile station licence from Ministry of Communication.

These instructions apply only to normal cargo vessels and in case of any special type of vessel,

Mercantile Marine Departments at Port Blair/Kolkata will have to seek specific instructions from the Directorate.

Further, the vessels intending to undertake longer duration operations and in all weather conditions will be subject to prescribed requirements under Merchant Shipping Act/Rules for normal seagoing vessels.

This notice is not intended to interfere with "Single Voyage Permissions" & procedures thereon presently implemented by MMDs.

Sd/-
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Nautical Adviser to Govt. of India