

M.S. Notice 5 of 1999

No:NT/NAV.WARNING/88-PT

Dated: 5th May 1999

Subject :Guidelines undertaking Towage

The Directorate has issued various guidelines for undertaking towage. Despite these instructions it has been brought to the notice of this Directorate that while a vessel was being towed to the ship breaking yard, the towline parted and the vessel became adrift. No attempt was made by the Tug to reconnect the towline. Also, navigational warning was not issued by the tug regarding the danger to Navigation due to the unmanned, unlit, two being adrift. The vessel subsequently ran aground on the coast of India. All owners, agents, operators are hereby cautioned that sufficient care and appropriate backup arrangements are to be made prior to undertaking such towage. Crew involved in such ventures should be adequately briefed to meet the emergencies that may arise. It is reiterated that the IMO guidelines for safe Ocean towage circulated by the Directorate vide letter No. 13-NT(1)/98 dated 12-02-1999 are to be strictly adhered along with other instruction's regarding towing that may be issued by the Directorate from time to time.

Sd/-

(Capt. J.S. Uppal)

Nautical Surveyor