

**M.S. Notice No 05 of 2010**

**No. 13-NT(1)/2004-pt-I**

**April 29, 2010**

**Sub: I. V. Act Registered Crafts/ Tugs involved in dry cargo lighterage operations beyond Inland Water Limits and upto the Port Limits at Jamnagar, Gujarat.**

The operation of Inland crafts/ tugs operating beyond the Inland water limits and upto the port limits of Bedi Port, Sikka & Navlakhi in southern part of Gulf of Kutch was carefully examined in the Directorate.

Crafts registered under Inland Vessels Act are required to operate within the notified I.V. Limits only. However, due to the nature of trade in aforesaid coastal area of district of Jamnagar, which is predominantly sheltered in nature, inland crafts have been venturing beyond the Inland Water limits and up to anchored vessels within notified port limits. This is not only in contravention of the provisions of the Act, but has also resulted in marine casualties.

To ensure that such ship to shore lighterage operations are carried out safely, such I.V. registered crafts desiring to operate beyond the declared I.V. limits and within declared port limits of Bedi group of ports and Navlakhi are to comply with the requirements given below.

1. All such crafts should be in possession of valid Certificate of Survey issued under the Inland Vessels Act.
2. All such crafts are required to have a valid certificate of class issued by a recognized Classification Society. The certificate of class issued by the Classification Society should clearly specify that the structural strength of the craft is sufficient for ship to shore operations beyond inland water limits but within the port limits and in significant wave heights of upto 2 metres.
3. All such crafts shall be in possession of a valid Load line Certificate issued by the Indian Register of Shipping or any other IACS member on behalf of the Directorate for this operation. This loadline shall be in addition to the loadline, if assigned, under Inland Vessels Act and Rules framed thereunder. The crafts shall utilize the appropriate loadline depending upon its area of operation.
4. All such Crafts shall:
  - 4.1 Be fitted with fixed VHF set having 25-Watt capacity and carry another source of power pack.
  - 4.2 Be provided with an approved liferaft (B-Pack) capable of accommodating all the persons on board the craft. The liferaft may be an inflatable liferaft or a rigid liferaft. The crafts shall also be provided with adequate number of approved Life jackets and Life buoys.

- 4.3 Be provided with bilge pumping out arrangement to ensure that at least two independent pumps of adequate capacity are available for pumping out the bilge spaces.
- 4.4 Have adequate navigational equipment including appropriate navigational lights and shapes for the safe operation of these crafts.
- 4.5 Be provided with a compass so that the vessel can be safely navigated at all times.
- 4.6 Have adequate insurance cover for wreck removal and oil pollution liability to address operation beyond I.V. Waters.
- 4.7 Be manned with personnel having appropriate I.V. qualification for operation of such crafts and minimum experience of atleast 2 years in rank for operations up to I.V. limits.
- 4.8 Be provided with adequate number of fans in the crew cabins.
- 4.9 Be provided with a 50 ltrs mechanical foam fire extinguisher (BIS compliant) mounted on wheels with adequate long discharge hose/ nozzle arrangement.
- 4.10 Be provided with one AIS (type B) on self propelled craft.
- 4.11 Be provided with an Aldis lamp or a search light.

All such crafts shall carry out ship to shore lighterage operation or towing within the port limits in fair weather season and settled weather conditions. If the weather conditions deteriorate at any time during the fair weather period, the crafts shall immediately return to the safety of the Inland sheltered waters.

I.V. Craft Owners can obtain seasonal approval, valid for multiple voyages during entire fair weather season (from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> May) by one single certification process. Towage plan approvals for

possible combination/s of towing arrangements will also be one time plan approval. I.V. craft owners are urged to put-up their crafts and/or towage approval plans for inspection, approval and certification to IRS.

Vessels already maintaining the Class (with IRS or any IACS member) can readily obtain multiple voyage permission by applying to IRS for necessary inspection/ certification.

Vessels built under and in conformance to IRS or any other IACS member Class standards can approach IRS with already approved plans of the vessel for special survey during the lay-up/ docking period. Such vessels may be considered for relaxation under this process if meeting the Class standards and aforesaid provisions in sub-para 1 to 4 above.

These requirements shall come into force with effect from issue of this M.S. Notice. Crafts which do not comply with these requirements shall not be permitted to operate beyond the Inland Water Limits.

The Mercantile Marine Department or the Indian Register of Shipping shall issue every such craft with an endorsement confirming that it complies with the aforesaid requirements. If the Indian Register of Shipping gives the endorsement, a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Mercantile Marine Department, Jamnagar.

Port Officer, GMB shall ensure adequate port security measures for such ship/ shore interface.

A copy of this endorsement, the Certificate of Survey, Certificate of Class and the Loadline Certificate shall be displayed in the prominent place on the . The Port Officer, GMB and the Mercantile Marine Department, Jamnagar shall ensure that only crafts having such endorsement are permitted to operate beyond the IV Limits and upto the port limits at Bedi group of Ports and Navlakhi in fair weather condition.

This methodology is applicable strictly to such crafts operating in dry cargo trade only.

This is issued with the approval of the Director General of Shipping.

**Sd/-**  
**(Capt. S. K. Shukla)**  
**Dy. Nautical Advisor to the GOI**