

Merchant Shipping Notice No. 07 of 2010

No. 10-NT(4)/1995-NCSO

Date- 03/09/2010

**Subject:- Ship Reporting System in Indian Waters-
INDSAR/INSPIRES-reg.**

For the attention of -

Exploration & Production (E&P) Operators, Ship Owners, Ship Managers, Shipping Agents, Ship Masters, Charterers, Ship Breakers, Allied offices of DGS, the Naval Control of Shipping Office (NCSO), Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Flag Officer Defense Advisory Group (FODAG), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Sailing and Fishing vessel owners Association/Federation, and Maritime Training Institutes.

Purpose

1. The Purpose of this Notice is:

- (a) To provide information about the Ship Reporting System called the INDSAR within Indian Search & Rescue Region- (ISRR);
- (b) To Provide information about the Ship Reporting System operated by Indian Navy called INSPIRES for open ocean vessel management within the assigned INSPIRES Area;
- (c) To encourage effective participation of vessels within the above stated geographical areas;
- (d) To fulfill the requirements of Maritime Search and Rescue services (SAR) and open ocean vessel management for providing security to ships under National and International Laws; and
- (e) To ensure safety and security of maritime traffic in order to protect life, property and marine environment.

Applicable rules and regulations:-

- i) SOLAS Chapter-V- Regulation 7 search and Rescue services.
- ii) Chapter VI Ship Reporting System under SAR Convention 1979.
- ii) M.S. Act, 1958 Section 355 and 355-A obligation to render assistance to persons in danger.
- iii) IMO regulation A 851 (20)- General Principles for Ship reporting system and Ship reporting requirements including reporting accidents involve dangers goods, harmful substances and/ or Marine pollutants

Background

2) INDSAR:

2.1 conforming to the provisions of International convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 (SAR convention 1979) to which India is signatory and with the aim of providing / co-ordinating the effective search and rescue operations in a possible event of any marine casualty at sea, the Indian Coast Guard has brought in to operations a supplementary Ship Position Reporting System with effect from 01st February, 2003 called "Indian Ship Reporting System" (INDSAR). This is a supplementary and an advance computerized system designed to contribute to safety of life/timely search and rescue operations at sea. This system is operated and maintained by the Indian Coast Guard through their Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) at Mumbai;

2.2 all Indian ships of 100 GRT and above entering into or transiting the Indian Search and Rescue Region (ISRR) shall participate in the INDSAR reporting system. All ships other than Indian Ships of 300 GRT and above entering or transiting through the above region are encouraged to participate in INDSAR reporting system;

2.3 all ships 100 GRT and above irrespective of the flag carrying a nuclear or other inherently dangerous or noxious substances or

materials entering into or transiting the Indian Search and Rescue Region (ISRR) waters are encouraged to participate in the INDSAR reporting system for safety; and

2.4 all ships of 20 years and above irrespective of the flag are advised to send the relevant report under INDSAR within ISRR.

2.5 The format of the report or reports shall conform to the ship reporting guidelines prescribed in IMO Resolution A.851 [20] and Special Edition of Indian Notices to Mariners No.8.

3) INSPIRES

3.1 In order to exercise effective open ocean vessel management, to provide security to vessels, weather forecast to enhance safety of navigation and monitor incidents of pollution from ships engaged in carriage of hazardous cargoes, the Indian Navy in co-ordination with Directorate General of shipping established an Indian Ship Position and Information Reporting System (INSPIRES) with effect from 01 November 1986. This reporting system has wider area of coverage in the Indian Ocean. The main objective of the system is Open Ocean Vessel management for security of all vessels navigating in the Arabian Sea/ Bay of Bengal. An Indian Naval Communication Centre (COMCENS) Mumbai and Vishakhapatnam are functioning as the shore stations for receiving INSPIRES messages from all vessels. All Indian vessels including coasting / fishing vessels of tonnage 300 GRT and above shall participate in this reporting system. All vessels other than Indian ship of tonnage 100 GRT and above are encouraged to send the reports in the prescribed format when they are transiting within the INSPIRES ship reporting areas.

3.2 All offshore supply / support vessels operating within Offshore Development Area (ODA) in the Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal having valid security clearance issued by the ODAG and less than 20 years of age without any detention under the PSC / FSI regime during past one

year conforming to the DGS requirements in respect of safety, safe manning and protection of marine environment may not send such reports but are encouraged to participate in this system.

3.3 The format of the report or reports shall conform to the ship reporting guidelines prescribed in IMO Resolution A.851 (20) and Special Edition of Indian Notices to Mariners No. 8.

4. Reporting procedures -

4.1 Reporting procedures for both INDSAR and INSPIRES with respect to the type of reports, the format of reporting and mode of reporting are explained in the **Special Edition of Indian Notices to Mariners No. 8** as well as, in Admiralty list of Radio Signals Vol.5 as amended.

INDSAR Reporting -

4.2 All Indian ships of tonnage 100 GRT to 299 GRT, which are not fully complying with GMDSS requirements shall send relevant reports by VHF Channel 16 or MF band through Coast Guard station located along the coast line of India or as an alternate, the ship owner of such ships upon receipt of relevant report shall forward/ relay to the nearest MRSC or MRCC for onward transmission to MRCC Mumbai.

4.3 All ships other than Indian ships of tonnage 100 GRT to 299 GRT, which are not fully complying with GMDSS requirements are encouraged to send relevant reports by VHF Channel 16 or MF band through Coast Guard station located along the coast line of India or as an alternate, the ship owner of such ships upon receipt of relevant report shall forward/ relay to the nearest MRSC or MRCC for onward transmission to MRCC Mumbai.

4.4 The reports prescribed in the special edition to the Indian Notices to Mariners No. 8 for INDSAR reporting system can be sent by SOLAS compliant Ships using INMARSAT-C toll free code **43 through LES ARVI**. The prescribed reports may also be sent by email to the address

indsar@vsnl.net. To confirm effectiveness of INMARSAT transmission through LES ARVI vessels may transmit a test call through INMARSAT – C toll free code-43. Any constraints/difficulties in transmission of INDSAR through SAT-C toll free Code-43 can be communicated to MRCC Mumbai by using the following mode of communication:-

(a) Tele fax: 0091-22-24316558/24333727

(b) Telephone: 0091-22-24316558/24332554/24388065

(c) E-mail: indsar@vsnl.net, icgmrcc_mumbai@mtnl.net.in

**(d) INMARSAT C : 441907210 (INDSAR Toll Free Code 43)
: 441922594**

**(e) Fleet 77 : 764902542 (voice)
: 764902543 (Fax)**

4.5 In order to maintain the continuity in this ship reporting system, the vessels trading around the coast of India and transiting through the Sri Lanka SRR and re-entering the India SRR are requested to send the prescribed report to INDSAR on continual basis.

INSPIRES Reporting -

4.6 All Indian ships of tonnage 100 GRT to 299 GRT, which are not fully complying with GMDSS requirements may send relevant reports by VHF Channel 16 or MF band through Coast Guard station located along the coast line of India or as an alternate, the ship owner of such ships upon receipt of relevant report shall forward/ relay to the nearest COMCEN Vishakhapatnam / Mumbai as the case may be.

4.7 All ships other than Indian ships of tonnage 100 GRT to 299 GRT, which are not fully complying with GMDSS requirements are encouraged to send relevant reports by VHF Channel 16 or MF band through Coast Guard station located along the coast line of India or as an alternate, the ship owner of such ships upon receipt of relevant report shall forward/ relay to the nearest COMCEN Vishakhapatnam / Mumbai as the case may be.

4.8 INSPIRES reports can be sent to Indian Navy COMCENs Vishakhapatnam and Mumbai through the following:

E-mail : ncsomb@vsnl.net.
Tele Fax : 0091-22-22665435
Telephone : 0091-22-22662695
0091-22-22751073

5. Necessity to enhance participation of all ships / vessels in INDSAR / INSPIRES reporting systems:-

5.1 Recognizing the fact that the security threats to the International shipping and occurrence of marine casualties in the Indian sub-continent especially in Arabian Sea have considerably gone up in the recent years in spite of concrete initiative taken by the Maritime Administration. It is therefore essential for the Ship -Owners, Ship Managers, Shipping Agents, and Ship Masters to extend maximum cooperation and support to the Indian administration by actively participating in the above said systems. The effectiveness in implementing the system can only be measured by sending as many reports as possible to the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and Naval Controller of Shipping office in respect of INDSAR / INSPIRES respectively.

5.2 All ships entering or transiting ISSR / INSPIRES areas irrespective of flag shall carry a copy of a latest edition of Indian Notices to Mariners- Special Edition (Edition- 2008) on board as reference document, and also be guided by the detailed procedures specified in IMO Resolution A. 851(20).

5.3 To exercise control measures for the purpose of compliance with the provisions of National and International laws, the Port state and Flag state inspectors may check the records of relevant reports sent to Coast Guard / NCSO under INDSAR / INSPIRES systems respectively.

5.4 The non-compliance shall be recorded in the prescribed report issued by the PSC / FSI Inspector of Mercantile Marine Department to

the master for the purpose of timely corrective measures prior to departure of the vessel from the port.

5.5 All Indian ships above 100 GRT if observed to be contravening these directives, the Ship Owner, Ship Manager or the Ship Master shall be liable for committing an offence under the provision of M.S. Act, 1958.

The Director General of Shipping taking into account poor participation of ships in the above two reporting system now issues the above directives under the provision of Section 355 and 355 A of Merchant Shipping Act 1958.

This notice supersedes previous M.S. Notice No. 9 of 2002 and 11 of 2002 any other notices or circulars issued by the D.G. Shipping on the subject.

This issues with the approval of Director General of Shipping.

(Capt. Deepak Kapoor)
Nautical Surveyor-cum
Dy. Director General of Shipping (Tech)

Encl.: Geographical area of INDSAR is attached.

INDIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE REGION



