CIRCULAR

Sub: Ban on usage of Thuraya, Iridium and other such Satellite Communications in Indian waters.

Further to DGS order No.02 of 2012 dated 17th May 2012 regarding banning of the use of Thuraya, Iridium and other such Non Inmarsat satellite phones in Indian waters and PFSO, Dhamra mail on 21st December 2013 regarding reportedly usage of such sets around Dhamra waters, the incident of usage of such communication sets are coming to our notice. This has created unnecessary confusion and embarrassment to port and port users. All agents are advised to inform ships coming under their agency to ensure strict compliance of the above mentioned DGS order.

All vessels are henceforth required to provide the following details 96 hours prior their arrival to Dhamra port along with pre-arrival information on e-mail id: ccc@adani.com and copy to marineops@adani.com besides their statutory declaration in the Pre-Arrival Notification on Security (PANS).

1. Does the vessel have Thuraya / Iridium or other such Non Inmarsat satellite phones on board: (Yes/No)
a. Date/Time/Location when the Thuraya/ Iridium/ Non Inmarsat satellite phone was last used:

b. Date/Time/Location when the Thuraya/ Iridium/ Non Inmarsat satellite phone was switched off:

c. Phone number:

d. Model name and number:

e. Service Provider / Operator name:

f. IMEI number:

g. UID number:

2. All vessels are required to switch off their Thuraya/ Iridium and other such Non Inmarsat satellite based phones prior entering into the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and keep it switched off till the vessel is out of Indian EEZ.

Thanking you,

(Capt. Mirza M. Baig)

Harbour Master
Dhamra Port

Encl: DGS order 02 of 2012
DGS Order No. 02 of 2012

No:48-NT(1)/2012  Dated: 17.05.2012

Subject: Usage of Thuraya, Irridum and other such Satellite Communication in Indian Waters.

The Directorate is receipt of letter from Ministry of Shipping, along with copy of MHA fax message No. 122014/HS/2011 dated 12/9/2011 on the above subject.

2. The use of Thuraya, Irridum and other such Satellite phone is banned in India under Sec 6 of Indian Wireless Act and Sec 20 of Indian Telegraph Act. It is intimated to all Shipping companies / Shipping agents that use of Thuraya, Irridum and other such Satellite is banned in Indian waters and seafarers should not use the same.

3. Satellite phones can be used only after a no objection certificate is issued by Department of Telecommunications (DOT) on a case to case basis.

4. The shipping agents should mandatorily intimate the details of person carrying Thuraya and the particulars of Thuraya, Irridum and other such sets in Pre Arrival Notification on Security (PANS).

5. The unauthorized holder of Thuraya, Irridum and other such Satellite phone can be prosecuted under Sec 6 of Indian Wireless Act and Sec 20 of Indian Telegraph Act.

6. Above may please be circulated amongst your members for larger benefit of awareness.

This issues with approval of Director General of Shipping.

Sd/-
(K. H. Mehta)
Sr. Radio Surveyor