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TO : ALL SHIPPING EMPLOYERS/ PRINCIPALS, MANNING AGENCIES
AND SEAFARERS

SUBJECT : USAGE OF SATELLITE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT IN
INDIAN WATERS

The Directorate General of Shipping of the Office Ministry of Shipping, Government of India issued Order No. 02 of 2012 advising that satellite-based communication equipment other than Inmarsat may not be used within 12 nautical miles from the Indian Coasts and is required to be declared at every Indian port of call in the Pre-Arrival Notification Security (PANS).

The Directorate iterates the advisory contained in the letter from the Ministry of Shipping, along with a copy of the Ministry of Home Affairs fax message No. 122014/HS/2011 dated 12/9/2011 on the use of satellite communication equipment in Indian waters, as follows;

1. The use of Thuraya, Iridium and other such satellite phone is banned in India under Section 6 of Indian Wireless Act and Section 20 of Indian Telegraph Act.
2. It is intimated to all Shipping companies/ Shipping agents that use of Thuraya, Iridium and other such Satellite is banned in Indian territorial waters and seafarers should not use the same.
3. Satellite phones can be used only after a no objection certificate is secured from the Department of Telecommunications (DOT).
4. The shipping agents should mandatorily provide the details of person carrying Thuraya and the particulars of Thuraya, Iridium and other such sets in Pre-Arrival Notification on Security (PANS).
5. The unauthorized holder of Thuraya, Iridium and other such Satellite phone can be prosecuted under Section 6 of Indian Wireless Act and Section 20 of Indian Telegraph Act.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


HANS LEO J. CACDAC
Administrator

