



MUMBAI PORT TRUST

PORT DEPARTMENT

SHIPPING DEVELOPMENT CIRCULAR NO 01 of 2008

**(F.No. SD-9/CHRT(82)/97-IV dated 25.04.2008
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भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

पोत परिवहन, सडक परिवहन तथा राजमार्ग मंत्रालय

MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(पोत परिवहन विभाग) (Department of Shipping)

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F. No. SD-9/CHRT(82)/97-IV

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Dated : 25/4/2008

Shipping Development Circular No. 01 of 2008

**Subject : Revised guidelines for chartering of vessels under
Sections 406 and 407 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958.**

Concerned by the rising trend of marine accidents in and around Indian waters especially during rough weather, the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways set up a Committee in July, 2007 to suggest urgent measures to reduce marine casualties. Since analysis of the accidents over the last 3 years showed a significant correlation between age of vessels and the break-downs which caused these casualties, the Committee recommended, inter-alia, the revision of guidelines to restrict the age of vessels plying in Indian waters and a tighter regime of surveys and inspections.

2. Accordingly, in the interest of maritime safety, it has been decided to modify existing guidelines for chartering of vessels under Sections 406 and 407 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (M S Act). Existing DGS Circulars Nos. 7 of 2003 dated 11.06.03 and 8 of 2003 dated 14.08.2003 (read with clarifications vide Memorandum dated 21.11.2003 and 31.12.2003), restrict only the charters of tankers to those which are less than 25 years (30 years in the case of gas carriers) and are CAS and CAP-2 rated and classed with IACS.

3. It is now further decided, after taking into consideration the views and objections of a wide range of stakeholders, that, with effect from **15th May 2008**, applications for permissions for chartering in / grant of licence to vessels under Sections 406 and 407 of the MS Act either for single or specific voyages or time charters that enable vessels to visit an Indian port or to ply in Indian territorial waters or the Indian EEZ will be entertained only as follows:

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