Subject: Recommendations to the Registrars of the Sailing Vessels for
Imposing restrictions on mechanically propelled Sailing
Vessels plying in foul weather season in their respective
regions

1. Indian Merchant Shipping Act 1958 (as amended) requires sailing vessels (mechanically propelled
or not) to be registered under part XV of the Act. Such vessels are of wooden construction having
primitive design features and therefore, do not comply with the International Conventions. Instead, they
are governed by the Merchant Shipping (Sailing Vessels) Rules, 1997.
2. These vessels were traditionally trading historically between Indian subcontinent and neighbouring
countries of Persia, Arabia in the West and up-to Thailand in the East. The ‘Certificate Of Inspection of a
Sailing Vessel’ issued to such vessels under said rules requires terms and conditions of trading limit with
restrictions, if applicable, with regard fair/foul season. Fair season & foul season for the purpose of said
Rules are notified in Schedule IV of the Rules.
3. In view of recent total loss of two sailing vessels near Gujarat Coast and a sailing vessel in
Andaman & Nicobar Island Sea and many similar casualties in foul weather in past, the Director General
of Shipping, in interest of safety of life, property and protection of environment hereby recommends to
the registrars of Sailing Vessels to restrict plying of such sailing vessels, whether loaded or in light
condition during foul weather season to or from any Indian or Foreign Port/s. Foul weather area as
notified under schedule IV of MS (Sailing Vessels) Rules, 1997 is reiterated hereunder:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>AREA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>1st June to 31st August</td>
<td>Coast of Pakistan, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Konkan</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>16th May to 15th September</td>
<td>Western India (South of Karwar) and as far West as the line joining Aden and Berbera</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>16th April to 31st August and 1st November to 31st December</td>
<td>Gulf of Mannar</td>
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4. | 1st November to 31st December | Palk Bay |
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5. | 15th April to 31st July and 16th October to 31st December | Madras and Andhra Pradesh:
 | a) From Nagapatnam to Kakinada 16th April to 31st July and 16th October to 15th November | b) From Kakinada to Gunjasme |
6. | 1st April to 15th August and 1st October to 15th November | West Bengal, Orissa, Bangladesh and Arakan |
7. | 1st May to 31st August | Rest of Myanmar |

4. M.S. Act Section 2(2) provides that the provision of the Act which apply to Indian Registered Vessels shall so apply to any such vessel within India, including territorial waters. Accordingly it may be noted that plying restrictions stated above are applicable to all Mechanized sailing Vessels whether Indian or Foreign, plying on Indian Coast in any one of the aforesaid areas.

5. Plying restrictions imposed on Indian Mechanized Sailing Vessels should be clearly endorsed on Certificate of inspection of Sailing Vessels under heading ‘usual trading limits’ by authorised issuing such certificate. Violation of this M.S.Notice shall attract serious consequences as provided under Section 334 of Merchant Shipping Act of 1958 including penal punishment.

6. This issues with the approval of the Director General of Shipping.

_Sd/-_  
(Capt. S. K. Shukla)  
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