



भारत सरकार / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

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MINISTRY OF SHIPPING,

नेवहन महानिदेशालय / DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF SHIPPING

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**NT Branch circular- NT/ISPS/2/2013**

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***Subject: Operation of Automatic Identification System.***

Automatic Identification System (AIS) is required to be fitted as per Regulation V/19 of the SOLAS Convention, which sets out navigation equipments to be carried on board ships, according to ship's type. Under the Regulation, ships fitted with AIS shall maintain the equipment in operation, at all times, except where international agreements, rules or standards provide for the protection of navigational information.

2. In addition to the SOLAS requirements, the Directorate has issued ISPS Circular No. NT/ISPS/1/2009 dated 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, its addendum dated 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, NT/ISPS/5/2009 dated 7.5.2009 and NT/ISPS/8/2009 dated 12.11.2009, which requires fitment of AIS on all Indian vessels of more than 15 NT:

3. IMO Resolution A.917 (22), Guidelines for the onboard operational use of ship board Automatic Identification System (AIS), states that "If the Master believes that the continual operation of AIS might compromise the safety or security of his/her ship, the AIS may be switched off. This might be the case in sea areas where pirates and armed robbers are known to operate. Actions of this nature should always be recorded in the ship's Log Book together with the reasons for doing so".
4. Ship Masters/owners/managers/operators should take note of the provisions of such equipment, aforesaid functional requirement of the AIS and abide by the same. Any violations in this regard may attract appropriate punitive action, including non-issuance of appropriate statutory inspection/certificate.
5. This is issued with the approval of Nautical Adviser to the Govt. of India.



(Capt. H. Khatri)

Dy. Director General of Shipping (Tech)