



भारत सरकार / Government of India
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

दीपस्तंभ और दीपपोत महानिदेशालय

Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships

Date 23.04.2026

No 2102/1/2019-DP (e-office)

To

The Secretary-General
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Sub: Submission of Input Papers from India for the 4th IALA Council Meeting-reg.

Sir,

Kind reference is invited to IALA's circular letter 2026/07 dated 06.03.2026 on the above noted subject.

Brief details on the National Matters of India for 4th IALA Council meeting is enclosed herewith.

It is kindly requested that the above matters may please be included for consideration and discussion during the 4th Council meeting.

Yours faithfully,

(Digvijay Singh)
Deputy Director

Encl: As above.

1. **DGLL appointed the Competent Authority for Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) in India.**

The Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) has been appointed the Competent Authority for Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) in India by the Government of India.

This decision reflects the Government of India continued commitment to strengthening maritime safety, enhancing navigational efficiency, and aligning national practices with international standards and best practices in vessel traffic management. The designation of DGLL as the Competent Authority will further streamline the implementation, regulation, and oversight of VTS operations across Indian waters, ensuring improved coordination, safety of navigation, and protection of the marine environment under the IALA guidelines.

Given the pivotal role of the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation (IALA) in setting global standards and fostering cooperation in this domain, DGLL look forward to continued collaboration and guidance from IALA. We are confident that this development will contribute positively towards strengthening India's engagement with IALA initiatives and global maritime safety frameworks.

This appointment strengthens India's maritime safety framework and aligns national practices with global standards.

2. **Construction of River Lighthouse in Brahmaputra River in India.**

India has taken a pioneering step in advancing aids to navigation by initiating the development of river lighthouses on inland waterways, aligned with global best practices.

The foundation for four river lighthouses namely: Bogibeel, Pandu, Silghat and Biswanath Ghat along the Brahmaputra River (National Waterway-2) was laid by Hon'ble Union Minister of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India on 05.03.2026. This marks the first deployment of lighthouse infrastructure on inland waterways in India, expanding the traditional coastal scope of aids to navigation.

The project is being implemented by Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) in collaboration with Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). Designed as modern, solar-powered navigation systems, these lighthouses will support 24x7 safe navigation, integrate weather monitoring, and enhance operational efficiency along a key inland waterway corridor.

The initiative assumes strategic importance in view of the rapid growth in cargo traffic (over 50%) on National Waterway - 2 and the increasing role of inland waterways in India's multimodal logistics framework. It will contribute to reduced logistics costs, lower carbon emissions, and improved safety standards, particularly in the Northeast region of India.

The initiative reflects India's commitment to aligning its navigation systems with evolving global practices and positions the country as a forward-looking contributor to IALA's objectives, particularly in expanding the scope of safe and sustainable navigation to inland waterways.

3. Organization of Level 1.2 Master AtoN Manager course at MNTI Kolkata, India

The Marine Navigation Training Institute, Kolkata, India, will be organizing the first batch of the Level 1.2 Master AtoN Manager Course from 9th November 2026 to 13th November 2026, for national and international participants.

This is high level; strategic programme designed for senior maritime professionals. Its advantages go well beyond technical training and are especially relevant for officers from operational roles to decision making and exposure to international standards, maritime laws, and global case studies, to strengthen the capacity of competent authorities in managing AtoN systems effectively.