

## Press Release



**Mercator Lines Limited reports a consolidated Revenue of Rs. 1332 cr and Net Profit of Rs. 43.59 Cr. for Nine Months ended December 2009**

**Mumbai, January 30, 2010-** Mercator Lines Limited, India's 2<sup>nd</sup> largest private sector shipping company (in terms of tonnage), has announced its consolidated results for the nine months ended December 2009.

The revenues dropped by 20% to Rs. 1332 Cr. from Rs. 1673 Cr. in nine months ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008. This drop in revenues and net profit was due to the prevailing market conditions.

In Dry-bulk; though number of vessel operating days increased from 3385 days during nine months ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2008 to 3694 days in December 2009; the TCE (Time Charter Equivalent) rate per vessel per day decreased by about 44% to US\$ 24,766/-

In Tankers; TCE rate per vessel per day decreased by about 52% to US\$ 14,833/- Total no. of vessel operating days have decreased from 3165 in nine months December 2008 to 2,740 days in nine months ended December 2009.

TCE rate per Dredger per day decreased by about 29% to US\$ 15,342/- and the total no. of operating days have reduced from 979 in nine months ended December 2008 to 769 in nine months ended December 2009.

Offshore division contributed with TCE of USD 92700/- per day for 275 days.

The coal operations have stabilized and generated revenue of about Rs. 254 cr. against Rs. 51 cr in the corresponding period of previous year.

The Company believes that present market conditions would prevail for some time and its profits would be under pressure. However, with consolidated cash profit of about Rs. 309 Cr. during period ended December 2009; and cash balance of Rs. 628 Cr. as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009; the Company believes that it is well positioned to honour its commitments and explore further growth opportunities that are likely to come up in the medium to long term.

Recently the Company signed a long-term USD 225 mn value contract to Charter out a 'Mobile Offshore Production Unit' and a 'Floating Storage and offloading Unit' through its wholly owned subsidiary in Singapore.

### **About Mercator Lines Limited**

Mercator Lines Limited, the second largest private sector shipping company in India (by aggregate fleet tonnage capacity), has global presence through its subsidiaries. The group has diversified interests and has a presence in Tankers, Bulk Carriers, Dredging, Coal Mining; Logistics and Offshore and presently owns or operates a fleet of 1 Rig; 15 dry carriers; 10 tankers and 4 dredgers.

Mercator Lines has an uninterrupted dividend record since its listing on the Bombay Stock Exchange in 1993.

### **For Mercator Lines Limited**

**Deepak Dalvi**

**Sr. Manager-Secretarial**

Mumbai, January 30, 2010