MoA SIGNED BETWEEN IALA AND INDIA
(Directorate General of Lighthouses & Lightships)

The Indian Government Press Information Bureau has advised that on 11 August a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) was signed between the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA) and the Indian DGLL (Directorate General of Lighthouses & Lightships).

The document was signed in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and will enable the DGLL Training Centre at Kolkata to deliver a professional training course on the management of marine aids to navigation in line with IALA model courses.

Directorate General of Lighthouses & Lightships (DGLL) is primarily responsible for providing an aids to navigation service for the safety of mariners in Indian waters.

Apart from upgrading the skills and capacity of aids to navigation personnel in India it is understood that the Training Centre will also attract aids to navigation personnel from the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC*) countries and North Indian Ocean Region countries for training.

IALA has its HQ at St Germain-en-Laye, near Paris, France, (See http://www.iala-aism.org/)

The Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (http://dgll.nic.in/) is a subordinate office under the Ministry of Shipping. Headquarters of the Directorate is at Noida (Uttar Pradesh).

For administrative control the entire coastline of India has been divided into Nine Districts having their regional headquarters at Gandhidham, Jamnagar, Mumbai, Goa, Cochin, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Kolkata and Port Blair.

*Members are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.