As per the above Circular, "Oil Cess @ the rate of 50 Paise per ton shall be payable by the ship owner or his agent or Master prior to the discharge of cargo at any Indian Port or Ports as petroleum in any form including crude oil, fuel oil, sludge, oil refuse and refine products (other than petro-chemicals which are subject to the provisions of Annex II or MARPOL 73/78) persistent and non-persistent oil carried by the oil tanker in bulk as cargo.

At present oil cess is paid by the shipowners/agents on completion of the loading/unloading operations through VRC Format.

However, in view of the circular under reference, all the ship owners/agents are requested to pay the oil cess in a separate VRC format at the time of making the VRC payment for Port dues, pilotage, etc. prior to the arrival of the vessel. Payment of Port Dues, pilotage charges, etc. will only be accepted along with separate Oil cess payment wherever due.

The above procedure will be effective with immediate effect.

Modnipur

(Capt. M.M. RODRIGUES) DEPUTY CONSERVATOR

D.A. Above Circular Received from Dy. Nautical Adviser.