



## Press Release

**Mercator Lines Limited reports a consolidated Net Profit of Rs. 42.58 Cr. for half year ended September 2009 (1HY2010)**

**- Revenue declined by 25% to Rs. 859.41 Cr.**

**Mumbai, October 28, 2009 – 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 half year ended September 2009 (1HY2010).**

The revenues for 1HYFY2010 dropped by 25% to Rs. 859.41 Cr. from Rs. 1142.30 Cr. in 1HY2009. This drop in revenues and net profit is largely due to the prevailing market conditions.

TCE (Time Charter Equivalent) rate per vessel per day decreased by 46% to US\$ 25,391/- and total no. of vessel operating days have marginally changed from 2363 in 1HY2009 to 2359 in 1HY2010, in respect of bulk carriers.

TCE rate per vessel per day decreased by 51% to US\$ 16,363/- and total no. of vessel operating days have reduced to 1861 in 1HY2010 from 2105 in 1HY2009, in respect of tankers.

TCE rate per Dredger per day have decreased by about 9% to US\$ 18,332/- and the total no. of operating days have reduced to 484 in 1HY2010 from 611 in 1HY2009. This reduction is mainly due to certain repairs carried out in 2 of the Dredgers.

During the first half of this financial year, 2 vessels were added to its fleet of owned and chartered in vessels through subsidiary, which have secured firm employment with premium charterers.

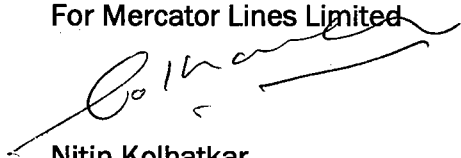
The Company believes that present market conditions would prevail for some time and its profits would be under pressure. However, with group cash profit of about Rs. 255 Cr. during 1HY2010; and cash balance of Rs. 575 Cr. as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009; the Company believes that it is well positioned to honour its commitments and explore further growth opportunities that are likely to come up in the medium to long term.

### **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; 13 dry carriers; 10 tankers and 4 dredgers.

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

**For Mercator Lines Limited**

  
**Nitin Kolhatkar**  
**Vice President (Finance & Accounts)**  
**Mumbai, October 28, 2009**