



VARUN SHIPPING COMPANY LIMITED

PRESS RELEASE

**VARUN SHIPPING RECOMMENDS FINAL DIVIDEND OF
Rs.1.50 PER SHARE
MAINTAINS TOTAL DIVIDEND OF 50 PER CENT FOR THE FULL YEAR**

Varun Shipping's freight and charter hire income for the financial year ended 31st March, 2009 was Rs.9,146.59 million as compared to Rs.8,508.07 million for the previous financial year.

Company's net profit after tax for the financial year ended 31st March, 2009 is Rs.1,228.06 million as compared to Rs.813.97 million excluding foreign exchange gain for the previous financial year.

The company has recommended a final dividend of Rs.1.50 per share for the financial year ended 31st March, 2009 in addition to three interim dividends aggregating to Rs.3.50 per share already declared and paid earlier. The total dividend for the year works out to Rs.5 per share.

EPS (Basic) for the financial year ended 31st March, 2009 was Rs.8.19 compared to Rs.5.43 excluding foreign exchange gain for the previous financial year.

During the financial year ended 31st March, 2009, the company acquired 2008 built large and sophisticated Anchor Handling Towing and Supply (AHTS) vessel namely, Subhadra. Further, in April, 2009 company acquired one more newly built AHTS Vessel, namely, Suchandra which is a sister vessel of Subhadra. These vessels have been built in Norway. These acquisitions have enabled the company to further strengthen its leadership position in large AHTS sector in the Asian region. Varun Shipping is the first Indian company to operate large AHTS vessel in the North Sea. The company has also successfully worked in deepwaters of Krishna Godavari basin and Africa.

Registered Office :

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Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 001, India.

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The company presently owns/operates a well diversified fleet of 21 vessels comprising of 11 LPG carriers, 3 double hull aframax crude tankers and 7 AHTS vessels. The company's LPG fleet is the largest in India in terms of both fleet size and cargo carrying capacity. It forms approximately 86 per cent of the aggregate cargo carrying capacity of LPG carriers operating under Indian flag. The company during the year ended 31st March, 2009 transported approximately 72 per cent of all LPG cargoes imported into the country by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs).

In October, 2008, the company received "The Marine and Offshore Services Award" at the Seatrade Middle East and Indian Subcontinent Awards, 2008 ceremony held in Dubai, UAE.

Further, in February, 2009, the company received the "Overall Best Managed Company in India – Small Cap" award in the Corporate Governance Poll, 2008 conducted by ASIAMONEY.

In September, 2008, Mr.Yudhishtir D. Khatau, Vice Chairman & Managing Director received "Entrepreneur of the Year" award at the Seatrade India Shipping Summit 2008 awards ceremony held at Mumbai.

On 18th May, 2009, Mr.Yudhishtir D. Khatau, Vice Chairman & Managing Director received "Seatrade Young Person in Shipping 2009" award at the 21st Seatrade Awards Ceremony held at London.

21st May, 2009

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