

IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD**R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 18593 of 2021**=====
RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED**Versus****STATE OF GUJARAT**
=====

Appearance:

MS MEGHA JANI(1028) for the Petitioner(s) No. 1,2,3

for the Respondent(s) No. 2,3,4

ADVANCE COPY SERVED TO GOVERNMENT PLEADER/PP(99) for the
Respondent(s) No. 1=====
CORAM: HONOURABLE MS. JUSTICE SANGEETA K. VISHEN**Date : 16/12/2021****ORAL ORDER**

Heard Mr. Mihir H. Joshi, learned Senior Advocate with Ms. Amrita Patel, learned advocate for Ms. Megha Jani, learned advocate appearing for the petitioners.

2. It is submitted that recently, The Marine Aids to Navigation Act, 2021 (hereinafter referred to the 'Act of 2021') has been enacted by the Parliament, making the provisions for the vessel traffic services. By virtue of the provisions of sub-section (1) of Section 10 of the Act of 2021, the development, maintenance and management of vessel traffic services, now vest in the Central Government. It is further submitted that even otherwise, the levy of vessel traffic services was covered under the Indian Lighthouse Act, 1927 which, authorised only the Central Government to levy light dues. Therefore, the levy of vessel traffic services by the Gujarat Maritime Board vide notification dated 12.4.2013, would be without any authority or competence.

4. Considered the submissions. Issue notice, returnable on 12.1.2022.

(SANGEETA K. VISHEN,J)

BINOY B PILLAI