

## OIL SPILL IN MUMBAI PORT TRUST BY MSC CHITRA



On 07 Aug 10 at 0945 hrs MV MSC Chitra collided with MV Khalijia –III in Position 18 51.9 N 072 49.3 E(128 Prongs Lt 1.2 NM) . Consequently MSC Chitra grounded/ listed over by 45 degrees and almost 300 containers were lost overboard. ICGS Kamla Devi on patrol in area was diverted for immediate assistance and in coordination with tug Vamsee–III rescued 33 crew which included 03 ladies and 02 children. Approx 700 tons of oil escaped from her fuel tanks over the period of three days. CG helo carried out dispersant spray with TC-III bucket from 07-11 Aug 10. Five Coast Guard ships and aircraft was deployed in Pollution Response Configuration from 08 Aug 10 and applied more than 3000 litres of OSD to disperse the oil spill.

The initial inputs indicate both vessels with Indian Masters were navigating without pilot and manning different communication channels. Nil communication resulted in delayed collision avoidance leading to collision of merchant vessels within port limit.

The Coast Guard Region (West), thereafter coordinated with Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), JNPY, MbPT and other voluntary organisation for shoreline cleanup near Elephanta islands, BARC, and Kumjali area etc.

