

PRESS RELEASE

Indian Coast Guard Hosts 26th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan Meeting

New Delhi, Nov 2024: The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) convened the 26th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) meeting today in New Delhi, chaired by Director General Paramesh Sivamani, PTM, TM. Chairperson NOSDCP. The meeting saw the participation of approximately 80 delegates from various ministries, central and state governments, ports, and oil handling agencies.

The gathering focused on reviewing the nation's preparedness to respond effectively to oil spill contingencies in Indian waters. As India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy, the volume of oil imports via shipping is also rising. This increase, alongside the movement of chemicals and other hazardous materials, presents significant risks to India's maritime zones, extensive coastline, coastal populations, marine ecosystems, and tourism industries. Ensuring robust preparedness among the Central Coordinating Agency, coastal states, ports, and other stakeholders is crucial for protecting our marine environment from potential oil spills.

In his address, DG S Paramesh reaffirmed the ICG's commitment to addressing regional threats, including marine oil and chemical spills. He highlighted the need for enhanced cooperation among stakeholders to strengthen partnerships, improve coordination, and adopt best practices in emerging technologies. He also noted the recent inauguration of the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre in Chennai by the Hon'ble Defence Minister, which will significantly bolster the ICG's capabilities in managing pollution incidents in the region.



