

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPRC CONVENTION AND THE OPRC – HNS PROTOCOL AND RELEVANT CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

IMPLEMENTATION OF OPRC CONVENTION IN INDIA – A REPORT

SUMMARY

Executive Summary : *This document provides information on the activities carried out by India for the implementation of the provisions of the OPRC Convention.*

Action to be Taken : Para 3

Related documents : Annexure: India – Country Profile

Introduction

1. After the adoption of the OPRC convention by the IMO in 1990 with final Act and ten resolutions and promulgation of the Convention in 1995, India became one of the few countries that readily accepted the Convention. Immediately India started working on its provisions for compliance, and promulgated its national contingency plan on oil spill response.

National Contingency Plan

2. The Indian Coast Guard is the national authority under the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP) for coordination of response to oil spills in Indian waters. The maritime zones of India is divided into three regions: West, East, and Andaman & Nicobar. These regions are further divided into 11 districts. The regional commanders are responsible for combating oil spills in their respective areas of responsibility under the Regional Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plans (ROS-DCP). There are three-response centres - one in each region -with qualified response personnel and well-stocked inventory of response equipment. Oil companies, ports, and oil

platforms are to formulate their own local contingency plans and should be able respond to oil spills within their designated areas. The Coast Guard handles oil spills directly in the rest of the maritime zones. There are various resource agencies under the NOS-DCP, with which the Coast Guard will co-ordinate in case of an oil spill.

Provisions and Procedures for Combating Oil Spill

3. The NOS-DCP prepared by India contains information regarding oil pollution reporting procedures. It also contains actions to be taken by various parties on receipt of oil pollution reports. Limited research in the field of oil spill management is carried out in India in national laboratories. The Indian Coast Guard after the promulgation of the NOS-DCP, is conducting various training programmes for oil industry, ports, and other agencies on oil spill response free of cost. These training programmes are on the lines of the IMO pollution response training programme level 1 and 2.

Regional Contingency Plan and Mutual Co-operation – South Asia

4. Regional Contingency Plan sponsored by the UNEP for regional and bilateral agreement for South Asia, under the UN Clean Seas Programme is under finalisation. The countries that will be covered by bilateral agreement are Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. This Plan envisages mutual cross border assistance and movement of equipment and personnel to respond to oil spills in the seas across the region.

Action Requested of the Committee

5. The Committee is invited to take note of this information.

Country Profile

6. The country profile of India with respect to oil spill response is as under.

INDIA – COUNTRY PROFILE

SPILL NOTIFICATION POINT

National Centre

The Director General, Indian Coast Guard
Coast Guard Headquarters
National Stadium Complex
New Delhi – 110 001

Tel : 91 11 338 4934 (24 hr)
91 11 338 8668
Fax : 91 11 338 3196
Telex : 031 65 359 CGHQ IN
E-mail : vprotect@nda.vsnl.net.in

West Coast & East Arabian Sea

The Commander
Indian Coast Guard Region (West)
Golfadevi Temple Road
Prabhadevi P.O., Worli
Mumbai – 400 025
Maharashtra

Tel : 91 22 437 6133
91 22 437 9201
Fax : 91 22 493 3727
Telex : 011 71381 BMCG IN
E-mail : cgmumbai@bom3.vsnl.net.in

East Coast & Bay of Bengal

The Commander
Indian Coast Guard Region (East)
Koovam River Complex
Chennai – 600 009
Tamil Nadu

Tel : 91 44 536 5437
91 44 536 6206
Fax : 91 44 536 5437
Telex : 041 6063 MSCG IN
Emial : cgpoorav@md2.vsnl.net.in

Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andaman Sea and East Bay of Bengal

The Commander
Coast Guard Region (A&N)
Post Box No.716
Port Blair 744 102
Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Tel : 91 3192 32898
Fax : 91 3192 30257
Telex : 0695 209 CGPB IN
E-mail : rhqan@cal3.vsnl.net.in