

PRESS RELEASE

ASSISTANCE BY COAST GUARD DURING ST ANTONY FEAST AT KACHCHATIVU ISLAND

Chennai- 23 Dec 16. The opening ceremony of St Antony church was held at Kachchativu Island on 23 Dec 16. A total of 82 Indian pilgrims including 03 women embarked in 03 mechanised fishing boat and departed Rameshwaram fisheries jetty post screening by security agencies at 0730 hrs on 23 Dec 16. Indian Coast Guard Ship Rani Durgavati, a fast patrol vessel was deployed for providing security, search & rescue and medical coverage during the passage from Rameshwaram to IMBL near Kachchativu and back. ICGS Rani Durgavati handed over the boats with Indian pilgrims to Srilankan Coast Guard Ships and received them back on completion of the event at 1400 hrs on 23 Dec 16. All the fishing boats with pilgrims were escorted to Rameshwaram jetty safely at 1600 hrs on 23 Dec 16 and the mission was successful without any untoward incident.