

SITREP - 2, 2200 Hrs on 24/05/2025

Listing of MSC ELSA III (IMO no – 9123221, Flag Liberia) SW of Kochi

1. Incident Overview:

On 24 May 2025 at approximately 1300 hrs IST, the container vessel MSC ELSA 3, operated by MSC Ship management Ltd., developed a severe starboard list while enroute from Vizhinjam to Cochin, about 30 nautical miles southwest of Kochi Port. By 1515 hrs IST, the list had increased to 30 degrees and stabilized, with no further progression observed.



Figure 1: MSC ELSA 3

2. Response Actions Initiated:

The Indian Coast Guard promptly responded to the incident by deploying a Dornier aircraft, which conducted aerial surveillance and successfully air-dropped a life raft to aid in crew evacuation. Additionally, surface units have been mobilised and are en route to provide Search and Rescue (SAR) and vessel support. The Indian Navy has also initiated assistance, with one naval vessel departing from Cochin and

another, positioned north of the incident site, being rerouted to offer operational and humanitarian support.

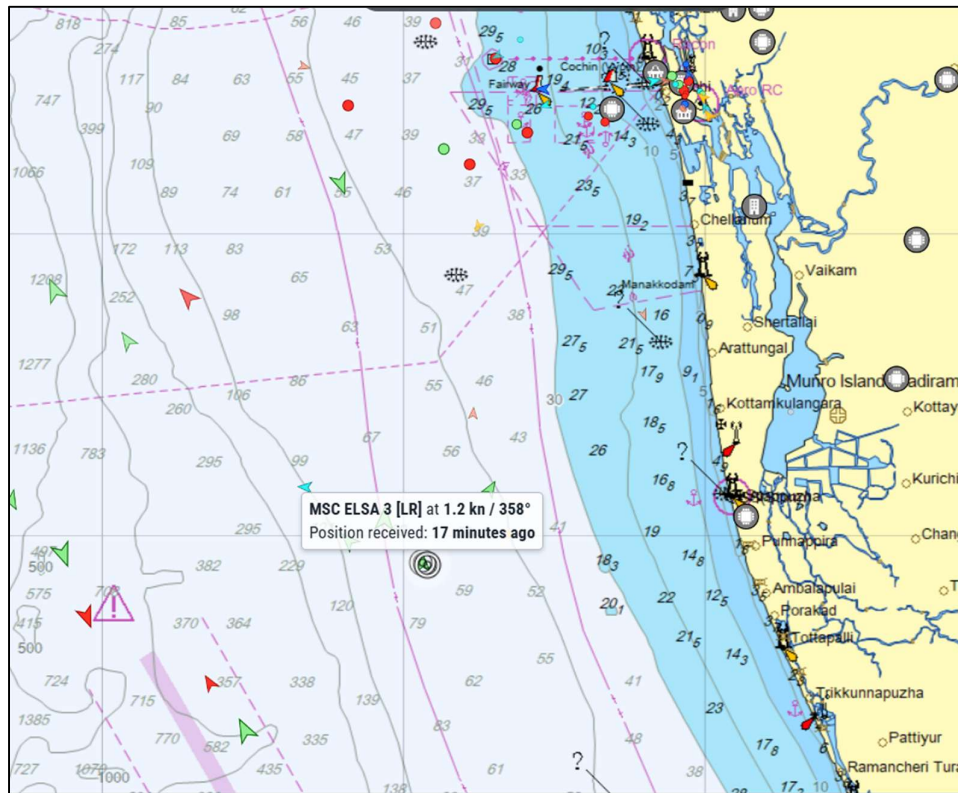


Figure 2: MSC ELSA # position at 2130 hours

3. Present Status:

Of the 24 crew members on-board (Russian – 01, Ukrainian – 02, Georgian -01, Filipinos 20), 21 have been safely evacuated to a life raft, while 3 remain onboard and are confirmed safe, maintaining communication with nearby vessels. M/V HANE YI is in close proximity, providing visual and VHF support. Some life rafts could not be deployed due to the vessel's severe list. No oil pollution has been reported so far. Crew list is attached

4. Additional Support:

MSC SILVER III, an MSC-operated vessel, has been deployed from Cochin to provide assistance at the incident site. M/V HANE YI remains on standby, maintaining communication and offering coordination support. Meanwhile, MSC Ship Management Ltd. has activated its emergency response protocols and is

actively coordinating with MRCC Mumbai and relevant regional authorities to manage the situation.

5. Current Vessel Condition:

The vessel remains afloat and stable with a sustained 22° list, suggesting a temporary state of hydrostatic balance. There are no reports of water ingress, fire, or oil pollution. However, some life-saving appliances are inaccessible due to the listing angle, a risk currently being mitigated through aerial deployment of additional life-saving equipment. Owners have been advised to closely monitor the drift of the vessel towards Indian Coast.

6. Navigational Hazards:

Multiple containers have fallen overboard and are drifting in the vicinity, creating a navigational hazard. A Navarea warning has been issued via email to INHO and NCD Mumbai for promulgation. The vessel's updated position has been tracked via Marine Traffic. [insert latest position if available]

7. Coordination Measures

An online meeting was held on 24 May 2025 at 2000 hrs regarding the MSC Elsa III vessel incident, attended by officials from DGS, MMD Kochi, Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy, Kochi Port, MSC, and other stakeholders. Key outcomes included directions to owners for immediate mobilisation of salvors, appointment of an expert agency, and implementation of pollution prevention measures. Owners were instructed to ensure crew evacuation due to deteriorating weather, and to provide details on overboard containers, vessel condition, and cargo particulars. Two-hourly updates from ship-owners were mandated to ensure close monitoring and coordinated response.

8. Details of Cargo in Containers that have fallen overboard

As per information received from the owners there are approximately 40-45 containers that have fallen overboard. **The containers that fell overboard do not have any dangerous cargo and vessel now remains stable.**

Details regarding the contents of the containers are awaited.