



## **Directorate General of Shipping**

**SITREP – 37, 1800 hrs on 09/07/2025**

### **Sinking of MSC ELSA 3 (IMO no. 9123221, Flag Liberia) South West of Kochi**

The contents of this SITREP are based on both written and verbal inputs received from the stakeholders

#### **1. Incident Overview:**

Refer to SITREP – 6

#### **2. Response Actions Initiated:**

Refer to SITREP – 6

#### **3. Present Status:**

As of 9 July 2025, ongoing coordination among the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), MSC, SMIT Salvage, Brand Marine Consultants (BMC), and other stakeholders remains focused on monitoring the salvage mobilisation and environmental containment efforts. No deviation in the timeline for salvage mobilisation has been reported, with the new salvage team continuing preparatory work. A joint visit was undertaken by MSC, SMIT, and Brand Marine to the Indian Coast Guard and the Directorate to review and align on the newly submitted salvage plan.

For the onshore efforts, in Trivandrum district, the MERC-led shoreline recovery operations continue steadily, with nurdle recovery and transportation logistics being coordinated daily. The MERC has also updated the district-wise recovery figures and submitted revised data sheets for central collation.

#### **4. Situation Assessment:**

While salvage mobilisation remains on schedule, the operational environment continues to be challenged by regulatory coordination and environmental sensitivities. A key concern is the restricted permission for using seawater flushing for nurdle segregation at the Rameshwaram site, currently not permitted by local authorities.

However, the method has proven effective in Trivandrum, and MERC has been directed to submit a formal request to DGS for onward communication to the Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authority (TNSDMA). DGS has confirmed its willingness to escalate this matter once the request is formally received.

The volume of nurdles being recovered daily highlights the scale of environmental impact. As of the latest report, the total recovered nurdles exceeds 450.0 tonnes, highlighting the necessity of sustained inter-agency coordination. The continued support of the Kerala and Tamil Nadu State Disaster Management Authorities, Pollution Control Boards, district administrations, and the Customs Department has been essential in facilitating the uninterrupted logistics chain for recovery and temporary storage at Kollam Port.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: NURDLE WEIGHT RECOVERY						
Sl. No.	Date	Location	Segregated (Kg)	Non-Segregated (Kg)	Segregated and Transported to Warehouse (Kg)	Total (Kg)
1		Thiruvananthapuram	21,721	1,62,085	1,43,141	
2		Kanyakumari	450	100	30,900	
3		Rameshwaram	0	64,758	5,725	
4		Kollam	0	0	33,358	
			22,171	2,26,943	2,13,124	4,62,238

The light sheen occasionally reported near the wreck site is being continuously monitored by Canara Megh, and no escalation in environmental risk has been noted. With the operational phase of the new salvage contractor nearing commencement, DGS has reiterated the need for strict adherence to the approved salvage plan, and timely mobilisation of all personnel and equipment.

#### 5. Environmental Risks:

Refer to SITREP – 6, 1800 hrs on 28/05/2024

#### 6. Coordination Measures

Refer to SITREP – 6 for the overall coordination measures being undertaken

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