



Directorate General of Shipping

SITREP – 23, 1800 Hrs on 01/07/2025

Explosion on WAN HAI 503 (IMO no – 9294862, Flag Singapore) West of Kerala

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

1. Incident Overview:

Refer to SITREP – 2, 2200 hrs on 09/06/2025

2. Response Actions Initiated:

Refer to SITREP – 3, 2200 hrs on 10/06/2025

3. Present Status:

The salvage operations on MV Wan Hai 503 continue amidst challenging weather conditions. As of the latest update, the vessel remains approximately 130 nautical miles off the Indian coastline, positioned near the limits of the Indian EEZ. Five pumps are operational onboard, with over 5,000 cubic meters of water successfully pumped out from the flooded engine room, reducing water levels by approximately 1.75 meters. Dewatering continues, with indications of limited water ingress from Cargo Hold No. 3, which remains under assessment.

Light smoke persists forward of the accommodation block, with cargo hold temperatures stabilizing. The Offshore Warrior maintains towing operations, with the vessel holding position beyond the EEZ. Structural evaluations indicate localized heat-induced buckling between Frames 103–113; however, independent assessments by T&T Salvage, DNV, and naval architects confirm that the vessel retains structural strength and remains stable.

4. Situation Assessment:

Firefighting and dewatering operations have achieved measurable progress. Risk assessments conducted by T&T Salvage highlight that offshore oil removal remains unsafe under current conditions, with preferred options being defueling alongside a

wharf at a Port of Refuge. The salvage team continues preparations to transition from soft to wire towlines, advance dewatering, and monitor vessel integrity. A clear and definite plan for oil transfer and moving the vessel to port of refuge is expected from the owners and salvors at the earliest. If there's a delay in the salvage operation then vessel has to be towed further South to keep the vessel 200 nautical miles away from Indian Coast.

5. Navigational Hazards:

Refer to SITREP – 3, 2200 hrs on 10/06/2025

6. Coordination Measures:

Refer to SITREP – 3, 2200 hrs on 10/06/2025

7. Cargo Assessment:

Refer to SITREP – 3, 2200 hrs on 10/06/2025

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