

## Ship fire off Colombo: Indian Coast Guard rushes property, extra on standby | Information

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Chennai: Based mostly on Sri Lanka's request, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has tasked offshore patrol vessels ICGS Vaibhav and Vajra in direction of Colombo in Sri Lanka, to bolster firefighting, air pollution response efforts on MV X-Press Pearl, a container ship that's ablaze. A significant fire broke out on the ship on Tuesday morning, following an explosion, that's reportedly attributable to the collapse of containers on account of tough climate. The container ship that was on its approach from Hazira to Colombo, was anchored about 9 nautical miles (about 16kms) off Sri Lanka's main port metropolis.

The ship was carrying 1486 containers and about 25 tons of hazardous nitric acid and different chemical substances. To date, the 25 crew onboard the ship, together with 5 Indians have been evacuated. It was on twentieth Could, Thursday that fireside first broke out on the stated ship, following which it was introduced below management by Sri Lankan Port authorities by the subsequent day.

Nevertheless, on Tuesday morning, owing to tough climate almost 10 containers are stated to have fallen overboard after the explosion and resultant fire. The 325 metric tons of fuels held within the massive container vessels tanks are feared to pose a risk of oil spill within the area.

#FireFighting Main fireplace reported on MV X-Press Pearl right this moment off #Colombo after a blast occurred onboard. #ICG ships Vaibhav & Vajra being dispatched for fireplace preventing & air pollution response help on #SriLanka govt request & additionally as a part of regional obligations. [pic.twitter.com/n1CQckJpJy](https://pic.twitter.com/n1CQckJpJy)  
— Indian Coast Guard (@IndiaCoastGuard) Could 25, 2021

Moreover the 2 ICG vessels headed for the location of the hearth, their formations at Kochi, Chennai and Tuticorin are on standby for speedy help in direction of Air pollution Response. ICG is in steady coordination and communication with Srilankan authorities for the operation. ICG plane are additionally being delivered to Tuticorin from Chennai and Koch for aerial surveillance and air pollution response.

Over the past ten days week, the Indian Coast guard and Indian Navy have been engaged in monitoring, search and rescue operations throughout India's West Coast, which was struck by a really extreme cyclone 'Tauktae'. The results of this cyclone have been felt in Lakshadweep islands, Kerala, South Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, and in Gujarat the place it made landfall. At present, the ICG property are additionally deployed for search and rescue, any eventuality which will come up from the impression of Cyclone Yaas that's predicted t make landfall on India's East Coast between Odisha and West Bengal.

In Sep 2020, a significant fireplace had damaged onboard MT New Diamond, which was carrying about 2.7 lakh metric ton oil and positioned off the jap coast of Sri Lanka. Mammoth efforts by the Indian Coast guard in coordination with different companies ensured that the blaze was introduced below management, with none cases of the oil spill. The ICG has stated that, as an energetic member of the South Asia Co-operative Setting Programme (SACEP), it stays dedicated to its obligations of safeguarding the ocean atmosphere within the area.

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