

Press Release

Ennore Creek Emergency Oil Spill Recovery work completed

The emergency oil recovery work in the aftermath of oil spillage in the Ennore Creek area got over today. The work was completed in four stretches as below.

S.No	Stretch Name	Name of Agency	Distance
1	Creek mouth to Ennore bridge	Viraj Sea cleaning enterprise	1.5kms
2	Ennore Bridge to railway bridge	Sea Care Sea cleaning services	0.350kms
3	Railway bridge to entrance of Buckingham canal	Viraj Sea cleaning enterprise	1km
4	Sivanpadai Veedu to sathyamurthi nagar	Neowin India Ltd	6 kms
5	Entrance of Buckingham Canal to Sivanpadai veedu	Vens hydralift Pvt Ltd	0.1 Kms

Close to 900 people involving trained sea cleaning agencies with the support of local fishermen completed the task. The entire oil recovery and mitigation work was supervised by the State level oil spill crises management group headed by Chief Secretary Thiru Shiv Das Meena.

Tmt. Supriya Sahu, Additional Chief Secretary, Dept. of Environment, Climate Change and Forests who has been leading the teams on ground, took an overview of the affected areas with a team of officers, CPCL representatives, cleaning agencies, and impacted fishermen communities in Ennore Creek area to supervise the completion of tasks. The team took a boat ride along the four stretches viz, Buckingham Canal, Kosathalaiyar river and Ennore creek area and reviewed the completion of operations. The team observed that while the oil recovery and mitigation was over in most of the areas, deposits of oil in Mangroves needed a longer time

period, as it is a specialized task and has to be done carefully. In consultation with experts, it was decided to shift the entire focus now on cleaning oil ingress in Mangrove areas. It was further decided that for this purpose the Forest Department shall engage local fishermen through CPCL resources to undertake oil cleaning work in Mangroves with the help of smaller boats using oil boomers and soak pads. For this purpose, the Department will work on Ennore Mangroves restoration project.

The team also inspected mudflats and the breeding grounds of migratory birds. The Forest Dept. has involved volunteers to check for birds which are impacted by the oil spillage. It was decided that 4 rescue teams will start moving from tomorrow to look for birds in need of rehabilitation including pelicans.

The entire cleaning operation was undertaken by four specialised agencies viz., Viraj Sea cleaning enterprise, Sea Care sea cleaning services. Vens Hydralift Pvt. Ltd. and Neowin India Ltd. with the deployment of 128 boats, 7 JCBS, 2 tractors, 8 gully suckers, 6 poclains, 3 hydracranes, 4 pickup trucks, absorbent pads, 8 oil boomers, 6 oil skimmers and 15 tippers. A total of 105.82 KL of oily water and 393.5 tonnes of oily sludge was removed until date.

CPCL has deployed 3 ambulances with a team of specialised doctors to take care of health concerns in the impacted areas. Health Dept., Govt. of Tamil Nadu has also deployed 3 ambulances with doctors and paramedics. These facilities will continue to operate on mobile mode.

**Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Environment, Climate Change
& Forest Dept.**

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