

**GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION  
PRESS RELEASE**

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**Greater Chennai Corporation Successfully Conducted Major Oil Spill Response Mock  
Drill at Marina Beach**

Chennai, 6 October, 2025 – The Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC), in coordination with the Indian Coast Guard, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB), State Disaster Management Department, Fire and Police Departments, Chennai Port officials, ship owners, oil industry representatives, regional commanders, and international delegates, successfully conducted a large-scale oil spill response mock drill at Marina Beach today.

The exercise, held in observance of National Pollution Response Day under the chairmanship of the Director General of the Indian Coast Guard, was carried out in compliance with UN regulations and international conventions on mitigating oil spills, including MARPOL and the OPRC Convention.

**Drill Activities on Shoreline**

Following the morning's mock exercise by the Coast Guard simulating a two-ship collision and oil spill at sea, GCC led the coordinated response once the oil reached the shore in the afternoon.

More than 200 volunteers, equipped with PPE kits, participated in shoreline recovery. They registered at the designated registration point and were assigned to teams by GCC officials.

**During the drill:**

- Oil mixed with sand on the beach was sieved, separated, and transported in drums for safe disposal.
- Contaminated sand was removed and sent for treatment.
- Oil stranded in shallow waters close to the shore was collected using skimmers, absorbent pads, and other recovery equipment.
- Collected waste was taken to a segregation wing for processing before disposal.

The exercise demonstrated how municipal, port, and coastal agencies work together to remove oil and contaminated materials, clean the beach, and restore it to pre-spill condition.

**Decontamination & Closing Process**

At the end of the exercise, a full decontamination process was undertaken:

- Bins, containers, and tools used during the drill were washed and cleaned.
- Volunteers removed PPE kits, washed their hands with soap and water, and underwent debriefing.
- This signified the completion of the mock drill.

### **Equipment Deployed**

Key equipment and materials deployed during the drill included:

- Drums (60 Nos.) and Sintex Tanks (60 Nos.) for temporary storage of recovered oil and oily sand.
- JCB Loaders (2 Nos.), Bobcats (2 Nos.), and Motors (5 HP – 2 Nos.) for lifting and moving contaminated sand.
- Tractors (2 Nos.) for hauling recovered waste.
- Shovels (50 Nos.) and HD Bags (25 Nos.) for manual collection.
- Segregation Wing Units (10 Nos.) for processing oil-soaked sand.
- A fully equipped Control Room, First Aid Centre with beds, nebulizer, stitching materials, and an Ambulance on standby.
- Hook Bin and a Super Sucker with 300-meter rope stationed on the service road for heavy waste removal.

The entire area was planned with water tanks, wash/cleaning points, and access lanes to ensure smooth coordination and movement of manpower and machinery.

### **Successful Demonstration of Preparedness**

This mock drill – the fifth technical convention and sixth field exercise of its kind – successfully showcased Chennai’s preparedness to manage large-scale oil spills. It strengthened inter-agency coordination, trained volunteers in best practices, and reaffirmed the city’s commitment to protecting its coastline and marine environment.

Director General ICG, Mr. Paramesh Sivamani, Regional Commander Coast Guard East, Mr. Datwinder Singh Saini, RFEO CGRHQ (E), Mr. S Prem Kumar, Tamilnadu Fire and Rescue Services DGP/Director Mrs.Seema Agarwal, I.P.S., Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner, Mr.J. Kumaragurubaran IAS, RDC Central Mr. H.R. Koushik, I.A.S., and other Senior officials participated.

**Issued : Joint Director/Public Relations Officer,  
Greater Chennai Corporation**