

Incident Alert

Incident Report:	20/2011
Name and Type of Ship:	<i>Everbright</i> / Crude oil tanker
Date/Time of Incident:	22 Oct 11 at or about 0420 hrs (local time)
Location of incident:	09° 58.21 N, 076° 02.41' E
Area Description:	Approximately 11 nm west of Kochi Lt

Detail of Incidents

On 22 Oct 11 at or about 0420 hrs (local time), a Hong Kong-registered crude oil tanker, *Everbright* was anchored approximately 11 nm west of Kochi Lt, India (09° 58.21 N, 076° 02.41' E), when 10 robbers boarded the vessel from two small boats and stole some coils of rope. The master raised the alarm and informed Kochi Port Trust about the incident. On hearing the alarm, the robbers jumped into the water, and escaped in their small boats. The crew was not injured.

Suspecting that local fishing boats were involved, the coast guard district headquarters of Kochi issued directives to all coastal police stations, fisheries departments and marine enforcement wings to check on all landing centres and take necessary action. The coastal police and marine enforcement wings had also stepped up their patrols in the area. The India Coast Guard (ICG) had dispatched a patrol vessel to the ship to investigate. The ReCAAP ISC was informed that the ship was not held back for investigation by the authorities.

Reported by

ReCAAP Focal Point (India)

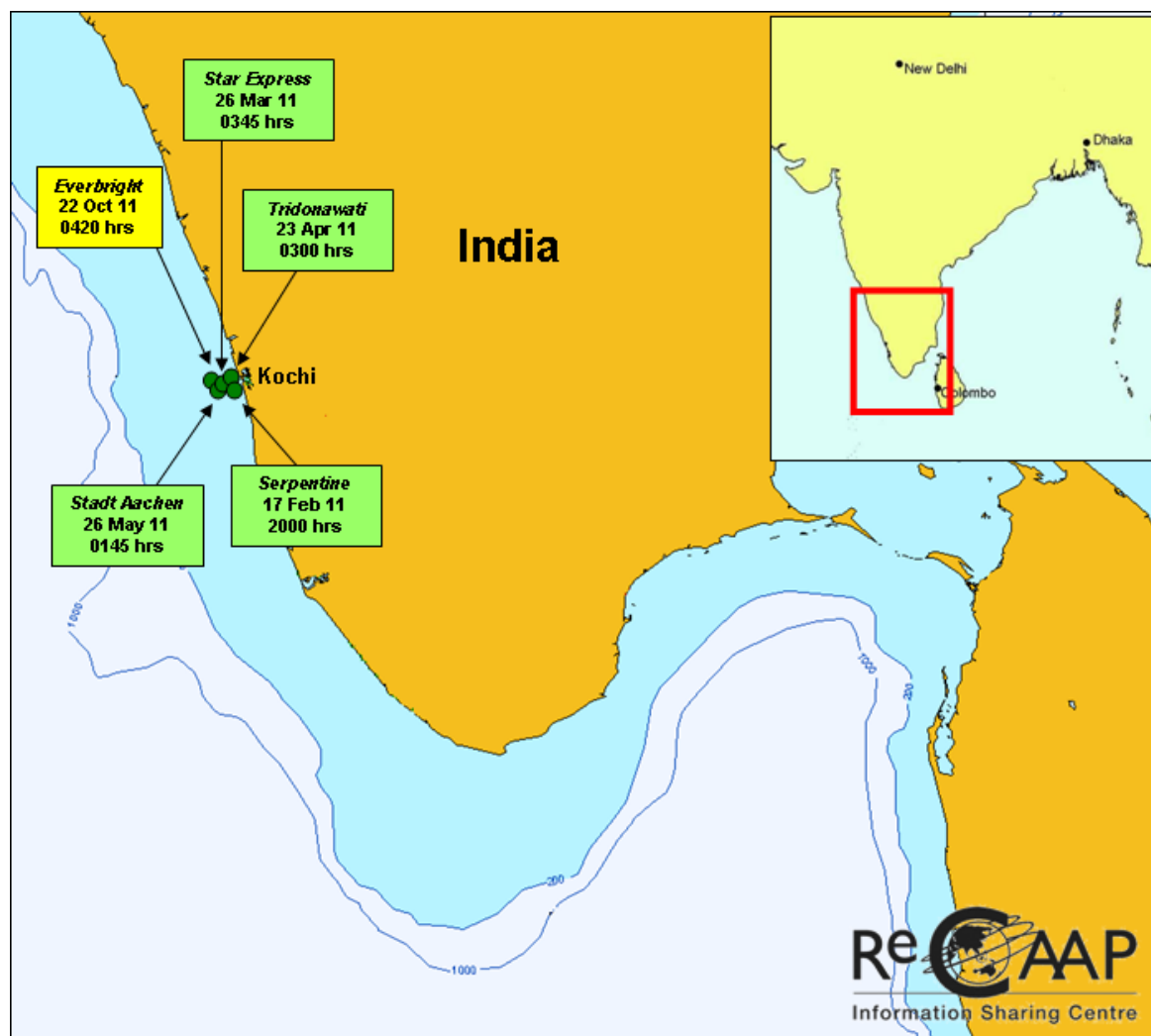
Comments by ReCAAP ISC

This is the fifth incident reported in the vicinity of Kochi anchorage, India since January 2011. Please see map on the approximate location of the incidents. All five incidents were petty theft cases which occurred under the cover of darkness. The favourable weather condition along the west coast of India enables robbers to come alongside a merchant vessel while at anchor, board the vessel from their boats, steal items such as ropes; and escape immediately on being detected without harming the crew.



Incident Alert

The ReCAAP ISC advises ship masters and crew to exercise enhanced vigilance with all around look-out, and take necessary precautionary measures when in the vicinity especially during hours of darkness. Ship masters are encouraged to report all incidents to the coastal State and flag State immediately so that assistance may be rendered to the victim ship. Timely reporting enables the authorities to proceed to the incident area immediately, and in some past incidents, the authorities managed to arrest the culprits and recover the stolen items.



Approximate location of Incidents

