

**SOUTH ASIA  
REGIONAL OIL SPILL RESPONSE DELEGATION  
HAWAIIAN SITE VISIT  
APRIL 13-17, 2015**

SUBJECT: South Asia Oil Spill Response Delegation Site Visit, Honolulu, Hawaii, 13-17 April 2015

- a. Issue: Proposed South Asia Oil Spill Response Delegation Site Visit to Honolulu, Hawaii.
  - b. Summary: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), U.S. Navy Supervisor of Salvage and PCCI supported the U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) in executing a South Asia Oil Spill Response Workshop in Colombo, Sri Lanka during 11-13 November 2014.
  - c. Discussion: The South Asia Oil Spill Response Workshop was successfully completed in partnership with the Sri Lanka Navy, Sri Lanka Coast Guard, Sri Lanka Air Force, Sri Lanka Disaster Management Center, Sri Lanka Marine Environment Protection Authority, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Ceylon Petroleum Corporation, Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Army, Maldives Defense Forces, U.S. Navy Supervisor of Salvage and Diving (SUPSALV), and South Asia Co-Operative Environment Programme (SACEP). In short, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the Maldives lack the necessary resources and expertise to adequately combat oil spills within their territorial waters. These countries have shown great interest in wanting to become better prepared for such regional contingencies.
  - d. Opportunities Identified: Rear Admiral SS Ranasinghe, the Sri Lanka Coast Guard Director General, discussed future engagement opportunities with the U.S. delegation during the November 2014 workshop which included attending a U.S. Navy oil spill equipment deployment exercise in Honolulu, Hawaii.
1. EVENT DATES: 13-17 April 2015
  2. EVENT LOCATION: Honolulu, Hawaii
  3. BACKGROUND: USPACOM sponsored a regional oil spill response workshop to enhance regional oil spill response readiness in South Asia. The workshop focused on oil spill equipment capability and limitations, spill response coordination between regional stakeholders, to promote

the criticality of communications between stakeholders during an oil spill response, and to share lessons-learned as well as best practices from recent oil spill response efforts around the world.

4. MISSION: To provide South Asian Navy and Coast Guard delegates an opportunity to observe a U.S. Navy oil spill response equipment deployment exercise in Honolulu, HI; tour the U.S. Navy Emergency Ship Salvage Material (ESSM) warehouse which stores the U.S. Navy's pollution and salvage response equipment and receive a spill equipment overview; engage with U.S. Navy spill response managers; meet with U.S. Coast Guard representatives to discuss the U.S. Coast Guard's role and mission related to maritime safety and response; and receive a tour and briefing of the Hawaiian Response Center which jointly houses Clean Island Council and the Marine Spill Response Limited (MSRC) organization.

5. PURPOSE: To enhance regional oil spill response capacity in South Asia, to demonstrate oil spill response equipment capability for South Asian regional stakeholders, to promote communication on oil spill response readiness, to share lessons-learned and best practices from recent oil spill response efforts around the world, and to increase collaborative response efforts to protect natural resources and the environment.

6. VISION: To build military resilience to the impacts of climate change and mature environmental security partnerships, diplomacy and awareness in the Pacific region.

7. COUNTRIES DISCUSSED: Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka, United States

9. AGENDA: Reference enclosed documents.