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Indian Navy helps douse fire on UK oil tanker attacked by Houthis in Gulf of Aden

The Indian Navy had responded to a distress call and rushed its guided missile destroyer INS Visakhapatnam after a British oil tanker was attacked by Houthis.

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The fire on the oil tanker has been brought under control after six hours. (Image: X/@indiannavy)

Manjeet Singh Negi
New Delhi, UPDATED: Jan 28, 2024 07:00 IST
Edited By: Mohammad Bilal

Fire on British oil tanker Marlin Luanda in the Gulf of Aden has been doused by the combined efforts of Indian, US, and French Navy personnel. Twenty-two Indians were onboard the oil tanker, which was attacked by Yemen's Houthi on January 26.

"Ten Indian Naval personnel with specialist fire fighting equipment embarked MV Marlin Luanda in the early hours of January 27. After six hours of battling the fire along with the crew of MV Marlin Luanda, the Indian Naval fire fighting team has successfully brought the fire under control," the Navy said.

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The Indian Navy's guided missile destroyer, INS Visakhapatnam, had responded to the distress call from the oil tanker.

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In a video, Captain Abhilash Rawat, Master of MV Marlin Luanda, thanked the Indian Navy for helping the British oil tanker during a tough time.

"Half of the world knows that yesterday, we were struck by a missile in the Gulf of Aden. Due to the attack, our vessel was on massive fire. I would really like to thank Indian warship INS Visakhapatnam; we had lost hopes, but these (Indian Navy) guys have done a tremendous (firefighting) job. They really went out of the book to help us out," Captain Abhilash Rawat told news agency PTI.

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Responding to the distress call from MV Marlin Luanda PM 26 Jan, INS Visakhapatnam proceeded to provide assistance. A US and French warship also responded to the distress call.

The fuel tanker was operated on behalf of the trading firm Trafigura, and the company confirmed that a missile struck the Marlin Luanda as it transited the Red Sea.

Along with the British oil tanker, a US warship, the destroyer USS Carney, was also attacked by the Houthi group.

Published By: Mohammed Bilal

Published On: Jan 28, 2024

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