

COAST GUARD HELICOPTER RECOVER TWO DROWNED BODIES OFF MARINA BEACH

Chennai-15 May 16. Coast Guard helicopter CG 801, has recovered bodies of two boys from Marina Beach this morning.

On 14 May 16, at around 1840 hours Coast Guard Maritime Rescue Co-ordination Centre (MRCC) Chennai received information from Coastal Security Group regarding drowning of two boys off Marina Beach at about 1740 hours. On receipt of the information the CSG boats were deployed immediately along with the beach patrol party from the Police for the search of drowned persons. The Coast Guard launched Search and Rescue operation by first light on 15 May 16. During extensive search operation conducted by Coast Guard helicopter in two sorties which lasted for two hours forty five minutes, the helicopter has recovered two bodies both off Marina beach. The bodies were subsequently handed over to local police for necessary formalities.

It is understood that the two students namely Srinivasan and Sivagurunathan aged 17 and 16 years respectively came to the beach for summer excursion and were bathing behind Gandhi statue. Due to the strong tidal current along the Marina beach and steep variant depths the sea swimming is generally not safe. The Indian Coast Guard has been regularly sensitizing the local populace not to venture to sea for beach swimming to avoid drowning incident/loss of life.