



CAUSES OF DISTRESS AT SEA

*Maritime Rescue Coordination Center
(MRCC)*

THREE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS



- ❖ What is an emergency situation for small boat at sea?
- ❖ How can you prepare for an emergency situation?
- ❖ How should you respond to an emergency?

COMPOUND PROBLEM

A compound problem makes the initial problem situation turns into **Emergency**

Initial problem → Compound problem → Emergency situation

Compound Problem EXAMPLE

Initial Problem: boat filled with water by large wave

Compound Problem: no pumps/bailers and floatation devices

Emergency Situation: life at risk through possible drowning

WHAT CAUSES EMERGENCY SITUATIONS ?



Human Error

- ❖ Why problems & emergencies occurred?
- ❖ Why boat don't carry tools, spare fuel, auxilliary power, floatation devices?
- ❖ Why did the engine breakdown?
- ❖ Why were the navigation skills missing?



HUMAN ERROR

Emergency situation happens because....

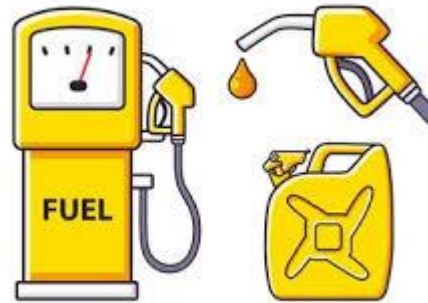
- ❖ Nobody had put the tools, spare parts, fuel on board.
- ❖ Nobody had checked the engine prior to departure.
- ❖ Nobody bothered to check weather update prior to departure



YOU

DEPARTURE CHECKLIST

- Weather
- Shore-based contact
- Safety equipment
- Gear and equipment
- Engine



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ENEMIES OF DRIFTING, LOST AT SEA

- Thirsty or lack of water
- Hypothermia (lack of clothing/shelter)
- Hyperthermia (heat of sun)
- Hunger
- Bad weather
- Being missed by search and rescue team
- **Discouragement**

POINTS TO NOTE

To Summarize...

- ❖ Emergency occurred when problem experienced, and you are not equipped or not capable of solving the problem.
- ❖ A situation, if not controlled or managed, will place human life at risk



REMEMBER: Avoid Human Error!



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