



GREENPEACE
South Asia

WITNESS

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WThis quarter marked a turning point for South Asia's growing climate and ocean justice movements. Across our coasts and cities, communities, fishers, and youth stood shoulder to shoulder, demanding accountability from those driving the crisis and re-imagining a fairer, more resilient future.

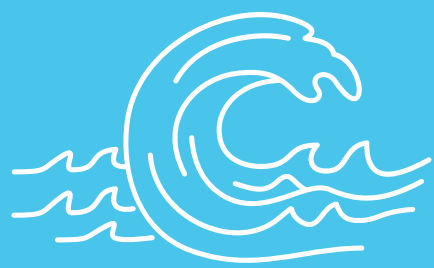
In Kerala and Colombo, the call for justice after the MSC ELSA 3 shipwreck grew louder than ever. From direct engagement at MSC offices to the release of a white paper and thousands of postcards sent by supporters, our message was clear: the polluter must pay. In September, local communities, volunteers and Greenpeace activists took to the waters in Kochi, demanding compensation for affected fishers and transparency in clean-up efforts — a demand later reinforced when the Kerala High Court ordered MSC to deposit interim security.

Meanwhile, in Dhaka, our new heat-stress policy paper and public dialogue reframed climate protection as a right to work with dignity. Across Nepal and beyond, young activists revived Sarees for Solidarity with renewed energy, linking climate accountability with everyday resilience.

Every action this quarter, from the oceans to the streets, carried a shared conviction: South Asia's people are not victims of this crisis; they are its most powerful force for change.

THE COST OF CORPORATE NEGLIGENCE AND FIGHT FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

OCEANS



Weeks after the MSC ELSA 3 sank off Kerala, India, its fallout continued. Boats lay wrecked, livelihoods erased, and the coast itself bore the mark of neglect. A joint white paper released at a press conference with civil-society allies dismantled MSC’s narrative, documenting the full scale of damage and calling for a transparent clean-up plan with independent monitoring and for the polluter to bear the cost. The white paper release was supported by striking visuals of on-water protest in Muthalapozhi, where coastal families sailed boats bearing symbolic banners across the harbour, demanding accountability for the environmental and economic devastation caused by the shipwreck.

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DOCUMENTING THE DAMAGE: WRECKED FUTURES

On September 16, Greenpeace South Asia released the Wrecked Futures report, offering a comprehensive account of the shipwreck's impact on coastal livelihoods. The study revealed that families in Pulluvila alone lost an average of ₹29,000 per month after their boats and nets were destroyed, pushing already marginalised communities deeper into debt. The report calls for swift compensation, government support for claim filing, and long-term ecosystem restoration. The findings directly counter MSC's claims that the shipwreck caused no significant environmental or human harm.



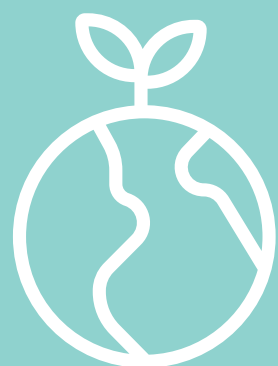
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SUSTAINED PRESSURE AND A LEGAL BREAKTHROUGH

From challenging MSC's false claims, mailing 5,000+ postcards, and writing letters to company offices across four countries, we turned public outrage into pressure that MSC could no longer ignore. Even as the company offered a token ₹132 crore against the Kerala government's ₹9,351 crore damage assessment — and summoned fishers to appear in a Mumbai court through newspaper notices — the push for justice grew louder. That persistence paid off. The Kerala High Court has now ordered MSC to deposit ₹1,277 crore as interim security for vessel Akiteta II, which was arrested in relation to the sinking of its sister ship, the MSC Elsa 3. This is a breakthrough for affected fishers and a warning to corporations that disasters at sea will not be written off as collateral damage.

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CLIMATE JUSTICE



DHAKA HEAT STRESS PROTECTION: POLICY FOR PEOPLE

This analysis examines how deadly heat intersects with inequality in the capital, tracing the link between temperature spikes and mortality. The findings strengthen our call for recognising heatwaves as disasters and building systems where access to shade, water, and care are guaranteed rights—not privileges.



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CITY FORWARD IMAGINARIUM: RE-IMAGINING URBAN FUTURES

City Forward Imaginarium began with a simple belief: cities thrive when people imagine them differently. Through workshops and collaborations, residents, planners, and artists are re-envisioning neighbourhoods designed around care, not cars — proving that sustainability can be both practical and poetic. In the coming months, we will be coming to your city to re-imagine our collective futures.



CITY FORWARD



ANISH KAPOOR'S 'BUTCHERED' ON A NORTH SEA RIG

Anish Kapoor's monumental installation, unveiled by Greenpeace activists on a decommissioned North Sea gas rig, captured one word: 'BUTCHERED'. The work condemned fossil-fuel destruction and turned an industrial relic into a public act of resistance.

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**A WORD
FROM
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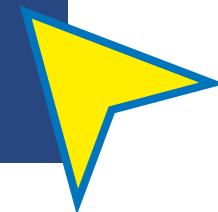
STILL NO PLASTICS TREATY

Anish Kapoor's monumental installation, unveiled by Greenpeace activists on a decommissioned North Sea gas rig, captured one word: 'BUTCHERED'. The work condemned fossil-fuel destruction and turned an industrial relic into a public act of resistance.

**A WORD
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KNOWLEDGE HUB

PLASTIC PRODUCTION AND TOXIC AIR: A HIDDEN CRISIS

A Greenpeace International report warns that millions, especially in the Global South, are breathing toxic air from plastic production and incineration. The findings make one thing clear: to clean the air, we must cut plastic at its source.

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A close-up photograph of a person with dark hair and tattoos on their face and neck. They are looking upwards and to the right with a contemplative expression. They are wearing a white turtleneck and a dark jacket. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a crowd or a public event.

KNOWLEDGE HUB

THE RAINBOW WARRIOR: FORTY YEARS OF HOPE IN ACTION

Forty years after the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, we reflect on how an attempt to silence dissent instead inspired generations of courage. The ship remains a living symbol of persistence and the power of peaceful resistance. What can we learn from those who started this fight?

YOUTH VOICES RISE IN NEPAL

To mark International Youth Day on August 12, more than 200 young changemakers from across Nepal came together under the theme Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond. Reviving Sarees for Solidarity, they turned six-yard sarees into canvases demanding climate accountability and exposing the oil and gas giants driving extreme weather. These sarees will travel to COP30 in Brazil, carrying youth and worker voices that insist: polluters must pay.

ACTION BOX



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AT SEA FOR JUSTICE: CREATIVE INTERVENTION BOLDLY CALLS OUT BIG POLLUTER

On 18 September, Greenpeace activists staged a powerful on-water demonstration in front of an MSC container ship in Kochi, demanding justice for fishers wrecked by the MSC ELSA 3 shipwreck. The action echoed the findings of Wrecked Futures and amplified calls for compensation and clean-up. On September 25, the Kerala High Court ordered MSC to deposit ₹1,277 crore as interim security, marking a significant win for coastal communities.



**ACTION
BOX**

GLOBAL OCEAN TREATY COMES TO LIFE !

IMPACT BOX

The Global Ocean Treaty reached a defining milestone this September as it secured its 60th ratification, setting it on course to enter into force in January 2026. This comes after decades of campaigning by Greenpeace and other civil society organisations. Now, Greenpeace has called on governments to move swiftly from signatures to action by designating high-seas sanctuaries that protect marine life beyond borders.

Within South Asia, the Maldives, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka have ensured the region a seat at the table by ratifying the treaty in time. India and Nepal, though signatories, have yet to complete ratification, a step that will be crucial if they are to participate fully in shaping global ocean governance and the creation of future marine sanctuaries.

Greenpeace South Asia has left no stone unturned while advocating for the signing and ratification of the treaty in Sri Lanka. From awareness drives to advocacy with key stakeholders, our team in Sri Lanka has been busy, with the island nation now taking the lead on this front.



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