

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

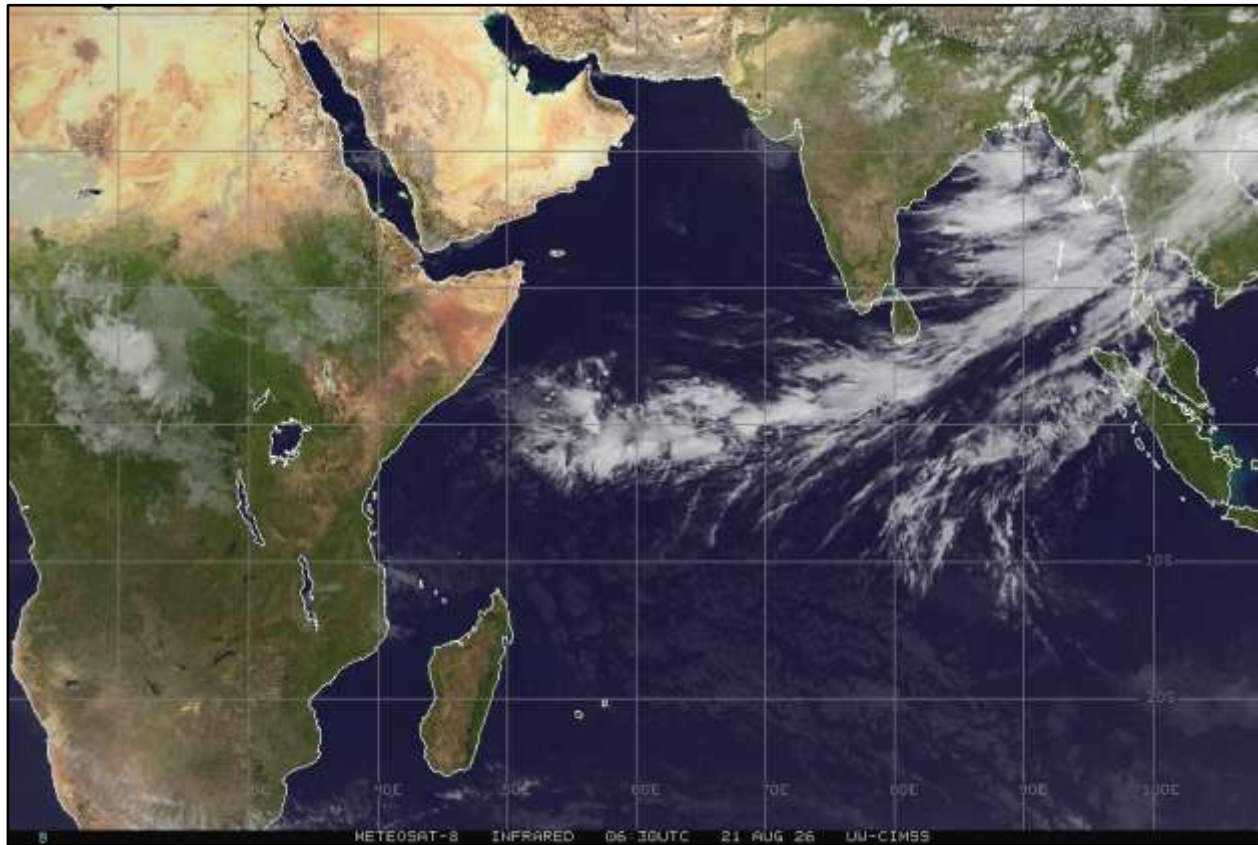
Date 2026.08.21

IFC -Colombo

WEATHER FORECAST



Weather Forecast for Next 24 hrs



FLEET FORECAST

Fleet Forecast for Area – E

Issued by the National Meteorological Center, Department of Meteorology Sri Lanka.

Valid period: 2026.08.21/0600UTC to 2026.08.21/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.08.21

To: CBO Radio/Fisheries/SL Navy/CBO Port/Coast Guard

Shear line is approximately along: 02N 60E, 01N 70E, 01S 80E, 03N 90E, 06N 100E

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections: 25, 30, 40, 45, 50, 70.

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 05, 10, 15, 20, 35, 85.

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line:

West of 70E : SW'ly to W'ly / (10-15) kts.

in between 70E to 77E : W'ly to NW'ly / (10-15) kts.

East of 77E : SW'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in sections 05, 10 and 15.

South of Shear line:

SE'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 80.

Seas:

Fairly rough, rough at times in sections : 05, 10.

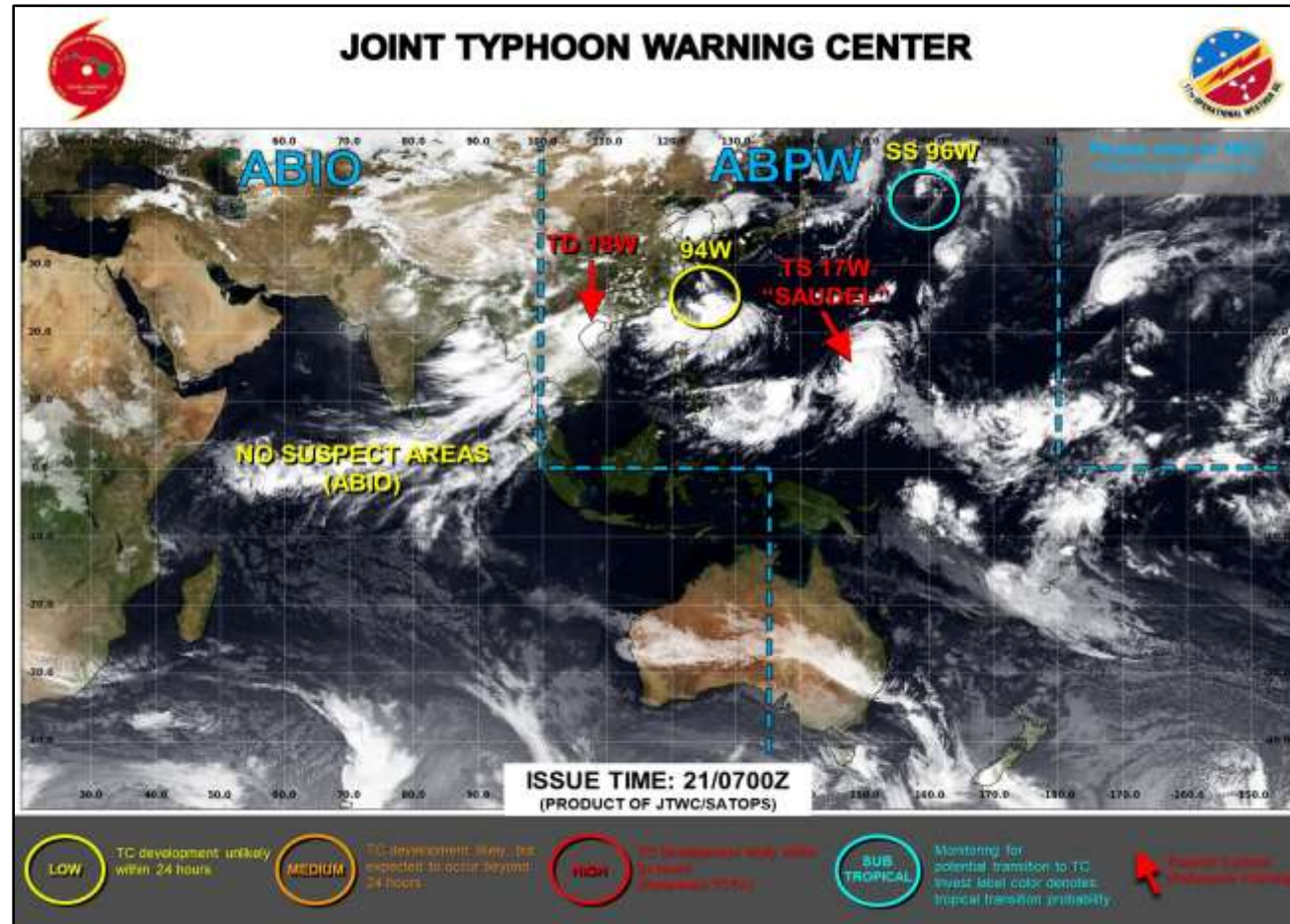
Moderate, fairly rough at times in sections : 15, 80

Moderate in sections : 30, 40, 45, 60, 65, 70, 85.

Slight to moderate elsewhere.

• Source: 1. <https://meteo.gov.lk> 2. <https://www.srilankaview.com/weather.htm>

CYCLONE



• Source: <https://www.metoc.dcn.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>



TROPICAL CYCLONE "SAUDEL"





TROPICAL CYCLONE "EIGHTEEN"



SUMMARY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	01
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
 Smuggling	01
 IUU Fishing	NIL
 Narcotic	01
 Irregular Human Migration	NIL
 Marine Environment Pollution	01
 Other	01
Total Incidents	06

MARITIME INCIDENTS



21 Aug/ Gia Lai Border Guard Saves 12 Fishermen as Vessel Sinks /Vietnam

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/ REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.21	Vietnam	Gia Lai Border	Capsizing /Sinking	-	Currently, the waters off Gia Lai face strong winds, rough seas, and adverse weather. The Cat Khanh Border Guard Station is coordinating communication and mobilizing extra fishing vessels from De Gi Fishing Port to manage the situation.

On 21 Aug 26 a fishing vessel GL-99322-TS, sank off An Luong Commune, but all 12 crew members were rescued by the Cat Khanh Border Guard Station. The captain, Cao Thanh Phuc, reported the emergency as the vessel began taking on water. The border guard executed a rapid rescue operation, leveraging nearby vessels and personnel. All fishermen were safely transferred to another vessel, GL-30036-TS, and their health is stable, though the original vessel ultimately sank due to flooding and rough seas.



Source -: https://en.sggp.org.vn/gia-lai-border-guard-saves-12-fishermen-as-vessel-sinks-post129085.html?utm_source=chatgpt.com

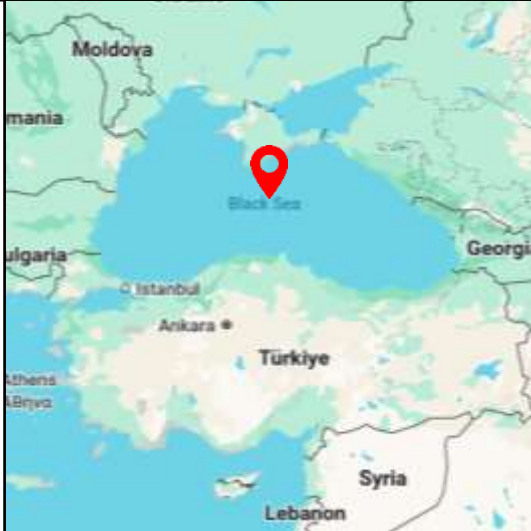


PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY

18 Aug/ Five Grain-Carrying Ships Attacked Off Russian Ports/ Russia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/ REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.18	Russia	ports of Novorossiysk and Tuapse	Assault violations	Name:-VICTORIA V Name:-FEHU Name:-THE ELINA B Name:-NECIBE Name:-ANNA S	Russia and Ukraine have escalated attacks on grain-carrying vessels, affecting global wheat exports, of which they supply approximately 25%. These attacks near ports are causing alarm among charterers and shipowners, jeopardizing shipping, marine insurance, and global grain distribution.

Five grain-carrying bulk carriers were attacked near the Russian ports of Novorossiysk and Tuapse, with incidents reported on 17 and 18 Aug 26. The Russian-flagged VICTORIA V was struck at Novorossiysk before loading wheat; the FEHU, flagged by the Marshall Islands, was hit post-departure but continued its journey. THE ELINA B, flagged in Malta, was attacked en route to the Bosphorus after loading 56,000 tonnes of wheat, while the NECIBE, from San Marino, was assaulted at Tuapse after loading 20,000 tonnes. Lastly, the Liberian-flagged ANNA S was also attacked while heading to Novorossiysk to load barley. Following a major strike by Ukrainian forces on 12 Aug 26 targeting Novorossiysk's port infrastructure, exports have faced significant disruptions.



Source -: <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/15/maritime-security/2026/13184/five-grain-carrying-ships-attacked-off-russian-ports>



17 Aug/Indonesia Makes 2.6 Ton Drug Bust on Tanzanian Ship with False ID /Indonesia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.17	Indonesia	off Bengkalis	Seizure of narcotics	Name-Ocean Porter,Rain Wind, Rain Maker	The ship, operating under the names OCEAN PORTER, RAIN WIND, or RAIN MAKER, is registered in Tanzania and was sold in 2025. Its owner is based in Taiwan. Built in 2003, it is a cargo ship with a capacity of 1,480 dwt..

Indonesian authorities conducted a major drug bust on 17 Aug 26 seizing 2.6 tons of liquid methamphetamine and arresting 10 Myanmar nationals aboard a cargo ship from Malaysia. The operation was based on intelligence and involved customs officials. The drugs were found in eight 200-liter drums and a 1,000-liter water tank. Additionally, authorities discovered 1.5 million illegal Chinese cigarettes without tax stamps in a 40-foot container on the vessel.



Source -: https://maritime-executive.com/article/indonesia-makes-2-6-ton-drug-bust-on-tanzanian-ship-with-false-id?utm_source=chatgpt.com

SMUGGLING



20 Aug/Navy Seizes Smuggled Dried Ginger, Cardamom Husks and Pesticides / Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.18	Sri Lanka	Thalawila beach	Contraband /Goods smuggling	-	The seized items were handed over to the Kalpitiya Police for further legal action.

The Navy conducted a search operation at Thalawila beach in Kalpitiya on 20 Aug 26, seizing 591 kg of dried ginger 75 kg of cardamom husks and 300 bottles of pesticide from 16 abandoned parcels. The operation was executed by personnel from SLNS Bharana of the Northwestern Naval Command.



Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/august/navy-seizes-smuggled-dried-ginger,-cardamom-husks-and-pesticides-in-thalawila-beach.html>

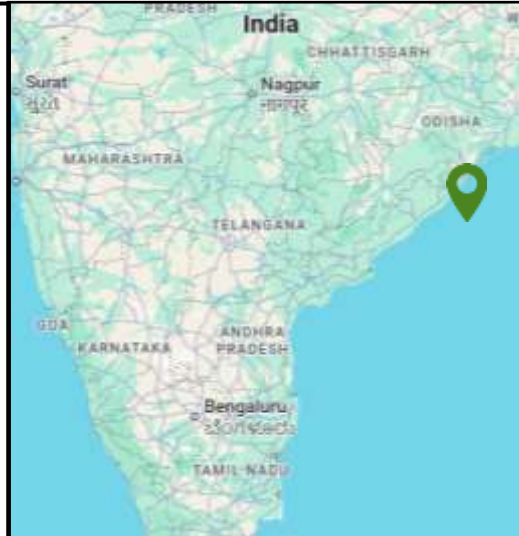
MARINE ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



21 Aug/Microplastics Found in Fish Near Vizag / India

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.21	India	Vizag Harbour	Plastic and waste pollution	-	Scientists will keep researching microplastics in seafood to understand their impact on the food chain and potential human health effects. Experts emphasize that reducing plastic pollution is crucial for protecting marine ecosystems and ensuring cleaner seafood sources.

A recent study from Andhra University found microplastics in the edible muscle of fish near Visakhapatnam Harbour, highlighting concerns regarding plastic pollution in marine environments and seafood safety. Analyzing 130 fish, primarily anchovies and Indian ribbonfish, the study detected microplastics in about 94% of the samples, averaging eight particles per fish. The presence of microplastics, which can enter the ocean through various forms of waste, illustrates the increasing plastic pollution problem that affects marine ecosystems and potentially human health.



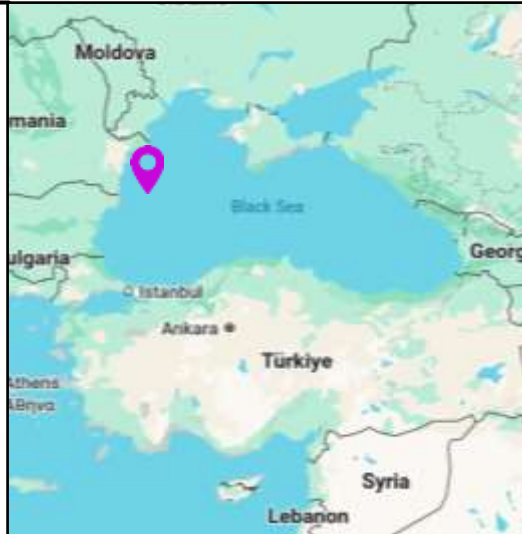
Source -: <https://www.chennaionline.com/news/microplastics-found-in-fish-near-vizag-harbour/>



20 Aug/ Romania Destroyed A Maritime Drone Near The Neptun Deep Gas Project/ Romania

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/ REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.08.20	Romania	Black Sea	Other Military /Coastguard activities	maritime drone	On the same day, the Armed Forces of Ukraine confirmed an unmanned Ukrainian boat drifted near the coast and exploded. The Foreign Ministry indicated ongoing communication between the two countries through their institutions..

Romania deployed F-16 fighter jets to destroy a maritime drone near the Neptun Deep gas project in the Black Sea, as reported by Defense Minister Radu Miruce. This decision aimed to protect workers and critical infrastructure. The drone, which Ukraine claimed did not belong to its forces, raised accusations against Russia, with President Dan Nikushor condemning the increasing incidents attributed to the Russian Federation. The situation illustrates the escalating threat to Romania's energy infrastructure amidst the ongoing conflict involving Ukraine. Earlier in June, a similar drone incident occurred in Constanța, further highlighting these risks..



Source -: <https://news.liga.net/en/amp/world/news/romania-destroyed-a-maritime-drone-near-the-neptun-deep-gas-project>



Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

DISCLAIMER

The information in this report has been sourced from various internal and external parties, including international and local stakeholders, maritime agencies, and open sources. The report analyzes incidents to identify trends and discrepancies, aiming to improve the safety and security of mariners and seafarers. While efforts have been made to ensure data accuracy, users should exercise due diligence. Some incident locations may be approximate. IFC-Colombo requests stakeholders' cooperation in reporting incidents for more accurate analysis of maritime threats. The views expressed in this report do not reflect those of the Sri Lanka Navy or Government of Sri Lanka.

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