

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



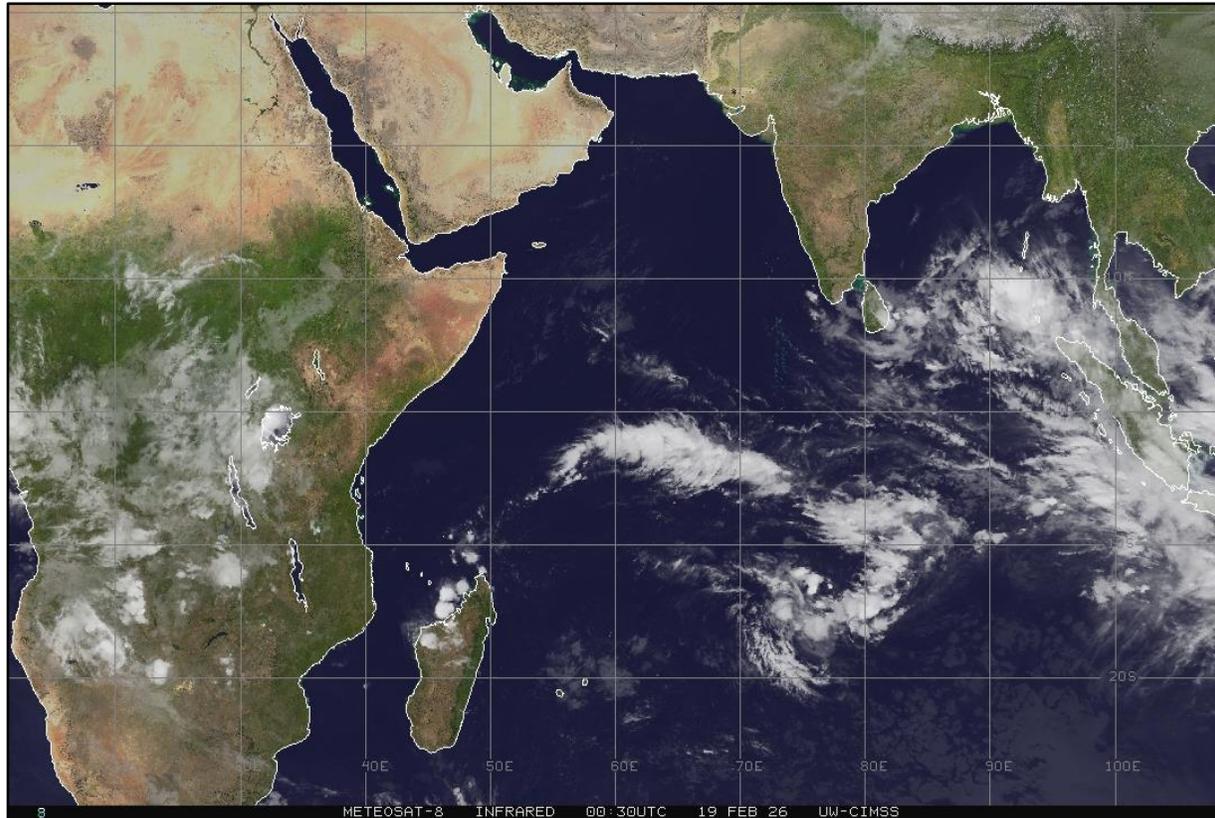
Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

Date 2026.02.19

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: 2026.02.19/0600UTC to 2026.02.19/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.02.19

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

Shear line is approximately along : 03N 60E, 03N 70E, 02N 80E, 07N 90E, 05N 100E

ITCZ is approximately along : 05S 60E, 06S 70E, 09S 80E, 10S 90E, 05S 100E

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections : 10, 15, 30, 35, 40, 55, 65, 75, 80, 85

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 05, 25, 45, 50, 60, 70

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line

West of 73E: NE'y / (10-15)kts.

In between 73E and 92E: Cyclonic / (15-20) kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in sections 05, 10, 25, 30.

East of 92E: SE'y / (15-20)kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in section 15

In-between Shear line and ITCZ:

West of 80E: NW'y / (15-25)kts; gusting up to (30-35) kts in sections 65

East of 80E: SW'y or W'y / (10-20)kts; gusting up to 25 kts in section 55, 70, 75

South of ITCZ:

SE'y or S'y / (15-20)kts; gusting up to (25-30) kts in sections 80, 85

Seas:

Rough, very rough at times in sections : 65, 80

Rough in sections : 15, 85

Fairly rough, rough at times in sections : 05, 10, 25, 30, 75

Moderate, fairly rough at times in sections : 40, 45, 55, 70

Slight to Moderate elsewhere.

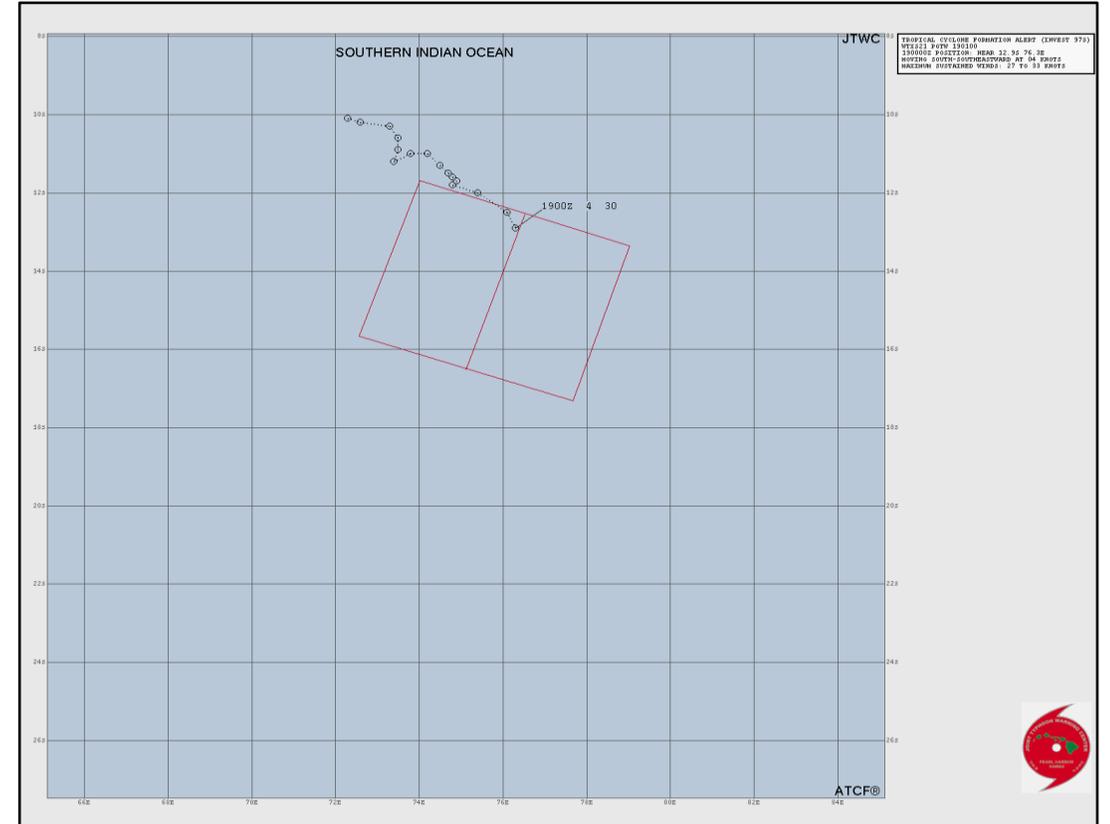
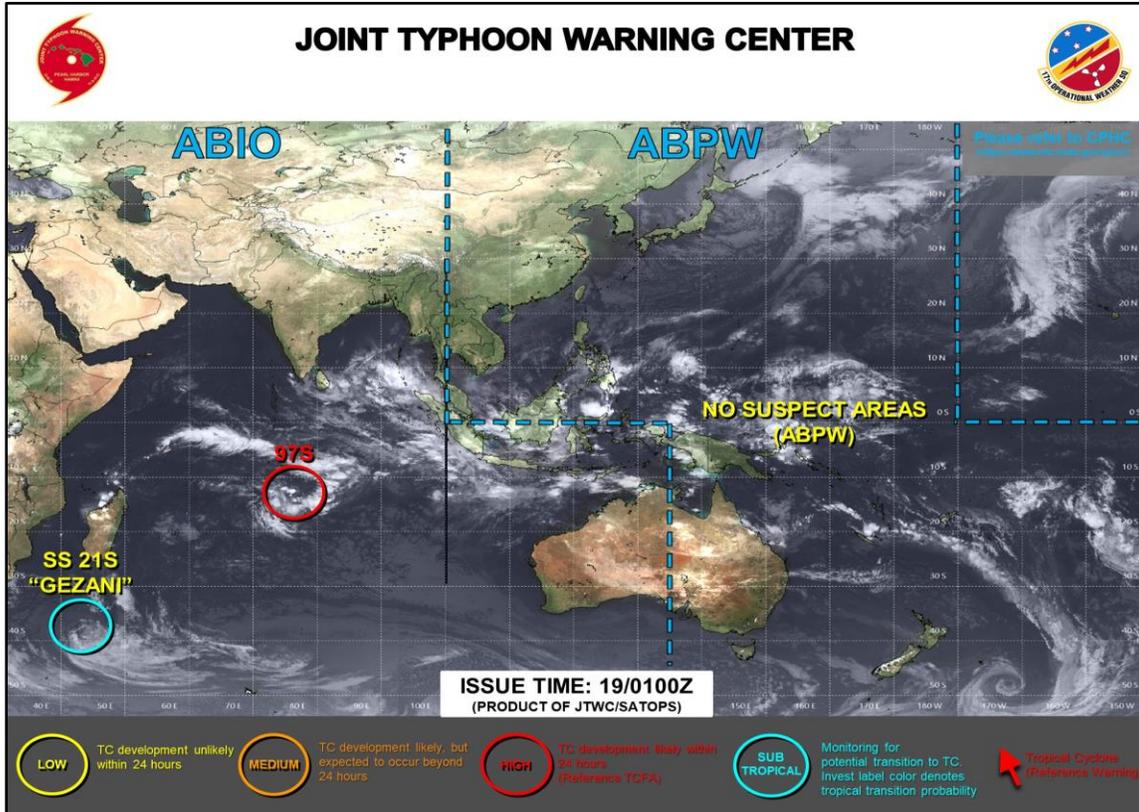
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershower

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

CYCLONE



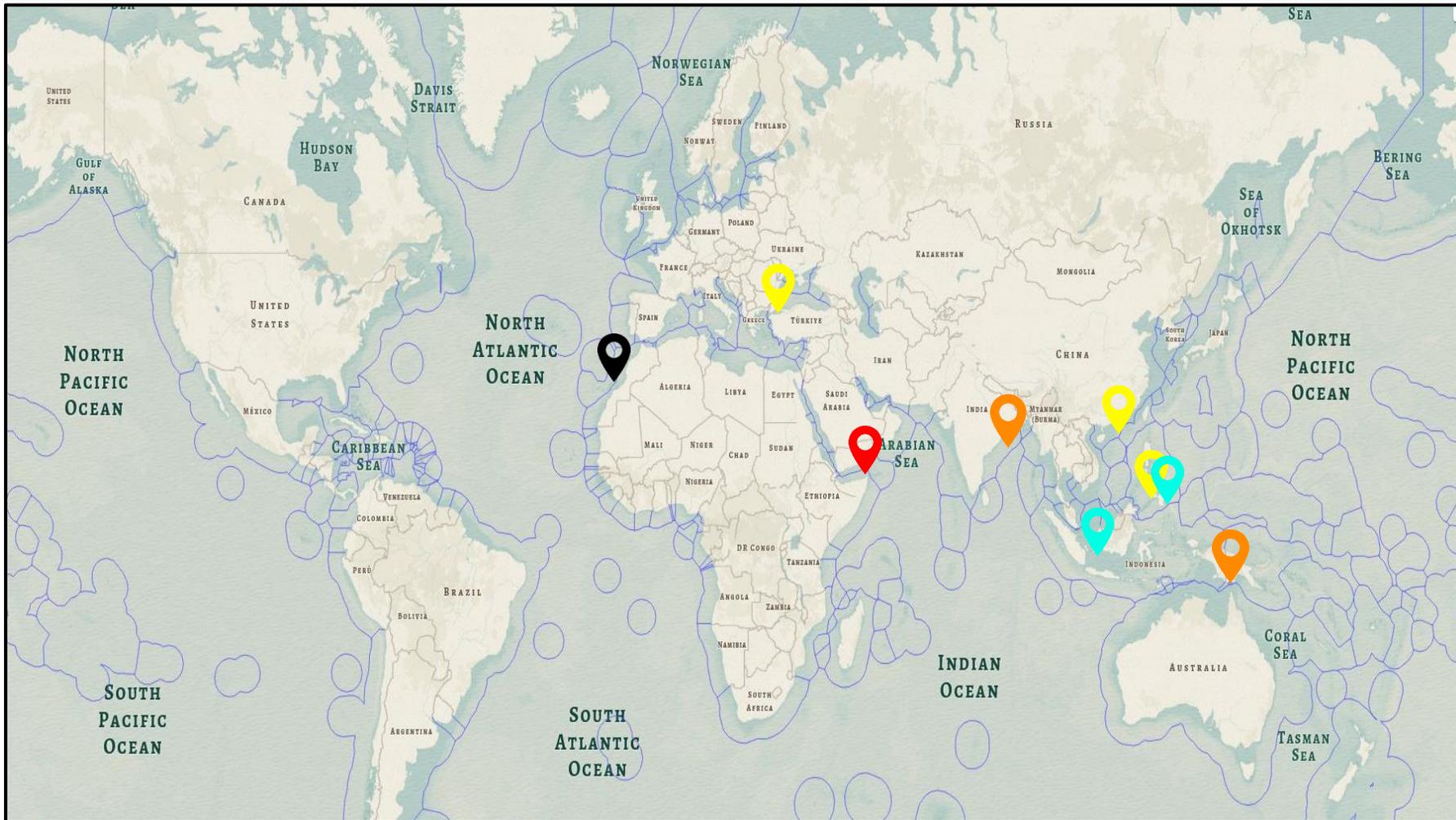
Tropical Cyclone "Gezani" and DP 97S



• Source: <https://www.metoc.dc3n.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html>



SUMMERY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
Maritime Incidents	03
Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
Smuggling	02
IUU Fishing	02
Narcotic	NIL
Irregular Human Migration	01
Marine Environment Pollution	NIL
Other	NIL
Total Incidents	09

MARITIME INCIDENTS



17 Feb/ Death toll in ferry disaster rises to 62/ Philippines

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.17	Philippines	Coast of basilan	Rescue Operations	Ferry	Investigations are ongoing regarding the cause of the accident and the number of missing persons. Maritime safety in the Philippines is a concern due to frequent tropical storms, poorly maintained vessels, and overcrowding.

The death toll from the ferry disaster off Basilan province in the southern Philippines has risen to 62, according to the Philippine Coast Guard. Recovery efforts continue, with divers retrieving more bodies despite challenging maritime conditions. Authorities maintain high alert as they seek to locate any remaining passengers.



Source -: <https://operativmm.az/en/post/death-toll-in-philippines-ferry-disaster-rises-to-62/67463>

MARITIME INCIDENTS



17 Feb/ Two Killed in Engine Room Fire Aboard cargo vessel /China

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.17	China	Off China	Fire /Explosion	Name – Mandy Flag – Singapore Type – Cargo	At the time of the incident, the vessel was sailing from Singapore. The operator has since arranged for the ship to be towed to Yantai Port, China.

A fatal fire broke out aboard the Singapore-flagged bulk carrier Mandy off Shandong China on 17 Feb 26 resulting in the deaths of two crew members and injuries to another. The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) stated that fire originated in the engine room of the vessel at approximately 0735 pm Singapore time. The blaze was brought under control and was later extinguished by the crew.



Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/14/accidents/2026/12706/two-killed-in-engine-room-fire-aboard-singapore-flagged-mand>

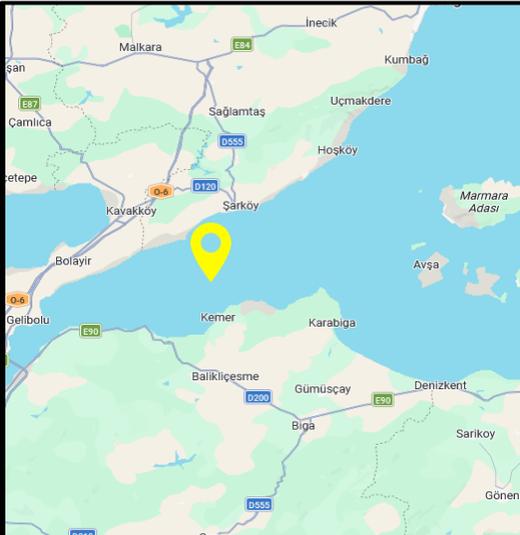
MARITIME INCIDENTS



17 Feb/Cargo Vessel "Yangze Venus" Suffers Breakdown in/ Turkish

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.17	Turkish	Coast of Gelibolu	Mechanical Failure	Name – Yangze Venus Flag – Marshall Islands Type – Cargo	Yangze Venus is a Marshall-Island-flagged vessel built in 2013. The vessel measures 137 meters long, 18.9 meters wide, and has a carrying capacity of 12,094 tonnes.

On 17 Feb 26 the cargo vessel Yangze Venus suffered a machinery failure off the coast of Gelibolu while en route from Karabiga Canakkale to Italy. No injuries or pollution were reported. The vessel experienced a breakdown approximately 17 nautical miles off Gelibolu in open waters off Sarkoy, Turkey. The incident was coordinated by the Canakkale Ship Traffic Services (VTS) Center.



Source - : <https://www.marinetraffic.com/en/maritime-news/undefined/accidents/2026/12704/cargo-vessel-yangze-venus-suffers-breakdown-in-turkish-water>

PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



17 Feb/ Warning Shots Underscore Ongoing Gulf of Aden Security Risks/ Yemen

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.17	Yemen	Gulf of Aden	Attacks In High Risk Areas	Merchant vessel	Initial analysis indicated that Houthi involvement in the incident was unlikely due to the location being outside typical Somali piracy zones, with armed fishermen and smugglers present. Yemen's coastguard classified the individuals as a "local militia."

A merchant vessel reported an encounter with armed skiffs approximately 70 nm southwest of Aden, Yemen, raising initial alarm before authorities classified the incident as "suspicious activity." The vessel was approached by a white skiff with five individuals, accompanied by two other nearby skiffs. Although small arms fire occurred, UKMTO clarified that only warning shots were fired, with no weapons directed at the vessel.



Source -> <https://gcaptain.com/warning-shots-off-yemen-underscore-ongoing-gulf-of-aden-security-risks/>

SMUGGLING



15 Feb/ Seizes Nearly 500 Tonnes Of Tin In Bangka Belitung Smuggling Crackdown/ Indonesia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.15	Indonesia	Belitung Islands	Contraband Goods Smuggling	-	Authorities estimate that the seized tin is valued at approximately Rp173.6 billion (about S\$14.7 million). The smuggling network primarily used maritime routes to transport illegal mining products from Bangka Belitung, a major tin-producing region.

The operation conducted by Indonesia's Maritime Security Operations command and the Tri Cakti Task Force led to the seizure of 496.892 tonnes of tin products intended for illegal shipping. Indonesian Navy Chief of Staff Admiral Muhammad Ali highlighted that smugglers frequently change tactics, camouflaging mineral shipments as seafood to escape checks, with inspections unveiling concealed tin sand within declared marine product shipments.



Source -: <https://theonlinecitizen.com/2026/02/18/indonesia-seizes-nearly-500-tonnes-of-tin-in-bangka-belitung-smuggling-crackdown>

SMUGGLING



16 Feb/ 2 nabbed illegal cigarettes seized off Zamboanga City/ Philippines

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.16	Philippines	Zamboanga City waters	Contraband Goods Smuggling	Two motorized boats	The authorities seized two boats loaded with 280 master cases of alleged smuggled cigarettes valued at P16.044 million, which were turned over to the Bureau of Customs at the Port of Zamboanga.

Authorities intercepted over P16 million in smuggled cigarettes and arrested two Filipinos near Sta. Cruz Island in Zamboanga City. The Philippine National Police (PNP) conducted a seaborne patrol and found the contraband on a green and white boat, alongside an abandoned blue and yellow boat in the vicinity.



Source -: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/regions/976923/authorities-cigarettes-zamboanga-city-waters/story/>

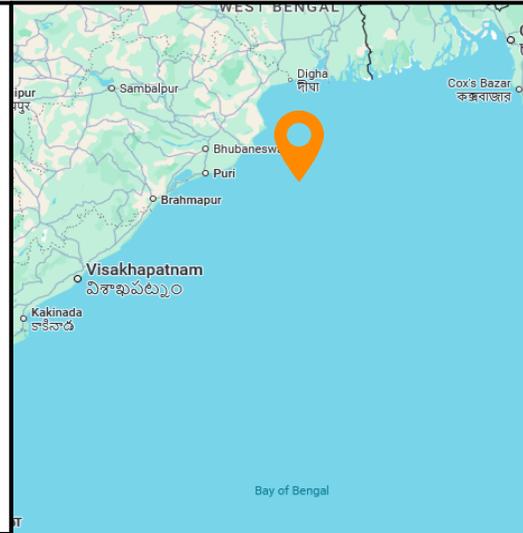
IUU FISHING



15 Feb/ Bangladeshi fishing vessel Arrested / India

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.15	India	Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)	Poaching	One fishing boat	According to officials, the crew failed to produce any valid authorization or permit allowing them to fish in India's maritime zones.

The Indian Coast Guard detained a Bangladeshi fishing vessel with 28 crew members for illegal fishing in India's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) on 15th Feb 26. The apprehension executed by Ship Amrit Kaur during a patrol, was in response to violations of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act 1981 after the vessel was detected operating illegally in Indian waters.



Source - : <https://www.timesnownews.com/india/icgs-amrit-kaur-nabs-bangladeshi-fishing-boat-with-28-crew-for-illegal-entry-into-indian-waters-article-153628179>

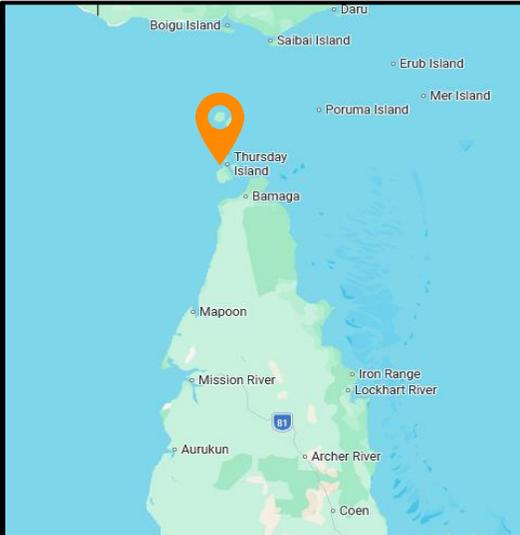
IUU FISHING



14 and 15 Feb/ Two Foreign fishing vessel Arrested / Australia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.14 and 15	Australia	Hawkesbury Island and Thursday Island	Poaching	Two fishing boat	Following boarding and inspection by ABF officers, it was clear that illegal foreign fishing activity had not yet commenced.

The Australian Border Force (ABF) has achieved initial success under Operation BROADSTAFF by intercepting two foreign fishing vessels in northern Queensland and the Torres Strait, preventing illegal fishing activities. Conducted on 14 and 15 Feb 26 the operation involved intelligence-led patrols by ABF officers from Maritime Border Command in collaboration with partner agencies. One vessel was found with 175 kg of salt and fishing equipment, while the other had 900kg. In consultation with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, the ABF seized the salt and fishing gear and escorted both vessels out of Australian waters.



Source -: <https://www.marinelink.com/news/foreign-fishers-caught-off-australia-535787>

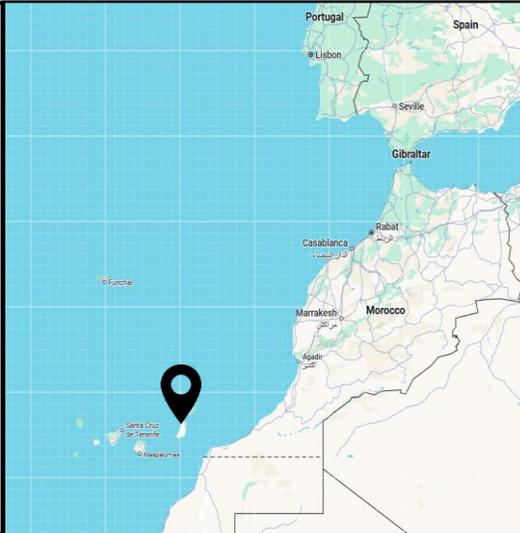
IRREGULAR HUMAN MIGRATION



15 Feb/ 60 Migrants intercepted in inflatable boat / Spain

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.02.15	Spain	Off Fuerteventura	Border Crossings	Inflatable boat	Of the 60 individuals on board, 53 were men and 7 were women. They were rescued by the Salvamar Izar and taken to Gran Tarajal, where they received medical assistance from the Red Cross before being relocated to reception centers on the island.

An inflatable boat carrying 60 individuals was intercepted near Fuerteventura after being located approximately 35 miles off the coast. The rescue operation was initiated following an alert from the Guardia Civil regarding the boat's departure from Tarfaya, situated on the northwest African coast.



Source -: <https://www.canarianweekly.com/posts/60-migrants-intercepted-in-inflatable-boat-off-Fuerteventura>



Information Fusion Center Colombo Sri Lanka

DISCLAIMER

This information, drawn from various publicly accessible open sources, is disseminated solely to provide situational awareness to national and international stakeholders. As the information originates from open sources, no independent verification has been conducted, and IFC Colombo assumes no responsibility for its accuracy, validity, or completeness.

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