

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

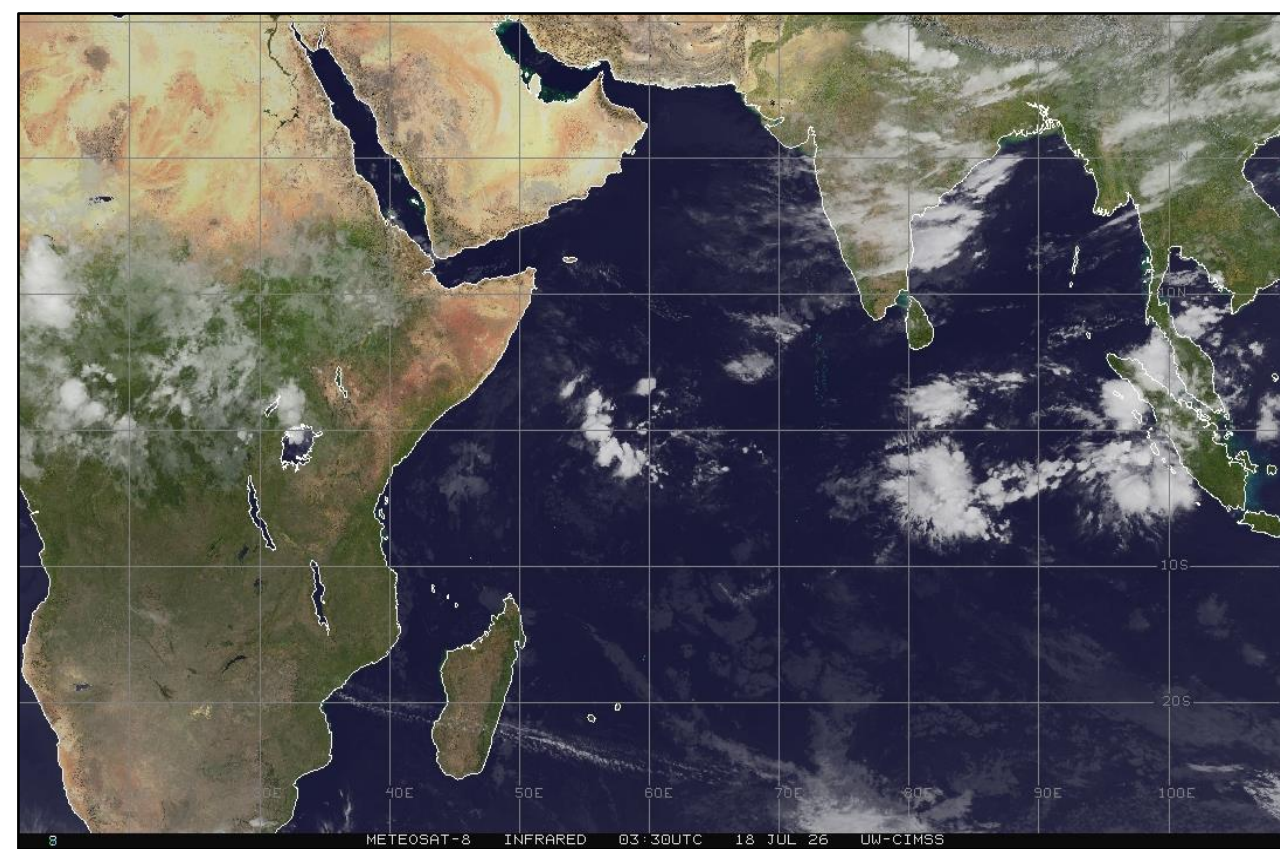
Date 2026.07.18

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: 2026.07.18/0600UTC to 2026.07.18/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.07.18

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

Shear line is approximately along : 02N 60E, 04N 70E, 01S 80E, 02N 90E, 02S 100E

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections: 40, 45, 50, 55

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 05, 15, 20, 30, 35, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line:

West of 76E: SW'ly to W'ly / (10-15) kts.

East of 76E: SW'ly / (15-20) kts; gusting up to 30 kts in sections 05, 10

South of Shear line:

SE'ly/ (15-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 50, 80, 85

Seas:

Rough at times in sections : 05, 10

Fairly rough, rough at times in Sections : 50, 80, 85

Moderate in Sections : 15, 25, 30, 40, 45, 60, 65, 70, 75

Slight to moderate elsewhere.

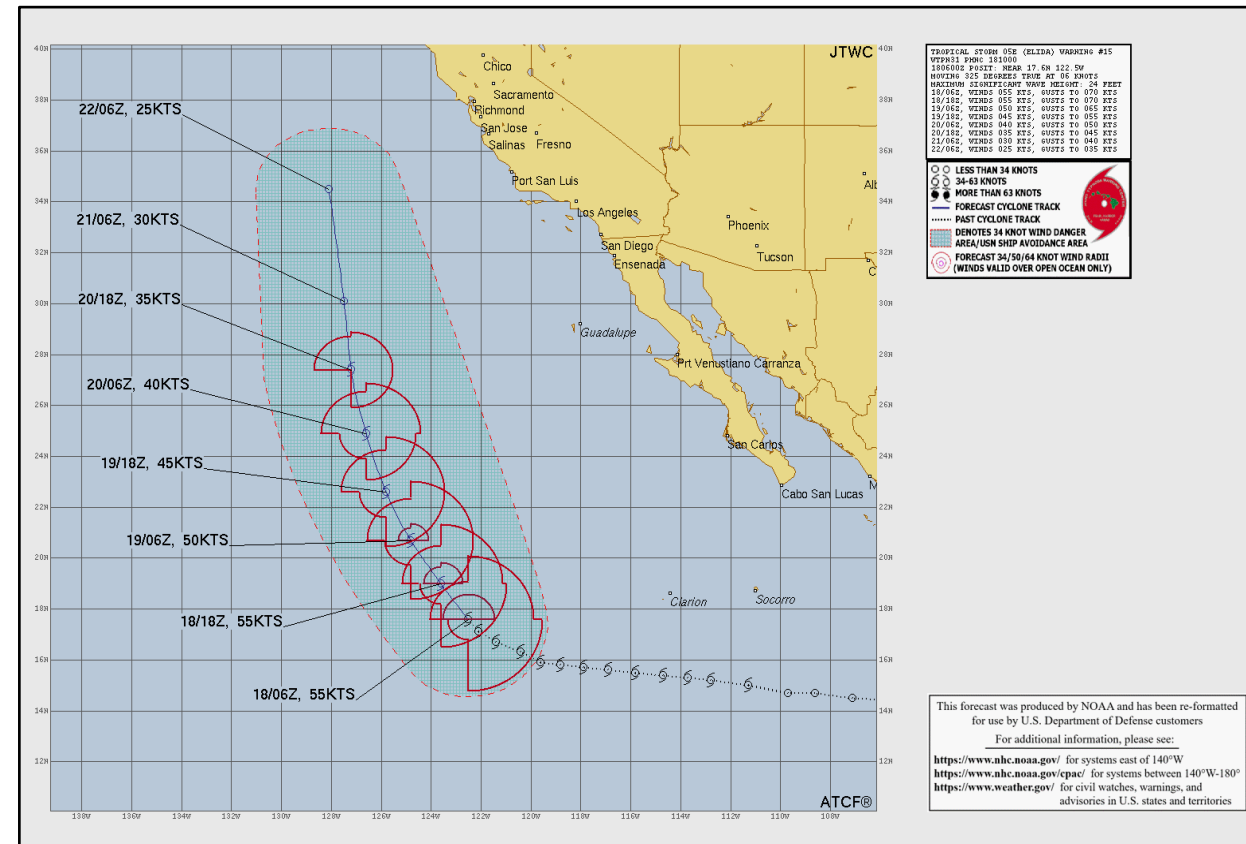
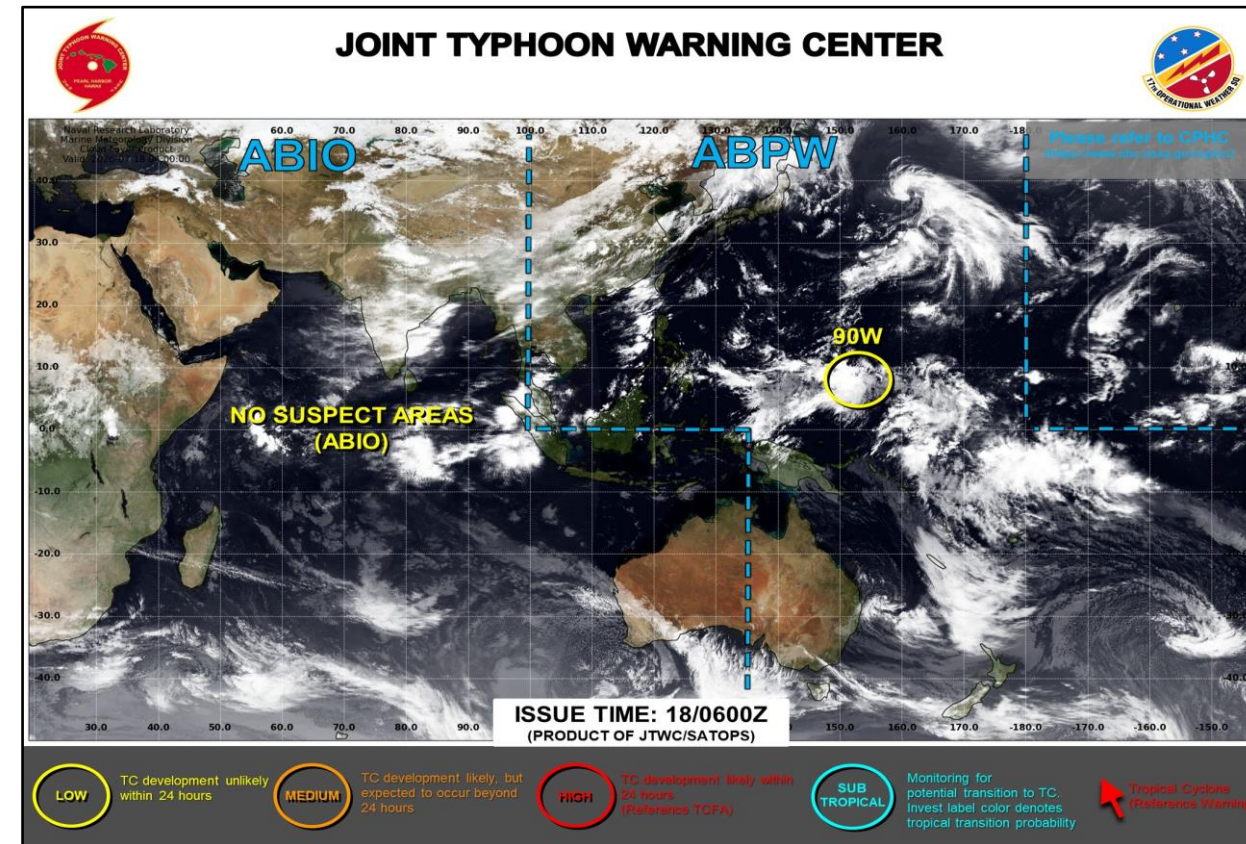
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

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

CYCLONE

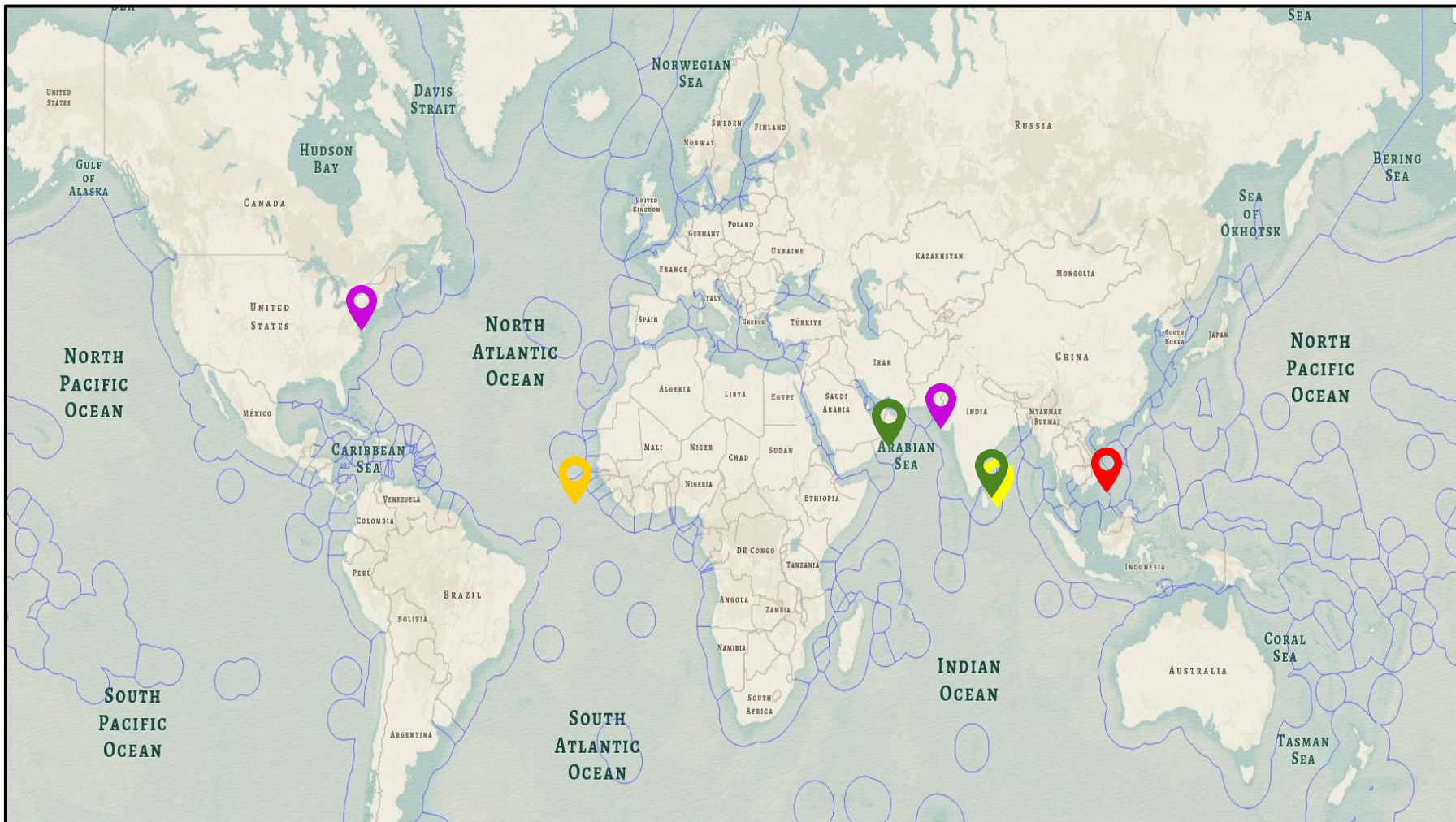


TROPICAL CYCLONE "ELIDA"



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

SUMMARY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	01
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	01
 Smuggling	NIL
 IUU Fishing	NIL
 Narcotic	01
 Irregular Human Migration	NIL
 Marine Environment Pollution	02
 Other	02
Total Incidents	07

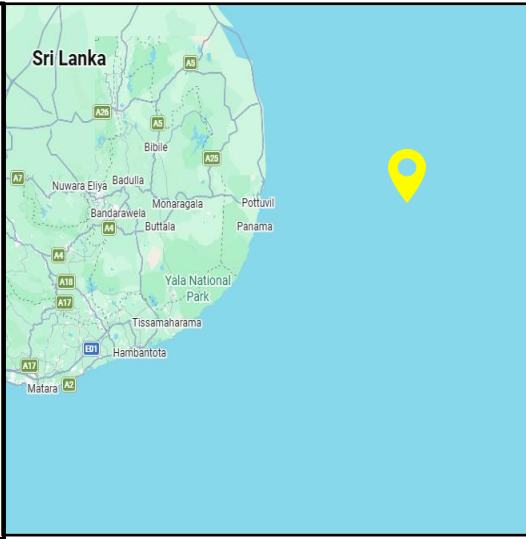
MARITIME INCIDENTS



17 Jul/ Navy Comes to The Rescue Of Fisherman in Distress off Pothuvil/ Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	Sri Lanka	Off Pothuvil	Search and Rescue (SAR)	SLNS Vijayabahu	SLNS Vijayabahu successfully rescued a man drifting 15 nautical miles off Pothuvil, despite harsh sea conditions. The crew faced significant challenges during the operation using a rigid-hull inflatable boat (RHIB).

The Sri Lanka Navy conducted a search and rescue operation on 17 Jul 26, approximately 15 nautical miles off Pothuvil, to locate a fisherman reported missing since the evening of 16 Jul 26 near Arugam Bay. Responding to an alert from the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Colombo, the Offshore Patrol Vessel SLNS Vijayabahu was diverted to the area for an extensive search.



Source - : <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/july/navy-comes-to-the-rescue-of-person-in-distress-off-pothuvil.html>

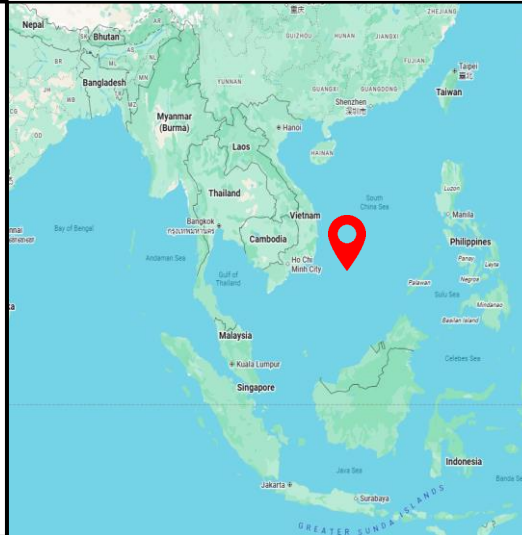
PIRACY & ARMED ROBBERY



17 Jul/ 35 Incidents of Armed Robbery Against Ships in Asia Reported in First Half Of 2026/Asia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	Asia	Coastal States, internal waters and territorial seas	Armed Robbery	-	Most incidents involved opportunistic theft by non-confrontational perpetrators using a "hit-and-run" approach. Out of 35 incidents, 21 occurred while ships were underway and 14 while anchored.

From January to June 2026, ReCAAP ISC reported 35 incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, marking a 64% decrease from 96 incidents during the same period last year. This figure is the lowest since the first half of 2019, when 28 incidents were recorded. All reported incidents were armed robberies occurring in internal waters, territorial seas, and archipelagic waters under the jurisdiction of coastal states.



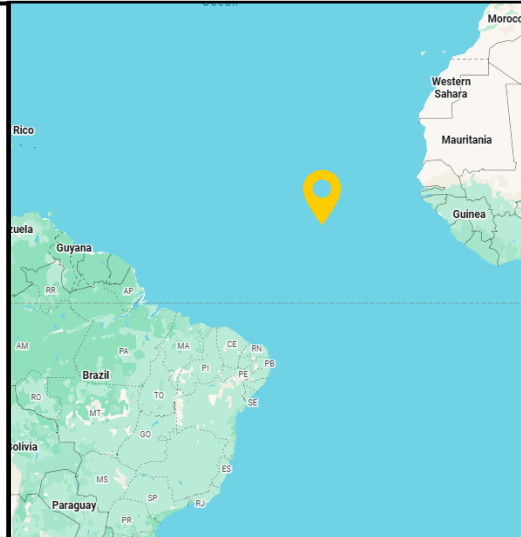
Source -: <https://cyprusshippingnews.com/2026/07/17/35-incidents-of-armed-robbery-against-ships-in-asia-reported-in-first-half-of-2026/>



17 Jul/ Massive Drug Bust in The South Atlantic/ Brazil

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	Brazil	West Africa	Sea based Drugs Trafficking /crystal methamphetamine/co caine	Name- Ana Beatriz Type - Fishing Vessel	This operational milestone demonstrates the international community's capability to target illicit networks. JIATF-S leads regional detection and monitoring across 42 million square miles, effectively disrupting global trafficking networks in the Western Hemisphere.

A record-setting maritime interdiction successfully seized 3,748 kilograms of cocaine destined for Africa and Europe, involving seamless international teamwork. The operation targeted the fishing vessel "Ana Beatriz," sailing from Brazil to West Africa. JIATF-S provided critical intelligence tracking its suspected narcotics loading. The Brazilian Navy and Federal Police intercepted and boarded the vessel hundreds of miles offshore, discovering over 100 bales of cocaine in the hold. Four crew members were arrested and face international trafficking charges.



Source -: <https://x.com/jiatfs/status/2077710314984874492>

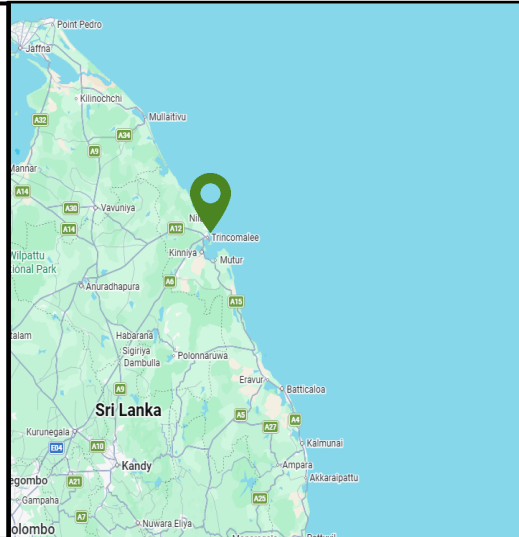
MARINE ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



16 Jul/ 2.4 Tons of Marine Debris Removed From Trincomalee/ Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.16	Sri Lanka	Dutch Bay	Plastic and waste pollution	-	Organisers reported significant damage to the underwater environment due to Cyclone Ditwa, with debris accumulating in Dutch Bay, endangering marine life, coral habitats, and the broader coastal ecosystem.

A large underwater cleanup operation on World Ocean Day removed approximately 2.4 tonnes of marine debris from Trincomalee's Dutch Bay, emphasising the increasing threat of marine pollution and the effectiveness of collective action in protecting Sri Lanka's coastal ecosystems. Organised by Clean Ocean Force with partners, this initiative mobilised several dive centres, the Sri Lanka Police Life Saving Unit, and numerous volunteer divers in a major coordinated effort. Teams conducted multiple dives to collect various types of waste, including plastic, rubber gloves, and fishing debris, from the seabed.



Source - : <https://island.lk/2-4-tons-of-marine-debris-removed-from-trincomalee/>

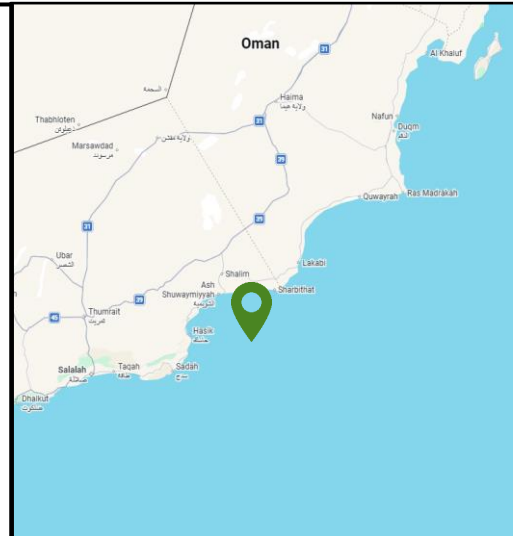
MARINE ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



17 Jul/ Sanctioned Tanker is Leaking Oil, According to Satellite Images and Experts/ Oman

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	Oman	Southwest Of Al-qibliyyah Island	Oil Spill	Name- Caroline Bezengi Type –Tanker Flag -Cameroon	The satellite imagery captured by Copernicus Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 from July 2 to 13 indicates a likely oil spill, depicted as a silver and grey slick in waters southwest of al-Qibliyyah Island. Experts John Amos, Leon Moreland, and Louis Goddard confirmed to Reuters that the images suggest the presence of an oil spill.

On 17 Jul 26, Reuters reported that the Caroline Bezengi vessel, under sanctions for transporting Russian fuel, is likely leaking oil in a protected marine area near Oman. The vessel, which took on Russian oil in Novorossiysk, last transmitted a signal on 11 Jun 26 near Yemen, according to ship tracking data.



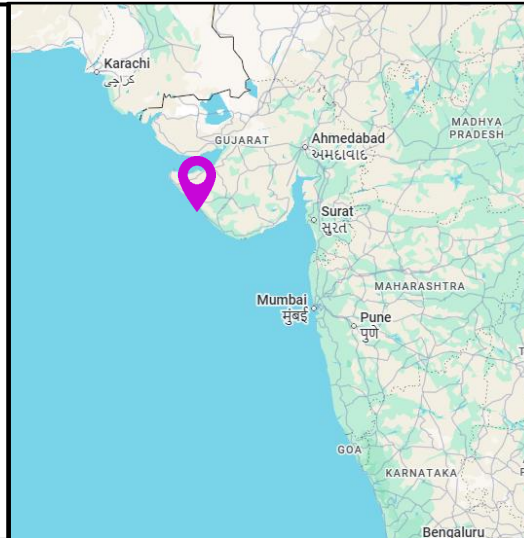
Source -: <https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/sanctioned-tanker-is-leaking-oil-near-oman-according-satellite-images-experts-2026-07-17/>



17 Jul/ Porbandar to Get Greenfield Shipbuilding Cluster/ India

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	India	Porbandar	Naval Activities	-	The facility in Gujarat plans to create a center for building large ships, including modern shipyards, manufacturing areas, and training centers, with the ability to produce 1.2 to 1.5 million gross tonnes each year.

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has granted in-principle approval for two significant maritime infrastructure projects: a greenfield shipbuilding cluster in Porbandar, Gujarat, and a ship repair facility at Vadinar in the Gulf of Kutch. These projects are part of the Shipbuilding Development Scheme, integral to India's goal of becoming a global shipbuilding hub under the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047. The shipbuilding cluster will span approximately 2,000 acres in Porbandar, developed through NSHIP-Gujarat, a special purpose vehicle promoted by MoPSW and the Gujarat Maritime Board.



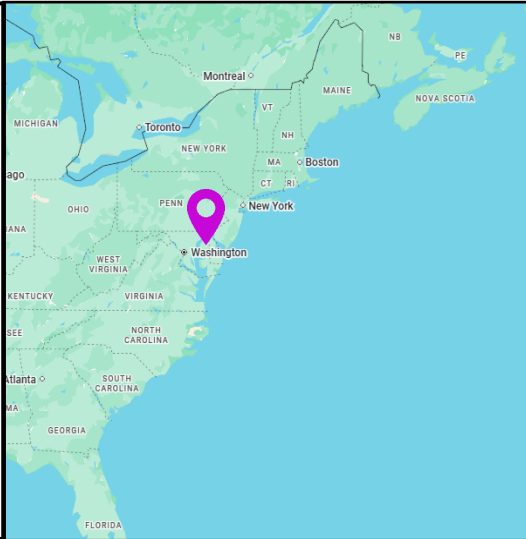
Source -: <https://www.maritimegateway.com/porbandar-to-get-greenfield-shipbuilding-cluster/>



17 Jul/ JP Morgan Chase Commits \$24 Million To Boost Shipbuilding And Submarine Supply Chain in Philadelphia/ USA

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.17	USA	Philadelphia Navy Yard	Naval Activities	-	CNBC reports that the funding will support the construction of a new submarine manufacturing facility by Rhoads Industries at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, enhance lending to maritime-related small businesses, and reinforce regional supply chains.

JPMorgan Chase is investing \$24 million to bolster the U.S. shipbuilding industry, focusing on submarine manufacturing and maritime suppliers. This initiative, announced by CEO Jamie Dimon, is part of the bank's strategy to finance sectors deemed vital for America's economic and national security. The funding consists of \$18 million in loans and investments, along with \$6 million in grants.



Source -: <https://gcaptain.com/jpmorgan-chase-commits-24-million-to-boost-shipbuilding-and-submarine-supply-chain-in-philadelphia/>



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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