

DAILY MARITIME INCIDENT UPDATE

Information Fusion Center-Colombo



Information Fusion Center
Colombo
Sri Lanka

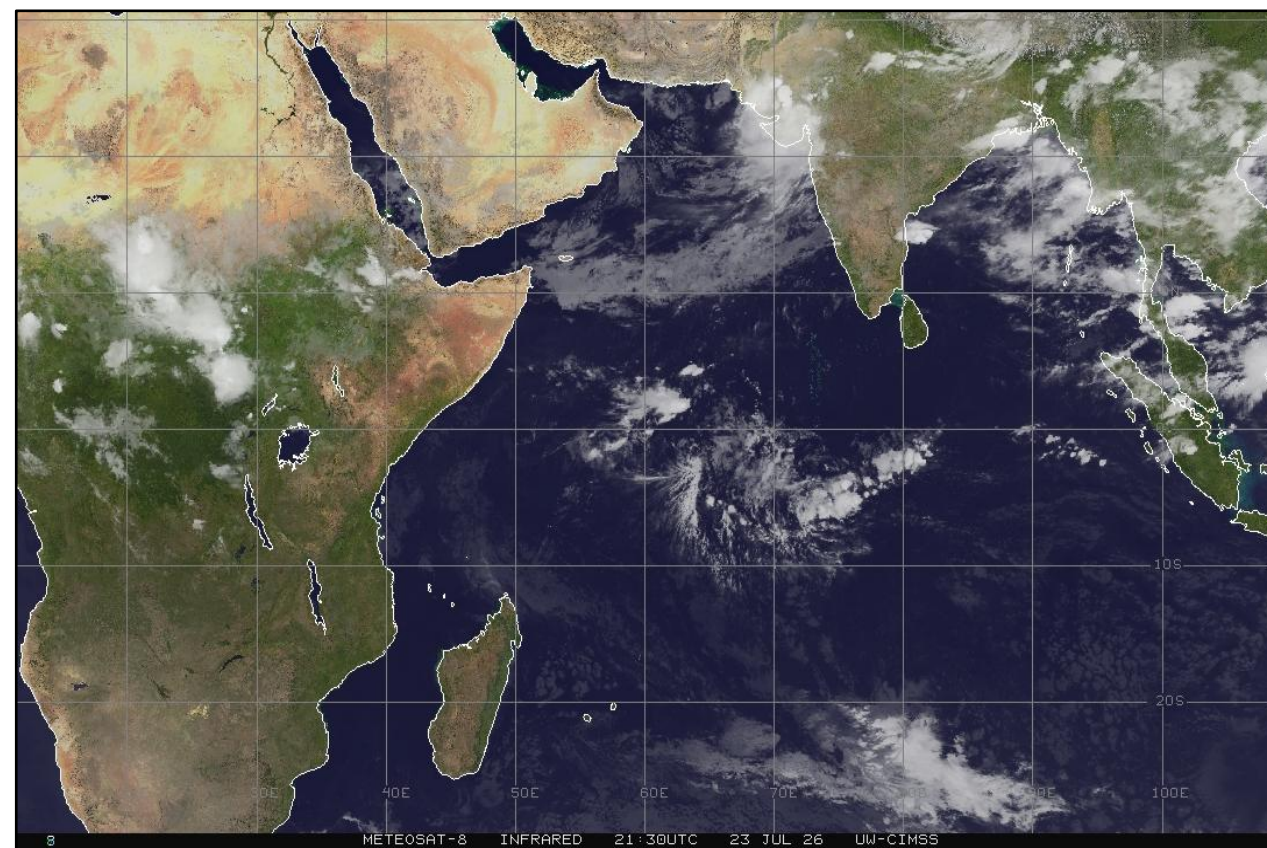
Date 2026.07.24

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: 2026.07.24/0600UTC to 2026.07.24/1400UTC

Issued at 0000UTC on 2026.07.24

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

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

Weather:

OCNL Showers / T'Showers in sections: 15, 40, 45, 50, 55, 70

SCT Showers / T'Showers in sections : 00, 05, 20, 25, 35, 60, 65, 75, 80

ISOL Showers / T'Showers elsewhere.

Winds:

North of Shear line:

West of 75E: SW'ly to W'ly / (10-20) kts; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 00

East of 75E: SW'ly to W'ly / (15-20) kts; gusting up to 30 kts in sections 05, 10

South of Shear line:

SE'ly/ (10-20) kts ; gusting up to 30 kts in sections 75; gusting up to 25 kts in sections 55, 70, 85.

Seas:

Rough, very rough at times in sections : 75

Fairly rough, rough at times in sections : 00, 05, 10, 70

Moderate, Fairly rough at times in Sections : 55, 85

Moderate in Sections : 15, 40, 50, 60, 65

Slight to moderate elsewhere.

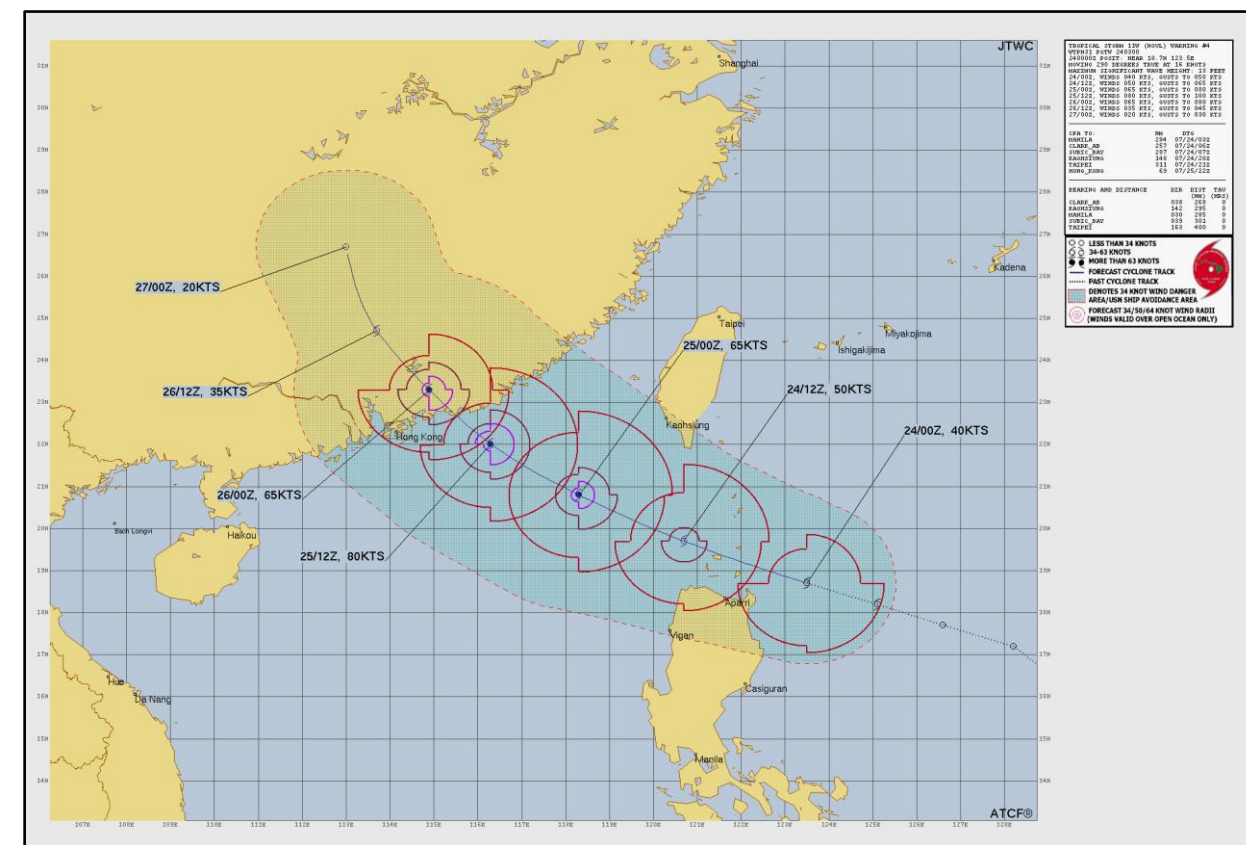
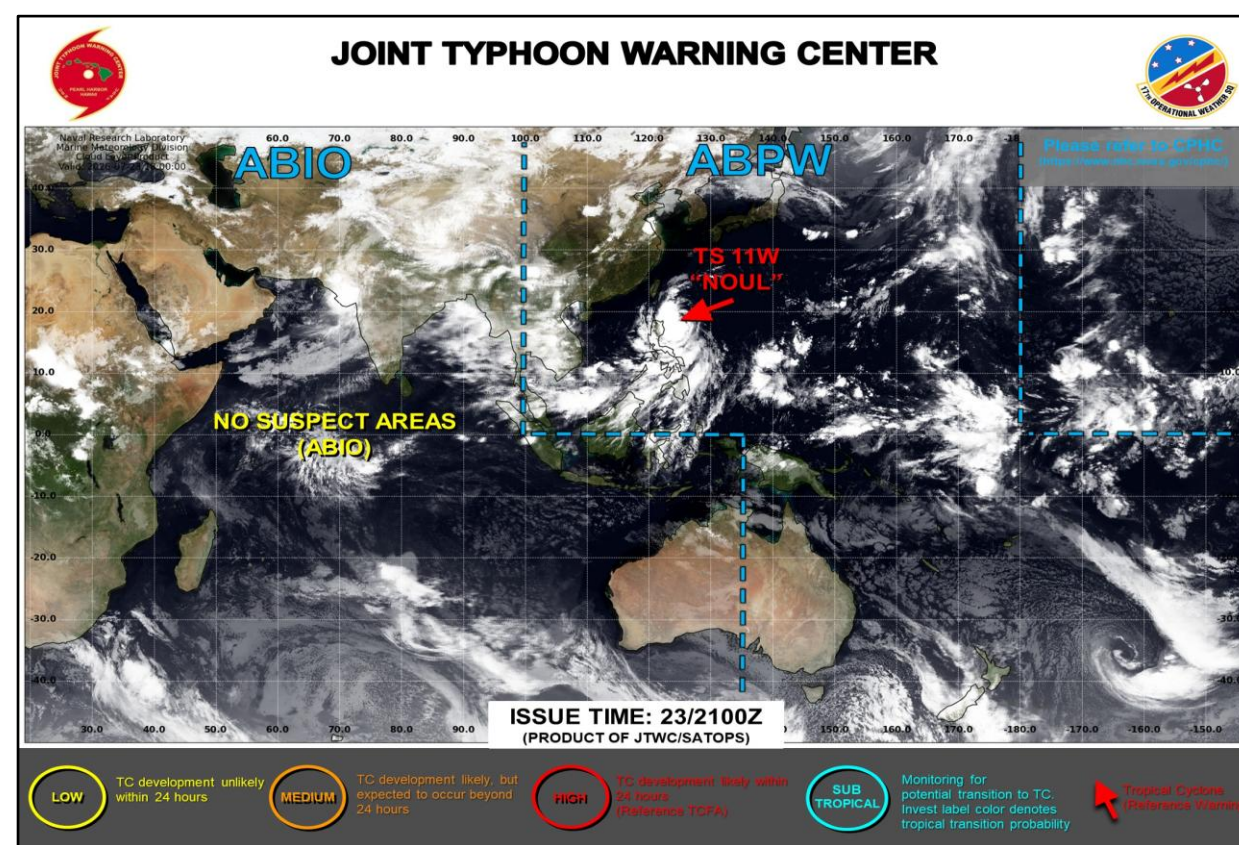
NOTE: Seas can be temporarily very rough during thundershowers.

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

CYCLONE

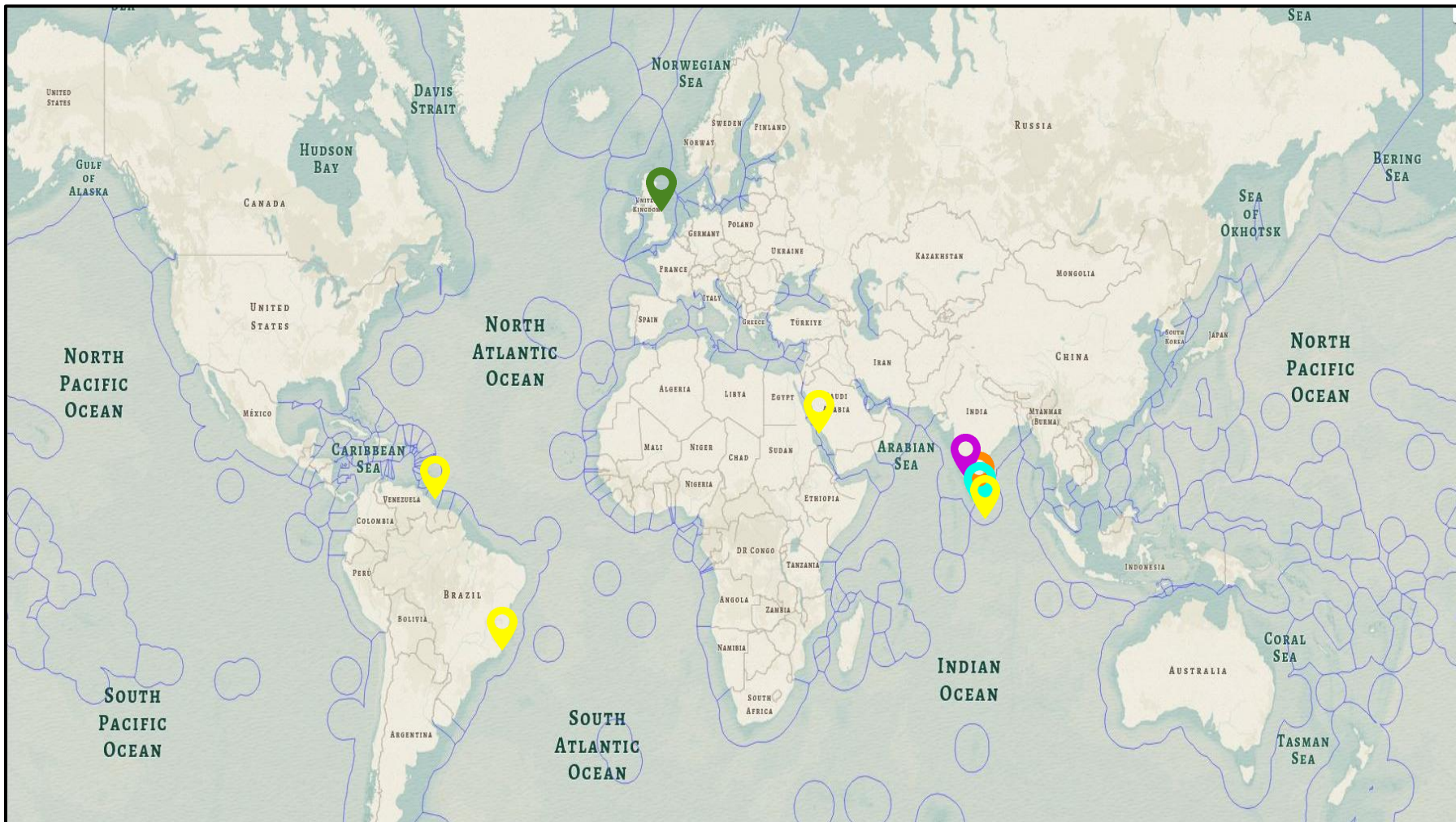


TROPICAL CYCLONE "NOUL"



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

SUMMARY (MARITIME INCIDENT)



CATEGORY	NO
 Maritime Incidents	04
 Piracy & Armed Robbery	NIL
 Smuggling	01
 IUU Fishing	01
 Narcotic	NIL
 Irregular Human Migration	NIL
 Marine Environment Pollution	01
 Other	01
Total Incidents	08

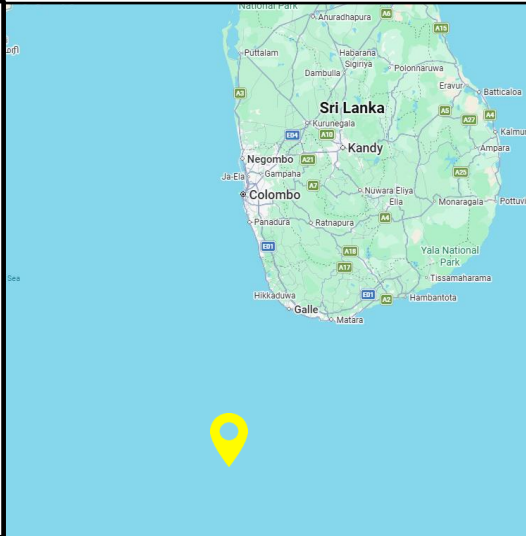
MARITIME INCIDENTS



23 Jul/Navy Renders Assistance to Bring Ashore Ill Fisherman for Medical Attention/Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.23	Sri Lanka	South of Sri Lanka	Patient Onboard (POB)	multiday fishing trawler	On 23 July, a Sri Lanka Navy craft from the Western Naval Command received a patient from a merchant vessel. Naval personnel administered first aid before transporting the fisherman to the Port of Colombo and subsequently to the National Hospital of Colombo for further medical treatment.

The Sri Lanka Navy assisted in bringing an ill fisherman ashore for urgent medical attention on 23 Jul 26. The fisherman was aboard a multiday fishing trawler with six crew members, which had departed from Dikkowita Fisheries Harbour on 15 July. While fishing approximately 244 nautical miles south of Sri Lanka, a crew member experienced a medical emergency. The Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Colombo coordinated the response, notifying merchant vessels in the area for support. The merchant vessel CMA CGM BAHIA successfully transferred the fisherman for immediate assistance before his evacuation ashore.



Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/july/navy-renders-assistance-to-bring-ashore-ill-fisherman-for-medical-attention.html>

MARITIME INCIDENTS



23 Jul/Guyana Ferry Disaster Families Demand Answers as Around 100 Feared Dead /Guyana

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.23	Guyana	Essequibo coast	Capsizing /Sinking	Name – MV Barima Flag - Guyana	Passengers reported that the ferry was dangerously overloaded with people and heavy cargo, including engines, vehicles, fuel containers, and commercial goods. A survivor noted that the boat was more crowded than on any previous trips, with cargo tightly packed below deck.

The expected death toll from Guyana's ferry disaster has risen to approximately 100. Authorities confirmed that of the estimated 179 people on board, 76 survived and 53 bodies have been recovered. The MV Barima, an 87-year-old vessel, capsized off the Essequibo coast after departing Georgetown for Port Kaituma on 18 Jul 26, raising concerns over the number of passengers beyond the listed 133. Families are demanding answers regarding this catastrophic incident.



Source - <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2026/7/23/guyana-ferry-disaster-families-demand-answers-as-around-100-feared-dead>



MARITIME INCIDENTS

23 Jul/Tanker on Fire After Being Struck off Saudi Coast at Red Sea, Confirms UK/Saudi Arabia

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.23	Saudi Arabia	Saudi coast at Red Sea	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Tanker	The Houthi group in Yemen claimed responsibility for an attack on two Saudi oil tankers, coinciding with their declaration of a maritime ban on vessels linked to Saudi Arabia amid ongoing blockades.

A tanker off the coast of Saudi Arabia caught fire after being hit by an unknown projectile, with the crew working to extinguish the fire, as reported by the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO). The incident occurred approximately 70 nautical miles southwest of Al Shuqaiq in the southern Red Sea. No casualties or environmental damage have been reported, and an investigation is ongoing.



Source -: <https://www.thehansindia.com/amp/news/international/tanker-on-fire-after-being-struck-off-saudi-coast-at-red-sea-confirms-uk-1100435>

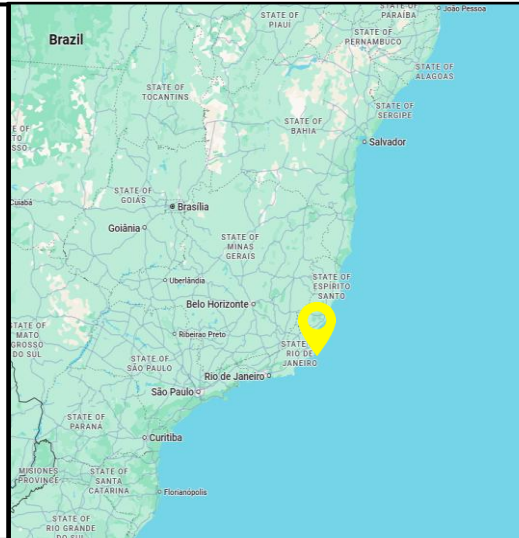
MARITIME INCIDENTS



22 Jul/ Fire Ignites on Anchor Handler in Campos Basin/ Brazil

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.22	Brazil	Campos Basin	Fire/Folding/Explosion	Tug Supply Vessel	DOF reported that an electrical short in one of the vessel's switchboards caused a fire. The company is monitoring the situation before allowing the crew to resume operations and repairs, stating that the vessel is under control.

An anchor handling tug supply vessel (AHTS), the DOF-operated Skandi Logger, experienced an onboard fire in its engine room while operating near an offshore platform in the Campos Basin, Brazil, on 22 Jul 26. The crew issued a distress call and worked to contain the fire, which responding vessels eventually controlled. There were no reported injuries or pollution from the incident.



Source -: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/security/incidents/fire-ignites-on-anchor-handler-in-brazils-campos-basin>

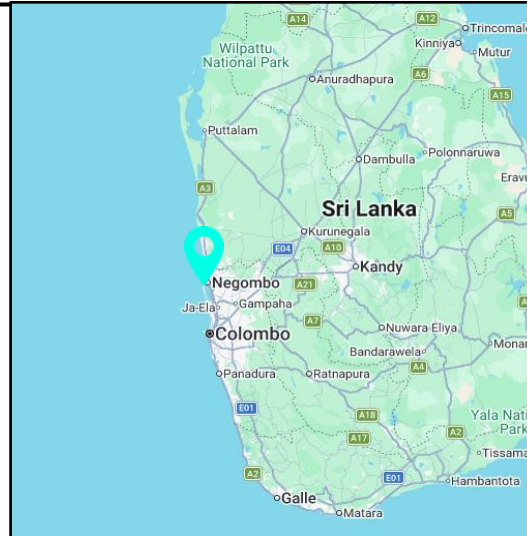
SMUGGLING



22 Jul/Navy Seizes 735kg of Smuggled Kendu Leaves/Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.22	Sri Lanka	Negombo Lagoon	Contraband /Goods smuggling	Dinghy Boat	The suspects, aged 29 and 32, from the Negombo area, have had Kendu leaves and a dinghy seized and were handed over to the Katunayake Customs Preventive Office for legal proceedings.

The Navy seized over 735kg of smuggled Kendu leaves and apprehended two suspects in a search operation in the Negombo Lagoon on 22 July 2026. Conducted by SLNS Kelani of the Western Naval Command, the operation involved intercepting a suspicious dinghy, leading to the recovery of the leaves in 20 sacks, and the detention of the two individuals on board along with the dinghy.



Source -: <https://news.navy.lk/operations-news/2026/july/navy-seizes-over-735kg-of-smuggled-kendu-leaves-in-negombo-lagoon.html>

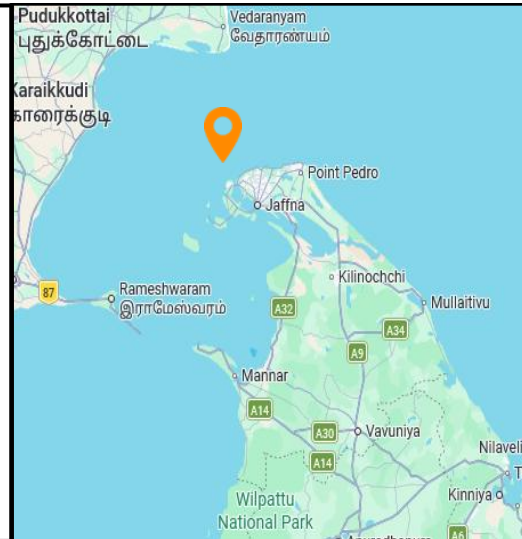
IUU FISHING



23 Jul/9 Indian Fishermen Detained By Sri Lankan Navy as Maritime Dispute Flares Again/Sri Lanka

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.23	Sri Lanka	Palk Strait	Illegal fishing in protected area	fishing Trawler	The Sri Lankan Navy has arrested 128 Indian fishermen and seized 18 trawlers for alleged illegal fishing in its territorial waters as of April 15 this year.

The dispute over fishing rights in the Palk Strait has re-emerged, with the Sri Lankan Navy detaining nine Indian fishermen and seizing their trawler for allegedly operating in Sri Lankan waters. This action was taken after a surveillance operation revealed over 50 Indian fishing trawlers allegedly fishing south of Iranativu, beyond the International Maritime Boundary Line.



Source - : <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/9-indian-fishermen-detained-by-sri-lankan-navy-as-maritime-dispute-flares-again-13981722.html>

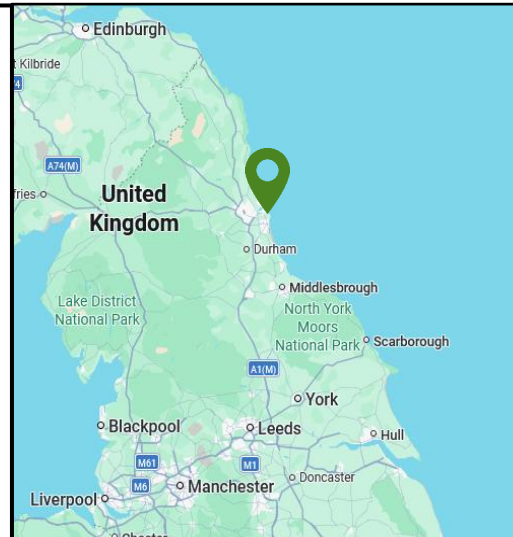
MARINE ENVIRONMENT POLLUTION



19 Jul/ Port of Tyne readies to remove collapsed quay crane, tackles “devastating” pellet spill/ UK

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.19	UK	Tyne Port	Plastic and waste pollution	Name-wind Orca Type –Multi Purpose Offshore Vessel Flag - Denmark	Approximately one billion plastic nurdles have contaminated the River Tyne due to a significant spill, according to The Guardian and environmental charity Fidra. South Tyneside Council is actively cleaning affected beaches, while a spokesperson for the port confirmed that some pellets have washed ashore in nearby areas.

The Port of Tyne has initiated recovery operations after a vessel collision on Sunday that resulted in a quayside gantry crane falling over and a spill of plastic pellets. The port reported that the area was unsafe until specialists could secure both the crane and ship. Critical operations are ongoing to maintain safety as preparations are made to move the crane, which is positioned across the ship, alongside the ship’s boom, entangled with it.



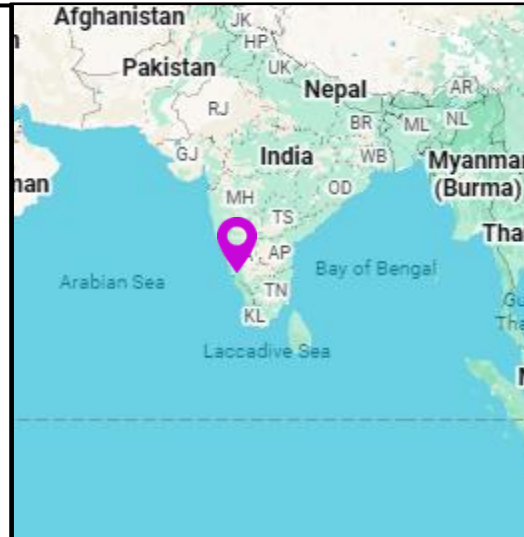
Source -: <https://www.worldcargonews.com/news/2026/07/update-port-of-tyne-readies-to-remove-collapsed-quay-crane-tackles-devastating-pellet-spill/?gdpr=accept>



22 Jul/ Introduces New Rules For Sea Carriage Of Plastic Pellets/ India

INCIDENT DATE	COUNTRY/REGION	LOCATION	SUB CATEGORIES	VESSEL DETAILS	ADDITIONAL DETAILS
2026.07.22	India	-	Other Military /Coastguard activities	-	The DGS noted recent container loss incidents at sea that resulted in pollution from plastic pellets, leading to significant long-term environmental damage and expensive clean-up efforts.

The Indian Government, via the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), has introduced a circular focused on mitigating environmental risks related to the maritime transport of plastic pellets, as noted by marine insurer North Standard on 22 Jul 26. This regulation, effective 15 Apr 26, mandates that vessels carrying plastic pellets to, from, or through Indian ports must stow these cargoes exclusively under deck, banning deck carriage. Additionally, the circular stipulates that the packaging of plastic pellets must meet or exceed the standards set for dangerous goods under the IMDG Code, aimed at minimizing potential losses during transport.



Source -: <https://www.bairdmaritime.com/shipping/india-introduces-new-rules-for-sea-carriage-of-plastic-pellets>



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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